

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 597

To allow postal patrons to contribute to funding for AIDS research and education through the voluntary purchase of certain specially issued United States postage stamps.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 1999

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (for herself, Mr. COBURN, Mr. LATOURETTE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mrs. CLAYTON, Ms. PELOSI, Mrs. CHRISTIAN-CHRISTENSEN, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. FORD, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. STARK, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. FROST, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. BALDACCI, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. DIXON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

A BILL

To allow postal patrons to contribute to funding for AIDS research and education through the voluntary purchase of certain specially issued United States postage stamps.

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 “Faces of AIDS Stamp
5 Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. SPECIAL POSTAGE STAMPS FOR AIDS RESEARCH**
2 **AND EDUCATION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title 39, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
5 ing:

6 **“§ 415. Special postage stamps for AIDS research and**
7 **education**

8 “(a) In order to afford the public a convenient way
9 to contribute to funding for AIDS research and education,
10 the Postal Service shall establish a special rate of postage
11 for first-class mail under this section.

12 “(b) The rate of postage established under this
13 section—

14 “(1) shall be equal to the regular first-class rate
15 of postage, plus a differential of not to exceed 25
16 percent;

17 “(2) shall be set by the Governors in accord-
18 ance with such procedures as the Governors shall by
19 regulation prescribe (in lieu of the procedures under
20 chapter 36); and

21 “(3) shall be offered as an alternative to the
22 regular first-class rate of postage.

23 The use of the special rate of postage established under
24 this section shall be voluntary on the part of postal pa-
25 trons.

1 “(c)(1) Of the amounts becoming available for AIDS
2 research and education pursuant to this section, the
3 United States Postal Service shall pay—

4 “(A) 50 percent to the National Institutes of
5 Health for AIDS research; and

6 “(B) the remainder to the Department of
7 Health and Human Services for purposes of such
8 AIDS awareness education grant programs as the
9 Secretary of Health and Human Services considers
10 appropriate.

11 Payments under this section to an agency shall be made
12 under such arrangements as the Postal Service shall by
13 mutual agreement with that agency establish in order to
14 carry out the purposes of this section, except that, under
15 those arrangements, payments to such agency shall be
16 made at least twice a year.

17 “(2) For purposes of this section, the term ‘amounts
18 becoming available for AIDS research and education pur-
19 suant to this section’ means—

20 “(A) the total amounts received by the Postal
21 Service that it would not have received but for the
22 enactment of this section, reduced by

23 “(B) an amount sufficient to cover reasonable
24 costs incurred by the Postal Service in carrying out
25 this section, including those attributable to the

1 printing, sale, and distribution of stamps under this
2 section,
3 as determined by the Postal Service under regulations that
4 it shall prescribe.

5 “(d) It is the sense of the Congress that nothing in
6 this section should—

7 “(1) directly or indirectly cause a net decrease
8 in total funds received by the National Institutes of
9 Health, the Department of Health and Human Serv-
10 ices, or any other agency or instrumentality of the
11 Government (or any component or program thereof)
12 below the level that would otherwise have been re-
13 ceived but for the enactment of this section; or

14 “(2) affect regular first-class rates of postage
15 or any other regular rates of postage.

16 “(e) Special postage stamps under this section shall
17 be made available to the public beginning on such date
18 as the Postal Service shall by regulation prescribe, but in
19 no event later than 12 months after the date of the enact-
20 ment of this section.

21 “(f) The Postmaster General shall include in each re-
22 port rendered under section 2402 with respect to any pe-
23 riod during any portion of which this section is in effect
24 information concerning the operation of this section, ex-
25 cept that, at a minimum, each shall include—

