

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6516

To award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Tuscarora Nation who fought to protect the residents of Lewiston, New York, from the British invasion during the War of 1812.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

Ms. HOCHUL (for herself and Mr. HIGGINS) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Tuscarora Nation who fought to protect the residents of Lewiston, New York, from the British invasion during the War of 1812.

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 “Tuscarora Nation Con-
5 gressional Gold Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Tuscarora Nation and the residents of
2 Lewiston, New York, have enjoyed a peaceful coex-
3 istence and friendship for more than 200 years.

4 (2) The year 2012 marks the bicentennial of
5 the War of 1812, when communities across the
6 United States banded together to defend the Amer-
7 ican freedoms that had been won in the Revolu-
8 tionary War.

9 (3) In a nighttime attack on December 19,
10 1813, British troops stationed in Canada invaded
11 the United States and captured Fort Niagara, the
12 keystone of American defenses on the Niagara Fron-
13 tier. Later that day, approximately 35 Tuscarora
14 warriors, situated near Lewiston, warned the resi-
15 dents of Lewiston of the imminent British invasion.

16 (4) As the British descended on Lewiston on
17 December 19, 1813, Tuscarora warriors, under the
18 leadership of Chief Solomon Longboard, despite
19 owing no obligation to the people of Lewiston nor to
20 the American cause and, according to some ac-
21 counts, being outnumbered 30 to 1, attacked the
22 British troops, repelling the invasion long enough to
23 buy crucial time for many residents of Lewiston to
24 escape.

1 (5) Without the vigilance and bravery of the
2 members of the Tuscarora Nation, it is likely that
3 the residents of Lewiston would have suffered far
4 more casualties.

5 (6) The United States has yet to formally
6 thank and honor the members of the Tuscarora Na-
7 tion who so valiantly risked their lives to protect the
8 civilians of Lewiston.

9 (7) As the United States commemorates the
10 200th anniversary of the War of 1812, all who con-
11 tributed to the American cause deserve recognition,
12 including the Tuscarora warriors at Lewiston.

13 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

14 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
15 the House of Representatives and the President pro tem-
16 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements
17 for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold
18 medal of appropriate design in commemoration of the
19 members of the Tuscarora Nation who fought to protect
20 the residents of Lewiston, New York, from the British in-
21 vasion during the War of 1812.

22 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
23 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
24 of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Sec-
25 retary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems,

1 devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Sec-
2 retary.

3 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

4 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
5 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3
6 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at
7 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,
8 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses,
9 and the cost of the gold medal.

10 **SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

11 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursu-
12 ant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter
13 51 of title 31, United States Code.

14 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section
15 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck
16 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

17 **SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**
18 **SALE.**

19 (a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is
20 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
21 Public Enterprise Fund, an amount not to exceed \$30,000
22 to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant to this
23 Act.

24 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the
25 sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section

- 1 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public
- 2 Enterprise Fund.

