

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2399

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of American innovation and significant innovation and pioneering efforts of individuals or groups from each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, to promote the importance of innovation in the United States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 2018

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

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of American innovation and significant innovation and pioneering efforts of individuals or groups from each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, to promote the importance of innovation in the United States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “American Innovation
3 \$1 Coin Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AMERICAN INNOVATION \$1 COIN PROGRAM.**

5 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
6 amended by inserting after subsection (v) the following
7 new subsection:

8 “(w) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF \$1 COINS HON-
9 ORING INNOVATION AND INNOVATORS FROM EACH
10 STATE, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND EACH TERRI-
11 TORY.—

12 “(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING IN 2019.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sub-
14 section (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2) and in ac-
15 cordance with the provisions of this subsection,
16 during the 14-year period beginning on January
17 1, 2019 (or such later date as provided under
18 subparagraph (B)(ii)), the Secretary of the
19 Treasury shall mint and issue \$1 coins to be
20 known as ‘American Innovation \$1 coins’,
21 that—

22 “(i) have designs on the obverse se-
23 lected in accordance with paragraph
24 (2)(A); and

1 “(ii) have a design on the reverse se-
2 lected in accordance with paragraph
3 (2)(B).

4 “(B) CONTINUITY PROVISIONS.—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding
6 subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall con-
7 tinue to mint and issue \$1 coins honoring
8 Native Americans and their contributions
9 in accordance with subsection (r).

10 “(ii) FIRST COIN.—Notwithstanding
11 subparagraph (A), if the Secretary finds
12 that it is feasible and cost-effective, the
13 Secretary may mint and issue a \$1 coin in
14 2018 to introduce the series of coins de-
15 scribed in this subsection, that—

16 “(I) has the obverse described
17 under paragraph (2)(A);

18 “(II) has a reverse that bears the
19 inscription ‘United States of America’
20 and ‘American Innovators’ and a rep-
21 resentation of the signature of Presi-
22 dent George Washington on the first
23 United States patent issued;

24 “(III) has the edge-incusing de-
25 scribed under paragraph (2)(C); and

1 “(IV) the design for which has
2 reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Ad-
3 visory Committee.

4 “(C) DEFINITION OF TERRITORY.—For
5 purposes of this subsection, the term ‘territory’
6 means the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,
7 Guam, American Samoa, the United States Vir-
8 gin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the
9 Northern Mariana Islands.

10 “(2) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstand-
11 ing subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2), the \$1
12 coins issued in accordance with paragraph (1)(A)
13 shall meet the following design requirements:

14 “(A) COIN OBVERSE.—The common design
15 on the obverse of each coin issued under this
16 subsection shall contain—

17 “(i) a likeness of the Statue of Lib-
18 erty extending to the rim of the coin and
19 large enough to provide a dramatic rep-
20 resentation of Liberty;

21 “(ii) the inscription ‘\$1’; and

22 “(iii) the inscription ‘In God We
23 Trust’.

1 “(B) COIN REVERSE.—The design on the
2 reverse of each coin issued under this sub-
3 section shall bear the following:

4 “(i) An image or images emblematic
5 of one of the following from one of the 50
6 States, the District of Columbia, or the
7 territories of the United States:

8 “(I) A significant innovation.

9 “(II) An innovator.

10 “(III) A group of innovators.

11 “(ii) The name of the State, the Dis-
12 trict of Columbia, or territory, as applica-
13 ble.

14 “(iii) The inscription ‘United States
15 of America’.

16 “(C) EDGE-INCUSED INSCRIPTIONS.—

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The inscription of
18 the year of minting or issuance of the coin,
19 the mint mark, and the inscription ‘E
20 Pluribus Unum’ shall be edge-incused into
21 the coin.

22 “(ii) PRESERVATION OF DISTINCTIVE
23 EDGE.—The edge-incusing of the inscrip-
24 tions under clause (i) on coins issued
25 under this subsection shall be done in a

1 manner that preserves the distinctive edge
2 of the coin so that the denomination of the
3 coin is readily discernible, including by in-
4 dividuals who are blind or visually im-
5 paired.

6 “(3) ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING IN-
7 NOVATION OR INNOVATORS.—

8 “(A) ORDER OF ISSUANCE.—The coins
9 issued under this subsection commemorating ei-
10 ther an innovation, an individual innovator, or
11 a group of innovators, from each State, the Dis-
12 trict of Columbia, or a territory shall be issued
13 in alphabetic order of the State, the District, or
14 territory represented, starting with Alabama,
15 and with the District of Columbia following
16 Delaware.

17 “(B) ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMO-
18 RATING FOUR INNOVATIONS OR INNOVATORS
19 DURING EACH OF 14 YEARS.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Four \$1 coin de-
21 signs as described in this subsection shall
22 be issued during each year of the period
23 referred to in paragraph (1) until one coin
24 featuring one innovation, an individual in-
25 novator, or a group of innovators, from

1 each of the States, the District of Colum-
2 bia, and territories has been issued.

3 “(ii) NUMBER OF COINS OF EACH DE-
4 SIGN.—The Secretary shall prescribe, on
5 the basis of such factors as the Secretary
6 determines to be appropriate, the number
7 of \$1 coins that shall be issued with each
8 of the designs selected for each year of the
9 period referred to in paragraph (1).

10 “(iii) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF THE
11 ADMISSION OF ADDITIONAL STATES OR
12 TERRITORIES.—Notwithstanding clause (i),
13 if any additional State or territory is ad-
14 mitted into the Union before the end of the
15 14-year period referred to in paragraph
16 (1), the Secretary of the Treasury may
17 issue \$1 coins with respect to such addi-
18 tional State or territory, in accordance
19 with this subsection during any one year of
20 such 14-year period, in addition to the four
21 \$1 coins issued during such year in accord-
22 ance with clause (i).

23 “(iv) APPLICATION IN THE EVENT OF
24 INDEPENDENCE.—Notwithstanding para-
25 graph (3)(B)(i), if any territory becomes

1 independent or otherwise ceases to be a
2 territory of the United States before \$1
3 coins are minted pursuant to this sub-
4 section, the subsection shall cease to apply
5 with respect to such territory.

6 “(4) SELECTION OF CONCEPT AND DESIGN.—

7 “(A) CONCEPT.—With respect to each
8 State, the District of Columbia, and each terri-
9 tory to be honored with a coin under this sub-
10 section, the selection of the significant innova-
11 tion, innovator, or group of innovators to be
12 borne on the reverse of such coin shall be made
13 by the Secretary of the Treasury, after con-
14 sultation with the Governor or other chief exec-
15 utive of the State, the District of Columbia, or
16 territory with respect to which a coin is to be
17 issued under this subsection.

18 “(B) DESIGN.—Each of the designs re-
19 quired under this subsection shall be selected by
20 the Secretary after—

21 “(i) consultation with—

22 “(I) the Governor or other chief
23 executive of the State, the District of
24 Columbia, or territory with respect to

1 which a coin is to be issued under this
2 subsection; and

3 “(II) the Commission of Fine
4 Arts; and

5 “(ii) review by the Citizens Coinage
6 Advisory Committee.

7 “(C) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROC-
8 ESS.—Proposals for designs for \$1 coins under
9 this subsection may be submitted in accordance
10 with the design selection and approval process
11 developed by the Secretary in the sole discretion
12 of the Secretary.

13 “(D) STANDARDS.—Because it is impor-
14 tant that the Nation’s coinage and currency
15 bear dignified designs of which the citizens of
16 the United States can be proud, the Secretary
17 shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate
18 design for any \$1 coin minted under this sub-
19 section.

20 “(E) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REP-
21 RESENTATIONS.—No head and shoulders por-
22 trait or bust of any person and no portrait of
23 a living person may be included in the design
24 of any coin issued under this subsection.

1 “(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For
2 purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all \$1 coins
3 minted under this subsection shall be considered to
4 be numismatic items.

5 “(6) ISSUANCE OF NUMISMATIC COINS.—The
6 Secretary may mint and issue such number of \$1
7 coins of each design selected under this subsection
8 in uncirculated and proof qualities as the Secretary
9 determines to be appropriate.

10 “(7) TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.—The issu-
11 ance of coins under this subsection shall terminate
12 when one innovation, an individual innovator, or a
13 group of innovators, from each State, the District of
14 Columbia, and each territory has been honored and
15 may not be resumed except by an Act of Congress.”.

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