

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3214

To provide for a program for circulating quarter dollar coins that are emblematic of a national park or other national site in each State, the District of Columbia, and each territory of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 26, 2008

Mr. BARRASSO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To provide for a program for circulating quarter dollar coins that are emblematic of a national park or other national site in each State, the District of Columbia, and each territory of the United States, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “America’s Beautiful
5 National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008”.

1 **TITLE I—NATIONAL SITE**
 2 **QUARTER DOLLARS**

3 **SEC. 101. ISSUANCE OF REDESIGNED QUARTER DOLLARS**
 4 **EMBLEMATIC OF NATIONAL PARKS OR**
 5 **OTHER NATIONAL SITES IN EACH STATE, THE**
 6 **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND EACH TERRI-**
 7 **TORY.**

8 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
 9 amended—

10 (1) by redesignating subsection (r) (as added by
 11 section 622 of the Financial Services and General
 12 Government Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law
 13 110–161; 121 Stat. 2016)) as subsection (s); and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(t) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF QUARTER DOL-
 16 LARS EMBLEMATIC OF NATIONAL SITES IN EACH STATE,
 17 THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND EACH TERRITORY.—

18 “(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING UPON COMPLETION
 19 OF PRIOR PROGRAM.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the
 21 fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and sub-
 22 section (d)(2), quarter dollars issued beginning
 23 in 2010 shall have designs on the reverse se-
 24 lected in accordance with this subsection which
 25 are emblematic of the national sites in the

1 States, the District of Columbia and the terri-
2 tories of the United States.

3 “(B) FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO
4 PLACEMENT OF INSCRIPTIONS.—Notwith-
5 standing subsection (d)(1), the Secretary may
6 select a design for quarter dollars referred to in
7 subparagraph (A) in which—

8 “(i) the inscription described in the
9 second sentence of subsection (d)(1) ap-
10 pears on the reverse side of any such quar-
11 ter dollars; and

12 “(ii) any inscription described in the
13 third sentence of subsection (d)(1) or the
14 designation of the value of the coin ap-
15 pears on the obverse side of any such quar-
16 ter dollars.

17 “(C) INCLUSION OF DISTRICT OF COLUM-
18 BIA, AND TERRITORIES.—For purposes of this
19 subsection, the term ‘State’ has the same mean-
20 ing as in section 3(a) of the Federal Deposit
21 Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813(a)).

22 “(2) SINGLE SITE IN EACH STATE.—The design
23 on the reverse side of each quarter dollar issued dur-
24 ing the period of issuance under this subsection shall
25 be emblematic of one national site in each State.

1 “(3) SELECTION OF SITE AND DESIGN.—

2 “(A) SITE.—

3 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The selection of a
4 national park or other national site in each
5 State to be honored with a coin under this
6 subsection shall be made by the Secretary
7 of the Treasury, after consultation with
8 the Secretary of the Interior and the gov-
9 ernor or other chief executive of each State
10 with respect to which a coin is to be issued
11 under this subsection, and after giving full
12 and thoughtful consideration to national
13 sites that are not under the jurisdiction of
14 the Secretary of the Interior so that the
15 national site chosen for each State shall be
16 the most appropriate in terms of natural
17 or historic significance.

18 “(ii) TIMING.—The selection process
19 under clause (i) shall be completed before
20 the end of the 270-day period beginning on
21 the date of the enactment of the America’s
22 Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar
23 Coin Act of 2008.

1 “(B) DESIGN.—Each of the designs re-
2 quired under this subsection for quarter dollars
3 shall be—

4 “(i) selected by the Secretary after
5 consultation with—

6 “(I) the Secretary of the Interior;

7 “(II) the Secretary of Agriculture
8 for national sites within the jurisdic-
9 tion of the Secretary of Agriculture;
10 and

11 “(III) the Commission of Fine
12 Arts; and

13 “(ii) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage
14 Advisory Committee.

15 “(C) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROC-
16 ESS.—Recommendations for site selections and
17 designs for quarter dollars may be submitted in
18 accordance with the site and design selection
19 and approval process developed by the Sec-
20 retary in the sole discretion of the Secretary.

21 “(D) PARTICIPATION IN DESIGN.—The
22 Secretary may include participation by officials
23 of the State, artists from the State, engravers
24 of the United States Mint, and members of the
25 general public.

1 “(E) STANDARDS.—Because it is impor-
2 tant that the Nation’s coinage and currency
3 bear dignified designs of which the citizens of
4 the United States can be proud, the Secretary
5 shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate
6 design for any quarter dollar minted under this
7 subsection.

8 “(F) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REP-
9 RESENTATIONS.—No head and shoulders por-
10 trait or bust of any person, living or dead, no
11 portrait of a living person, and no outline or
12 map of a State may be included in the design
13 on the reverse of any quarter dollar under this
14 subsection.

15 “(4) ISSUANCE OF COINS.—

16 “(A) YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.—
17 Since Yellowstone National Park was estab-
18 lished by an Act signed by President Ulysses S.
19 Grant on March 1, 1872, as the Nation’s first
20 National Park, Yellowstone National Park shall
21 be—

22 “(i) depicted on the first quarter dol-
23 lar issued; and

24 “(ii) designated to the State of Wyo-
25 ming.

1 “(B) ORDER OF ISSUANCE.—Subject to
2 subparagraph (A), the quarter dollar coins
3 issued under this subsection bearing designs of
4 national sites shall be issued in the order in
5 which the sites selected under paragraph (3)
6 were first established as a national site.

7 “(C) RATE OF ISSUANCE.—The quarter
8 dollar coins bearing designs of national sites
9 under this subsection shall be issued at the rate
10 of 5 new designs during each year of the period
11 of issuance under this subsection.

12 “(D) NUMBER OF EACH OF FIVE COIN DE-
13 SIGNS IN EACH YEAR.—Of the quarter dollar
14 coins issued during each year of the period of
15 issuance, the Secretary of the Treasury shall
16 prescribe, on the basis of such factors as the
17 Secretary determines to be appropriate, the
18 number of quarter dollars which shall be issued
19 with each of the designs selected for such year.

20 “(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For
21 purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all coins mint-
22 ed under this subsection shall be considered to be
23 numismatic items.

24 “(6) ISSUANCE.—

1 “(A) QUALITY OF COINS.—The Secretary
2 may mint and issue such number of quarter
3 dollars of each design selected under paragraph
4 (3) in uncirculated and proof qualities as the
5 Secretary determines to be appropriate.

6 “(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding
7 subsection (b), the Secretary may mint and
8 issue such number of quarter dollars of each
9 design selected under paragraph (3) as the Sec-
10 retary determines to be appropriate, with a con-
11 tent of 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

12 “(7) PERIOD OF ISSUANCE.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph
14 (2), the program established under this sub-
15 section shall continue in effect until a national
16 site in each State has been honored.

17 “(B) SECOND ROUND AT DISCRETION OF
18 SECRETARY.—

19 “(i) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary
20 may make a determination before the end
21 of the 9-year period beginning when the
22 first quarter dollar is issued under this
23 subsection to continue the period of
24 issuance until a second national site in
25 each State, the District of Columbia, and

1 each territory referred to in this subsection
2 has been honored with a design on a quar-
3 ter dollar.

4 “(ii) NOTICE AND REPORT.—Within
5 30 days after making a determination
6 under clause (i), the Secretary shall submit
7 a written report on such determination to
8 the Committee on Financial Services of the
9 House of Representatives and the Com-
10 mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban
11 Affairs of the Senate.

12 “(iii) APPLICABILITY OF PROVI-
13 SIONS.—If the Secretary makes a deter-
14 mination under clause (i), the provisions of
15 this subsection applicable to site and de-
16 sign selection and approval, the order, tim-
17 ing, and conditions of issuance shall apply
18 in like manner as the initial issuance of
19 quarter dollars under this subsection, ex-
20 cept that the issuance of quarter dollars
21 pursuant to such determination bearing
22 the first design shall commence in order
23 immediately following the last issuance of
24 quarter dollars under the first round.

1 “(iv) CONTINUATION UNTIL ALL
2 STATES ARE HONORED.—If the Secretary
3 makes a determination under clause (i),
4 the program under this subsection shall
5 continue until a second site in each State
6 has been so honored.

7 “(8) DESIGNS AFTER END OF PROGRAM.—
8 Upon the completion of the coin program under this
9 subsection, the design on—

10 “(A) the obverse of the quarter dollar shall
11 revert to the same design containing an image
12 of President Washington in effect for the quar-
13 ter dollar before the institution of the 50-State
14 quarter dollar program; and

15 “(B) notwithstanding the fourth sentence
16 of subsection (d)(1), the reverse of the quarter
17 dollar shall contain an image of General Wash-
18 ington crossing the Delaware River prior to the
19 Battle of Trenton.

20 “(9) NATIONAL SITE.—For purposes of this
21 subsection, the term ‘national site’ means any site
22 under the supervision, management, or conservancy
23 of the National Park Service, the United States For-
24 est Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife
25 Service, or any similar department or agency of the

1 Federal Government, including any national park,
2 national monument, national battlefield, national
3 military park, national historical park, national his-
4 toric site, national lakeshore, seashore, recreation
5 area, parkway, scenic river, or trail and any site in
6 the National Wildlife Refuge System.

7 “(10) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF INDEPEND-
8 ENCE.—If any territory becomes independent or oth-
9 erwise ceases to be a territory or possession of the
10 United States before quarter dollars bearing designs
11 which are emblematic of such territory are minted
12 pursuant to this subsection, this subsection shall
13 cease to apply with respect to such territory.”.

14 **TITLE II—BULLION INVESTMENT** 15 **PRODUCTS**

16 **SEC. 201. SILVER BULLION COIN.**

17 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
18 amended by inserting after subsection (t) (as added by
19 section 101 of this Act) the following:

20 “(u) SILVER BULLION INVESTMENT PRODUCT.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall strike
22 and make available for sale such number of bullion
23 coins as the Secretary determines to be appropriate
24 that are exact duplicates of the quarter dollars
25 issued under subsection (t), each of which shall—

1 “(A) have a diameter of 3.0 inches and
2 weigh 5.0 ounces;

3 “(B) contain .999 fine silver;

4 “(C) have incused into the edge the
5 fineness and weight of the bullion coin;

6 “(D) bear an inscription of the denomina-
7 tion of such coin, which shall be ‘quarter dol-
8 lar’; and

9 “(E) not be minted or issued by the
10 United States Mint as so-called ‘fractional’ bul-
11 lion coins or in any size other than the size de-
12 scribed in paragraph (A).

13 “(2) AVAILABILITY FOR SALE.—Bullion coins
14 minted under paragraph (1)—

15 “(A) shall become available for sale no
16 sooner than the first day of the calendar year
17 in which the circulating quarter dollar of which
18 such bullion coin is a duplicate is issued; and

19 “(B) may only be available for sale during
20 the year in which such circulating quarter dol-
21 lar is issued.

22 “(3) DISTRIBUTION.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the au-
24 thorized dealers utilized by the Secretary in dis-
25 tributing bullion coins and solely for purposes

1 of distributing bullion coins issued under this
2 subsection, the Director of the National Park
3 Service, or the designee of the Director, may
4 purchase numismatic items issued under this
5 subsection, but only in units of no fewer than
6 1,000 at a time, and the Director, or the Direc-
7 tor's designee, may resell or repackage such nu-
8 mismatic items as the Director determines to be
9 appropriate.

10 “(B) RESALE.—The Director of the Na-
11 tional Park Service, or the designee of the Di-
12 rector, may resell, at cost and without repack-
13 aging, numismatic items acquired by the Direc-
14 tor or such designee under subparagraph (A) to
15 any party affiliated with any national site hon-
16 ored by a quarter dollar under subsection (t)
17 for repackaging and resale by such party in the
18 same manner and to the same extent as such
19 party would be authorized to engage in such ac-
20 tivities under subparagraph (A) if the party
21 were acting as the designee of the Director
22 under such subparagraph.”.

1 **TITLE III—ADMINISTRATION**

2 **SEC. 301. NO NET COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

3 The Secretary of the Treasury shall take such actions
4 as are necessary to ensure that minting and issuing coins
5 under this Act and the amendments made by this Act will
6 not result in any net cost to the Federal Government.

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