

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 503

To require \$20 notes to include a portrait of Harriet Tubman, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 28, 2021

Mrs. BEATTY (for herself, Mr. KATKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CARSON, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. MCEACHIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To require \$20 notes to include a portrait of Harriet Tubman, 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 “Woman on the Twenty
5 Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) In 1875, Congress adopted the dollar as the
2 monetary unit of the United States.

3 (2) In 1877, the Bureau of Engraving and
4 Printing of the Department of the Treasury began
5 printing all United States paper money.

6 (3) The Federal Reserve Act of 1913 created
7 the Federal Reserve as the Nation's central bank
8 and provided for a national banking system. The
9 Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
10 issued new paper money called Federal Reserve
11 notes.

12 (4) The Secretary of the Treasury has histori-
13 cally selected the designs shown on Federal Reserve
14 notes with the advice of the Bureau of Engraving
15 and Printing.

16 (5) United States Federal Reserve notes now in
17 production bear the following portraits:

18 (A) President George Washington on the
19 \$1 bill.

20 (B) President Thomas Jefferson on the \$2
21 bill.

22 (C) President Abraham Lincoln on the \$5
23 bill.

24 (D) Alexander Hamilton on the \$10 bill.

1 (E) President Andrew Jackson on the \$20
2 bill.

3 (F) President Ulysses S. Grant on the \$50
4 bill.

5 (G) Benjamin Franklin on the \$100 bill.

6 (6) There are also several denominations of
7 Federal Reserve notes that are no longer produced.
8 These include the \$500 bill with the portrait of
9 President William McKinley, the \$1,000 bill with a
10 portrait of President Grover Cleveland, the \$5,000
11 bill with a portrait of President James Madison, the
12 \$10,000 bill with a portrait of Salmon P. Chase, and
13 the \$100,000 bill with a portrait of President Wood-
14 row Wilson.

15 (7) Since the first general circulation of paper
16 money, no woman has ever held the honor of being
17 featured on paper money.

18 (8) In June 2015, then-Treasury Secretary
19 Jack Lew announced that the portrait of a woman
20 would be featured on the new \$10 bill.

21 (9) After a lengthy period of public engagement
22 between the public and the Department of the
23 Treasury, on April 20, 2016, then-Treasury Sec-
24 retary Lew announced that “for the first time in
25 more than a century, the front of our currency will

1 feature the portrait of a woman—Harriet Tubman
2 on the \$20 note.” Additionally, the Secretary an-
3 nounced the reverse of the new \$10 note would fea-
4 ture an image of the historic march for suffrage that
5 ended on the steps of the United States Department
6 of Treasury, featuring the leaders of the suffrage
7 movement—Lucretia Mott, Sojourner Truth, Susan
8 B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Alice
9 Paul. Finally, the Secretary also announced the re-
10 verse of the \$5 note would feature an image of his-
11 toric figures at the Lincoln Memorial who shaped
12 our history and democracy, including Marian Ander-
13 son, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Martin Luther King, Jr.

14 **SEC. 3. HARRIET TUBMAN ON THE \$20 NOTE.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5114(b) of title 31,
16 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
17 following: “No \$20 note of United States currency may
18 be printed after December 31, 2024, which does not
19 prominently feature a portrait of Harriet Tubman on the
20 front face of the note.”.

21 (b) PRELIMINARY DESIGN.—The Secretary of the
22 Treasury shall release to the public the preliminary design
23 of the \$20 note prominently featuring a portrait of Har-
24 riet Tubman no later than December 31, 2022.

○