

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6916

To posthumously award a Congressional gold medal to Mahatma Gandhi in recognition of his contributions to the Nation by the promotion of nonviolence.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. BERA, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To posthumously award a Congressional gold medal to Mahatma Gandhi in recognition of his contributions to the Nation by the promotion of nonviolence.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Few people have had as significant and as
6 positive an impact on the world and freedom than
7 Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi.

1 (2) Gandhi led the Indian people to independ-
2 ence from British rule in August 1947 through non-
3 violent means, staging massive peaceful demonstra-
4 tions against poverty while supporting women’s
5 rights and religious tolerance.

6 (3) Gandhi’s legacy has inspired hundreds of
7 millions of people around the world to pursue non-
8 violence as a means to achieve freedom and equality,
9 including Martin Luther King, Jr.’s movement to
10 end racial injustice in the United States and Nelson
11 Mandela’s fight to end apartheid in South Africa.

12 (4) For his efforts, Gandhi was given the title
13 of Mahatma, or “Great Soul” and was often called
14 Bapu in India, which means “father”.

15 (5) Over 2,000,000 people attended Gandhi’s
16 funeral and his memory and teachings persist still
17 today.

18 (6) October 2, Gandhi’s birthday, was declared
19 as International Day of Non-Violence by the United
20 Nations to, “disseminate the message of non-vio-
21 lence, including through education and public aware-
22 ness” and reaffirm “the universal relevance of the
23 principle of non-violence” and desire “to secure a
24 culture of peace, tolerance, and understanding
25 through non-violence”.

1 (7) Ensuring that people around the globe know
2 about, understand, and adopt Gandhi’s principles of
3 ahimsa (non-violence), satyagraha (appeal to, insist-
4 ence on, or reliance on the Truth) and swaraj (self-
5 rule) are more important than ever.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

7 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
8 the House of Representatives and the President pro tem-
9 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements
10 for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a gold
11 medal of appropriate design, to Mahatma Gandhi, in rec-
12 ognition of his contributions to the Nation by the pro-
13 motion of nonviolence.

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

20 (c) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the
22 gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal
23 shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where
24 it shall be available for display as appropriate and
25 made available for research.

1 (2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
2 Congress that the Smithsonian Institution should
3 make the gold medal received under paragraph (1)
4 available for display at other locations, particularly
5 such locations as are associated with Mahatma Gan-
6 dhi.

7 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

8 Under such regulations as the Secretary may pre-
9 scribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
10 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2 at
11 a price sufficient to cover the cost of the bronze medals,
12 including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and
13 overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

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

15 The medals struck under this Act are national medals
16 for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

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