

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2714

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration  
of the centennial of World War I.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2014

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing,  
and Urban Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins  
in commemoration of the centennial of World War I.

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 “World War I American  
5 Veterans Centennial Commemorative Coin Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

8               (1) the year 2018 is the 100th anniversary of  
9       the signing of the armistice with Germany ending  
10      World War I battlefield hostilities;

1           (2) on April 6, 1917, the United States entered  
2 World War I by declaring war against Germany;

3           (3) 2,000,000 American soldiers served overseas  
4 during World War I;

5           (4) more than 4,000,000 men and women from  
6 the United States served in uniform during World  
7 War I;

8           (5) the events of 1914 through 1918 shaped the  
9 world and the lives of millions of people for decades;

10          (6) more than 9,000,000 soldiers worldwide lost  
11 their lives between 1914 and 1918;

12          (7) the centennial of the involvement of the  
13 United States in World War I offers an opportunity  
14 for people in the United States to commemorate the  
15 commitment of their predecessors;

16          (8) Frank Buckles, the last American veteran  
17 from World War I, died on February 27, 2011;

18          (9) Mr. Buckles was the last direct American  
19 link to the “war to end all wars”;

20          (10) while other great conflicts, including the  
21 Civil War, World War II, the Korean War, and the  
22 Vietnam War, have all been memorialized on United  
23 States commemorative coins, there currently is no  
24 coin to honor the brave veterans of World War I;  
25 and

1           (11) the 112th Congress established the World  
2           War I Centennial Commission to plan, develop, and  
3           execute programs, projects, and activities to com-  
4           memorate the centennial of World War I.

5           (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are to—

6           (1) commemorate the centennial of the involve-  
7           ment of the United States in World War I; and

8           (2) honor the more than 4,000,000 men and  
9           women from the United States who served during  
10          World War I.

11 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

12          (a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—The Secretary of the Treas-  
13          ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)  
14          shall mint and issue not more than 350,000 \$1 coins to  
15          commemorate the centennial of the involvement of the  
16          United States in World War I, each of which shall—

17               (1) weigh 26.73 grams;

18               (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

19               (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent  
20          copper.

21          (b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this  
22          Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of  
23          title 31, United States Code.

24          (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections  
25          5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins

1 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-  
2 matic items.

3 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

4 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins  
6 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the  
7 centennial of the involvement of the United States in  
8 World War I.

9 (2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On  
10 each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

11 (A) a designation of the value of the coin;

12 (B) an inscription of the year “2018”; and

13 (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,  
14 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-  
15 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

16 (b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted  
17 under this Act shall be selected by the Secretary based  
18 on the winning design from a design competition described  
19 in subsection (c).

20 (c) DESIGN COMPETITION.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall hold a  
22 competition and provide compensation for the winner  
23 of the contest to design the obverse and reverse of  
24 the coins minted under this Act.

1           (2) MANNER OF COMPETITION.—The competi-  
2           tion required by this subsection shall be held in the  
3           following manner:

4                   (A) The competition shall be judged by an  
5           expert jury—

6                           (i) chaired by the Secretary; and

7                           (ii) consisting of—

8                                   (I) 3 members from the Citizens  
9                                   Coinage Advisory Committee, who  
10                                  shall be elected by the Committee; and

11                                   (II) 3 members from the Com-  
12                                  mission of Fine Arts, who shall be  
13                                  elected by the Commission.

14                   (B) The Secretary shall determine com-  
15           pensation for the winning design, which shall be  
16           not less than \$5,000.

17                   (C) The Secretary may not accept a design  
18           for the competition unless a plaster model ac-  
19           companies the design.

20 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

21           (a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this  
22   Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

23           (b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United  
24   States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality  
25   of the coins minted under this Act.

1           (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may  
2 issue coins under this Act only during the period begin-  
3 ning on January 1, 2018, and ending on December 31,  
4 2018.

5 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

6           (a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act  
7 shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum  
8 of—

9                   (1) the face value of the coins;

10                   (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with  
11 respect to the coins; and

12                   (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins  
13 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,  
14 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

15           (b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk  
16 sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable  
17 discount.

18           (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

19                   (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept  
20 prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act  
21 before the issuance of the coins.

22                   (2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to pre-  
23 paid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a rea-  
24 sonable discount.

1 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this  
3 Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

4 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of  
5 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by  
6 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act  
7 shall be paid by the Secretary to the World War I Centen-  
8 nial Commission, consistent with section 8.

9 (c) UNUSED FUNDS UPON TERMINATION.—If, upon  
10 the termination of the World War I Centennial Commis-  
11 sion, there remains a balance of funds from surcharges  
12 received from the Secretary pursuant to this section, the  
13 Commission shall transfer the funds to the general fund  
14 of the Treasury.

15 (d) AUDITS.—The World War I Commission shall be  
16 subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of  
17 title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts  
18 received under subsection (b).

19 (e) LIMITATION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection  
21 (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to  
22 the issuance under this Act of any coin during a cal-  
23 endar year if, as of the time of the issuance, the  
24 issuance of the coin would result in the number of  
25 commemorative coin programs issued during the cal-  
26 endar year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative

1 coin program issuance limitation under section  
2 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code.

3 (2) GUIDANCE.—The Secretary may issue guid-  
4 ance to carry out this subsection.

5 **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

6 The Secretary shall take such actions as may be nec-  
7 essary to ensure that—

8 (1) minting and issuing coins under this Act  
9 will not result in any net cost to the United States  
10 Government; and

11 (2) no funds, including applicable surcharges,  
12 shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in sec-  
13 tion 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing  
14 all of the coins authorized by this Act (including  
15 labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead ex-  
16 penses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the  
17 United States Treasury, consistent with sections  
18 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States  
19 Code.

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