

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 807

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 2023

Mr. MCHENRY (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. CHU, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. DAVIDSON, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. HIMES, Mr. KILMER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mrs. BICE, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GARBARINO, Mrs. KIM of California, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. ROSS, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. ADERHOLT, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. MACE, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PENCE, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. STANTON, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. TIMMONS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CORREA, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. CAREY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. STEIL, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, and Mr. PAPPAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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 require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins

in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

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 “Working Dog Com-
5 memorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Dogs going back thousands of years have
9 been tied to humans whether for protection, compan-
10 ionship, or assisting in daily activities.

11 (2) The United States had an unofficial canine
12 military presence assisting soldiers in the Civil War
13 and World War I, but military K–9s did not become
14 officially recognized until March 13, 1942. During
15 the height of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq it is
16 estimated that the United States military employed
17 near 2,500 K–9s.

18 (3) Military K–9s have seen service in every
19 major United States combat since World War I and
20 have been praised by military leadership as an indis-
21 pensable asset for military, police, government, and
22 private security teams around the world.

23 (4) In 2000, Congress passed “Robby’s Law”
24 which allowed for the adoption of military K–9s by

1 law enforcement agencies, former handlers, and
2 other care groups.

3 (5) Since 2000, military K–9s have left service
4 and gone onto work explosive detection for police
5 forces, and work as service dogs for veterans and
6 families.

7 (6) Beyond their military working capacity,
8 working dogs provide enhanced mobility assist and
9 renewed independence for the injured and disabled.
10 Service dogs are able to support veterans struggling
11 after war, hear for those who are deaf, see for those
12 who are blind, and even sense changes in a person’s
13 body before a seizure. Working dogs play a vital role
14 in improving the lives of many.

15 (7) The service dog programs of America’s
16 VetDogs were created to provide enhanced mobility
17 and renewed independence to United States vet-
18 erans, active-duty service members, and first re-
19 sponders with disabilities.

20 (8) America’s VetDogs provides—

21 (A) guide dogs for individuals who are
22 blind or have low vision;

23 (B) hearing dogs for those who have lost
24 their hearing later in life by alerting to alarms,
25 door bells, sirens, and more;

1 (C) service dogs for those with other phys-
2 ical disabilities that are specially trained to pro-
3 vide balance, retrieve dropped items, open and
4 close doors, turn on and off lights, carry a
5 backpack, and more;

6 (D) facility dogs which are specially
7 trained to spend time working with wounded
8 veterans recovering at military hospitals and
9 veterans medical centers;

10 (E) dogs that work with physical and occu-
11 pational therapists as they treat soldiers and
12 become an essential part of the healing process;
13 and

14 (F) PTSD service dogs that are trained to
15 help mitigate the symptoms of PTSD by pro-
16 viding the emotional and physical support a vet-
17 eran may need.

18 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

19 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treas-
20 ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)
21 shall mint and issue the following coins in commemoration
22 of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to soci-
23 ety.

24 (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5
25 coins, which shall—

1 (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

2 (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

3 (C) contain 90 percent gold.

4 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 500,000
5 \$1 coins, which shall—

6 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

7 (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

8 (C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.

9 (3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more
10 than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

11 (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

12 (B) be struck on a planchet having a di-
13 ameter of 1.205 inches; and

14 (C) be minted to the specifications for half-
15 dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title
16 31, United States Code.

17 (b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this
18 Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of
19 title 31, United States Code.

20 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
21 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins
22 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-
23 matic items.

24 **SEC. 4. DESIGNS OF COINS.**

25 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The designs of the coins
2 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the
3 vast contributions that working dogs serve in society
4 to include the range of services that these dogs pro-
5 vide in detection, military service, therapy and as-
6 sistance.

7 (2) DESIGNS AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin
8 minted under this Act, there shall be—

9 (A) a designation of the value of the coin;

10 (B) an inscription of the year “2025”; and

11 (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,

12 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-

13 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

14 (b) SELECTION.—The designs for the coins minted
15 under this Act shall be—

16 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation
17 with—

18 (A) America’s VetDogs; and

19 (B) the Commission of Fine Arts; and

20 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory
21 Committee.

22 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

23 (a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this
24 Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

1 (b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United
2 States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality
3 of the coins minted under this Act.

4 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
5 issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year
6 period beginning on January 1, 2025.

7 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

8 (a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act
9 shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum
10 of—

11 (1) the face value of the coins;

12 (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with
13 respect to such coins; and

14 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins
15 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,
16 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

17 (b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk
18 sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable
19 discount.

20 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept
22 prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act
23 before the issuance of such coins.

1 (2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to pre-
2 paid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a rea-
3 sonable discount.

4 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this
6 Act shall include a surcharge of—

7 (1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin;

8 (2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and

9 (3) \$5 per coin for the half-dollar coin.

10 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f)(1) of
11 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by
12 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act
13 shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to America’s
14 VetDogs for application to general expenses associated
15 with the fulfillment of the mission of America’s VetDogs,
16 including for costs associated with—

17 (1) personnel related to training, dog care, and
18 consumer needs;

19 (2) consultants to facilitate the training of
20 America’s VetDogs Certified Service Dog Instruc-
21 tors; and

22 (3) travel, room and board for clients served by
23 America’s VetDogs.

24 (c) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the United
25 States shall have the right to examine such books, records,

1 documents, and other data of each of the organizations
2 referred to in subsection (b) as may be related to the ex-
3 penditures of amounts paid under that subsection.

4 (d) **LIMITATION.**—Notwithstanding subsection (a),
5 no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance
6 under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as
7 of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin
8 would result in the number of commemorative coin pro-
9 grams issued during such year to exceed the annual 2
10 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under
11 section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in
12 effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Sec-
13 retary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out
14 this subsection.

15 **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

16 The Secretary shall take such actions as may be nec-
17 essary to ensure that—

18 (1) minting and issuing coins under this Act
19 will not result in any net cost to the United States
20 Government; and

21 (2) no funds, including applicable surcharges,
22 are disbursed to any recipient designated in section
23 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of
24 the coins authorized by this Act (including labor,
25 materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses,

1 marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United
2 States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m)
3 and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

4 **SEC. 9. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

5 (a) **STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.**—The budg-
6 etary effects of this section shall not be entered on either
7 PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of
8 the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C.
9 933(d)).

10 (b) **SENATE PAYGO SCORECARDS.**—The budgetary
11 effects of this section shall not be entered on any PAYGO
12 scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H.
13 Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

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