

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2414

To provide for a 10-year circulating commemorative coin program to commemorate each of the 50 States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 5, 1997

Mr. CASTLE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services

A BILL

To provide for a 10-year circulating commemorative coin program to commemorate each of the 50 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 “50 States Commemo-
5 rative Coin Program Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress hereby finds the following:

8 (1) It is appropriate and timely to—

9 (A) honor the unique Federal republic of

10 50 States that comprise the United States; and

1 (B) promote the diffusion of knowledge
2 among the youth of the United States about the
3 individual States, their history and geography,
4 and the rich diversity of the national heritage.

5 (2) The circulating coinage of the United States
6 has not been modernized within the past 25 years.

7 (3) A circulating commemorative 25-cent coin
8 program could produce earnings of \$110,000,000
9 over the 10-year period of issuance and would
10 produce indirect earnings of an estimated
11 \$2,600,000,000 to \$5,100,000,000 to the United
12 States Treasury, money that will replace borrowing
13 to fund the national debt to at least that extent.

14 (4) It is appropriate to launch a commemora-
15 tive circulating coin program that encourages young
16 people and their families to collect memorable tokens
17 of all the States for the face value of the coins.

18 **SEC. 3. ISSUANCE OF REDESIGNED QUARTER DOLLARS**
19 **OVER 10-YEAR PERIOD COMMEMORATING**
20 **EACH OF THE 50 STATES.**

21 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
22 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
23 section:

24 “(k) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF QUARTER DOL-
25 LAR IN COMMEMORATION OF EACH OF THE 50 STATES.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the 4th
2 sentence of subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2),
3 quarter dollar coins issued during the 10-year period
4 beginning on January 1, 1999, shall have designs on
5 the reverse side selected in accordance with this sub-
6 section which are emblematic of the 50 States.

7 “(2) SINGLE STATE DESIGNS.—The design on
8 the reverse side of each quarter dollar issued during
9 the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1) shall
10 be emblematic of 1 of the 50 States.

11 “(3) ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING 5
12 STATES DURING EACH OF THE 10 YEARS.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The designs for the
14 quarter dollar coins issued during each year of
15 the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1)
16 shall be emblematic of 5 States selected in the
17 order in which such States ratified the Con-
18 stitution of the United States or were admitted
19 into the Union, as the case may be.

20 “(B) NUMBER OF EACH OF 5 COIN DE-
21 SIGNS IN EACH YEAR.—Of the quarter dollar
22 coins issued during each year (of the 10-year
23 period referred to in paragraph (1)), the Sec-
24 retary of the Treasury shall prescribe, on the
25 basis of such factors as the Secretary deter-

1 mines to be appropriate, the number of quarter
2 dollars which shall be issued with each of the 5
3 designs selected for such year.

4 “(4) SELECTION OF DESIGN.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each of the 50 de-
6 signs required under this subsection for quarter
7 dollars shall be—

8 “(i) selected by the Secretary after
9 consultation with—

10 “(I) the Governor of the State
11 being commemorated, or such other
12 State officials or group as the State
13 may designate for such purpose; and

14 “(II) the Commission of Fine
15 Arts; and

16 “(ii) reviewed by the Citizens Com-
17 memorative Coin Advisory Committee.

18 “(B) STATE PROPOSALS.—Subject to the
19 standards established under subparagraph (C),
20 each State may develop proposals for the design
21 for the quarter dollar commemorating such
22 State in any manner the State determines to be
23 appropriate and any such proposal shall form a
24 basis for the design selected by the Secretary
25 in accordance with this paragraph.

1 “(C) 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 “(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For
9 purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all coins mint-
10 ed under this subsection shall be considered to be
11 numismatic items.

12 “(6) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—

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

18 “(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding
19 subsection (b), the Secretary may mint and
20 issue such number of quarter dollars of each
21 design selected under paragraph (4) as the Sec-
22 retary determines to be appropriate with a con-
23 tent of 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

24 “(C) SOURCES OF BULLION.—The Sec-
25 retary shall obtain silver for minting coins

1 under subparagraph (B) only from stockpiles
2 established under the Strategic and Critical
3 Materials Stock Piling Act.

4 “(D) SALE PRICE OF COINS.—The coins
5 issued under this paragraph shall be sold by the
6 Secretary at a price equal to the sum of the
7 face value of the coins and the cost of designing
8 and issuing the coins (including labor, mate-
9 rials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses,
10 marketing, profit, and shipping).

11 “(7) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF THE ADMIS-
12 SION OF ADDITIONAL STATES.—If any additional
13 State is admitted into the Union before the end of
14 the 10-year period referred to in paragraph (1), the
15 Secretary of the Treasury may issue quarter dollar
16 coins, in accordance with this subsection, with a de-
17 sign which is emblematic of such State during any
18 1 year of such 10-year period, in addition to the
19 quarter dollar coins issued during such year in ac-
20 cordance with paragraph (3)(A).”.

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