

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1283

To award congressional gold medals to Jean Brown Trickey, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Patillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wair, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas, commonly referred collectively as the “Little Rock Nine” on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the integration of the Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 9, 1997

Mr. BUMPERS (for himself, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, and Mr. HUTCHINSON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To award congressional gold medals to Jean Brown Trickey, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Patillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wair, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas, commonly referred collectively as the “Little Rock Nine” on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the integration of the Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

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. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress hereby finds the following:

3 (1) Jean Brown Trickey, Carlotta Walls La-
4 Nier, Melba Patillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria
5 Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wair, Ernest
6 Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas,
7 hereafter in this section referred to as the “Little
8 Rock Nine”, voluntarily subjected themselves to the
9 bitter stinging pains of racial bigotry.

10 (2) The Little Rock Nine are civil rights pio-
11 neers whose selfless acts considerably advanced the
12 civil rights debate in this country.

13 (3) The Little Rock Nine risked their lives to
14 integrate Central High School in Little Rock, Ar-
15 kansas, and subsequently the Nation.

16 (4) The Little Rock Nine sacrificed their inno-
17 cence to protect the American principle that we are
18 all “one nation, under God, indivisible”.

19 (5) The Little Rock Nine have indelibly left
20 their mark on the history of this Nation.

21 (6) The Little Rock Nine have continued to
22 work toward equality for all Americans.

23 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS.**

24 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is
25 authorized to present, on behalf of Congress, to Jean
26 Brown Trickey, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Patillo

1 Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma
2 Mothershed Wair, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and
3 Jefferson Thomas, commonly referred to the “Little Rock
4 Nine”, gold medals of appropriate design, in recognition
5 of the selfless heroism such individuals exhibited and the
6 pain they suffered in the cause of civil rights by integrat-
7 ing Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

8 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
9 presentation referred to in subsection (a) the Secretary of
10 the Treasury shall strike a gold medal with suitable em-
11 blems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the
12 Secretary for each recipient.

13 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—Effective
14 October 1, 1997, there are authorized to be appropriated
15 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

16 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

17 (a) STRIKING AND SALE.—The Secretary of the
18 Treasury may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the
19 gold medals struck pursuant to section 2 under such regu-
20 lations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient
21 to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies,
22 use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of
23 the gold medal.

1 (b) REIMBURSEMENT OF APPROPRIATION.—The ap-
2 propriation used to carry out section 2 shall be reimbursed
3 out of the proceeds of sales under subsection (a).

4 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL MEDALS.**

5 The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national
6 medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United
7 States Code.

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