

104TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3228

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of all the brave and gallant Puerto Ricans in the 65th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army who fought in the Korean conflict.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 1996

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. GUTIERREZ, MRS. KENNELLY, Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of all the brave and gallant Puerto Ricans in the 65th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army who fought in the Korean conflict.

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; FINDINGS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “65th Infantry Regiment Commemorative Coin Act”.

6 (b) FINDINGS.—The Congress hereby finds that the  
7 brave and gallant soldiers from the Commonwealth of

1 Puerto Rico who comprised the 65th Infantry Regiment  
2 of the United States Army deserve a special commemora-  
3 tion and a commemorative coin for their contributions  
4 during the Korean conflict for the following reasons:

5           (1) The Puerto Rican soldiers of the 65th In-  
6 fantry Regiment unselfishly fought, bled, and died  
7 for the rights and privileges of all citizens of the  
8 United States and the Republic of Korea.

9           (2) 125 soldiers of the United States Army's  
10 65th Infantry Regiment were awarded the Silver  
11 Star and 4 received the Distinguished Service Cross  
12 for their heroism during the Korean conflict.

13           (3) The 65th Infantry Regiment went to the  
14 rescue of the 1st Division of the United States Ma-  
15 rine Corps in Hagaru-ri when that division was sur-  
16 rounded by forces of the Peoples Republic of China,  
17 provided a safe corridor through which the Marines  
18 escaped, and formed a protective rear guard during  
19 the retreat to Hungnam.

20           (4) After bitter fighting, and with the forces of  
21 the Peoples Republic of China on their heels, the  
22 65th Infantry Regiment was the last regiment to  
23 leave the beachhead in the Christmas eve evacuation  
24 of Hungnam on December 24, 1950.

1           (5) One night, while the 65th Infantry Regi-  
2           ment was encamped near the command post of the  
3           3d Infantry Division of the United States Army dur-  
4           ing a rest and recreation leave away from the front  
5           lines, the command post of the 3d Infantry Division  
6           was attacked by over 1,000 North Korean soldiers  
7           who had infiltrated through the front lines without  
8           being detected and the 65th Infantry Regiment ral-  
9           lied, attacked, and subsequently destroyed the North  
10          Korean force, thereby saving the commanding officer  
11          and staff of the 3d Infantry Division from death or  
12          capture.

13          (6) For their heroism in battle, the soldiers of  
14          the 65th Infantry Division were showered with many  
15          accolades but for them perhaps the most significant  
16          and meaningful came in the form of a letter from  
17          the commander of the United Nations forces in  
18          Korea, General of the Army Douglas MacArthur  
19          which read in part as follows:

20          “The Puerto Ricans forming the ranks of the gallant  
21          65th Infantry Division on the battlefields of Korea by  
22          valor, determination and a resolute will to victory give  
23          daily testament to their invincible loyalty to the United  
24          States and the fervor of their devotion to those immutable  
25          standards of human relations to which the Americans and

1 the Puerto Ricans are in common dedicated. They are  
2 writing a brilliant record of achievement in battle and I  
3 am proud indeed to have them in this command. I wish  
4 that we might have many more like them.”.

5 **SEC. 2. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

6 (a) \$1 SILVER COINS.—In commemoration of all the  
7 Puerto Ricans in the 65th Infantry Regiment of the  
8 United States Army who fought in the Korean conflict,  
9 the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act re-  
10 ferred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not  
11 more than 60,000 1 dollar coins, which shall—

12 (1) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

14 (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent  
15 copper.

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

19 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section  
20 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted  
21 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

22 **SEC. 3. SOURCES OF BULLION.**

23 The Secretary shall obtain silver for minting coins  
24 under this Act only from stockpiles established under the  
25 Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

1 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

2 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins  
4 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the  
5 courage and valor of the Puerto Ricans who served  
6 in the 65th Infantry Regiment during the Korean  
7 conflict.

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

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

11 (B) an inscription of the year “1997”; and

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

15 (b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted  
16 under this Act shall be—

17 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation  
18 with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the National  
19 Congress for Puerto Rican Veterans, the Puerto  
20 Rican Veterans In Massachusetts Association, the  
21 Puerto Rican-American Research Institute, and the  
22 Commission of Fine Arts; and

23 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative  
24 Coin Advisory Committee.

1 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

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

7 (c) COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary  
8 may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January  
9 1, 1997.

10 (d) TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.—No  
11 coins may be minted under this Act after December 31,  
12 1997.

13 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

17 (1) the face value of the coins;

18 (2) the surcharge provided in subsection (d)  
19 with respect to such coins; and

20 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins  
21 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,  
22 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

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

26 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—



1 (b) USE OF PROCEEDS.—

2 (1) COSTS RELATING TO THE KOREAN WAR  
3 VETERANS MEMORIAL.—Except as provided in para-  
4 graph (2), amounts deposited in the Korean War  
5 Veterans Memorial Fund pursuant to subsection (a)  
6 shall be available to the American Battle Monuments  
7 Commission for the uses described in section 8(b) of  
8 Public Law 101–495.

9 (2) CEREMONY FOR THE 65TH REGIMENT.—  
10 The American Battle Monuments Commission shall  
11 use such amount of the surcharges from the sale of  
12 coins issued as the Commission determines to be  
13 necessary and appropriate, after consulting with the  
14 National Congress for Puerto Rican Veterans, the  
15 Puerto Rican Veterans In Massachusetts Associa-  
16 tion, and the Puerto Rican-American Research Insti-  
17 tute, to conduct a ceremony at the Korean War Vet-  
18 erans Memorial commemorating the Puerto Ricans  
19 comprising the 65th Infantry Regiment of the Unit-  
20 ed States Army for their service and contributions  
21 during the Korean conflict.

22 (c) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the United  
23 States shall have the right to examine such books, records,  
24 documents, and other data of the American Battle Monu-

1 ments Commission as may be related to the expenditures  
2 of amounts paid under subsection (a).

3 **SEC. 9. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

4 (a) NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The Sec-  
5 retary shall take such actions as may be necessary to en-  
6 sure that minting and issuing coins under this Act will  
7 not result in any net cost to the United States Govern-  
8 ment.

9 (b) PAYMENT FOR COINS.—A coin shall not be issued  
10 under this Act unless the Secretary has received—

11 (1) full payment for the coin;

12 (2) security satisfactory to the Secretary to in-  
13 demnify the United States for full payment; or

14 (3) a guarantee of full payment satisfactory to  
15 the Secretary from a depository institution whose  
16 deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insur-  
17 ance Corporation or the National Credit Union Ad-  
18 ministration Board.

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