

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3544

To authorize a gold medal to be awarded on behalf of the Congress to Pope John Paul II in recognition of his many and enduring contributions to peace and religious understanding, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 27, 2000

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

A BILL

To authorize a gold medal to be awarded on behalf of the Congress to Pope John Paul II in recognition of his many and enduring contributions to peace and religious understanding, 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 “Pope John Paul II
5 Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that Pope John Paul II—

1 (1) is the spiritual leader of more than one bil-
2 lion Catholic Christians around the world and mil-
3 lions of Catholic Christians in America and has led
4 the Catholic Church into its third millennium;

5 (2) is recognized in the United States and
6 abroad as a preeminent moral authority;

7 (3) has dedicated his Pontificate to the freedom
8 and dignity of every individual human being and
9 tirelessly traveled to the far reaches of the globe as
10 an exemplar of faith;

11 (4) has brought hope to millions of people all
12 over the world oppressed by poverty, hunger, illness,
13 and despair;

14 (5) transcending temporal politics, has used his
15 moral authority to hasten the fall of godless totali-
16 tarian regimes, symbolized in the collapse of the
17 Berlin wall;

18 (6) has promoted the inner peace of man as
19 well as peace among mankind through his faith-
20 inspired defense of justice; and

21 (7) has thrown open the doors of the Catholic
22 Church, reconciling differences within Christendom
23 as well as reaching out to the world's other great re-
24 ligions.

1 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

2 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—On behalf of the
3 Congress, a gold medal of appropriate design is authorized
4 to be presented to Pope John Paul II in recognition of
5 his many and enduring contributions to peace and reli-
6 gious understanding. The modalities of the medal’s pres-
7 entation shall be determined by the President after con-
8 sultation with the Speaker of the United States House of
9 Representatives, Majority Leader of the United States
10 Senate, Minority Leader of the United States Senate and
11 the Minority Leader of the United States House of Rep-
12 resentatives.

13 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
14 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
15 of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the
16 “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable em-
17 blems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the
18 Secretary.

19 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

20 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
21 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3
22 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe,
23 and at a price sufficient to cover the costs thereof, includ-
24 ing labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead ex-
25 penses, and the cost of the gold medal.

1 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL MEDALS.**

2 The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national
3 medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United
4 States Code.

5 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; PROCEEDS**
6 **OF SALE.**

7 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
8 hereby authorized to be charged against the Numismatic
9 Public Enterprise Fund an amount not to exceed \$30,000
10 to pay for the cost of the medal authorized by this Act.

11 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the
12 sales of duplicate bronze medals under section 4 shall be
13 deposited in the Numismatic Public Enterprise Fund.

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