

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9950

To award 3 Congressional Gold Medals to the members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their extraordinary achievement at the 1980 Winter Olympics where, being comprised of amateur collegiate players, they defeated the dominant Soviet hockey team in the historic "Miracle on Ice", revitalizing American morale at the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations and transforming the sport of hockey in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 2024

Mr. STAUBER (for himself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. KEATING) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

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1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Miracle on Ice Con-
3 gressional Gold Medal Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The USA Olympic men’s ice hockey team
7 competed at the 1980 Winter Olympics, officially the
8 XIII Olympic Winter Games and known as the 1980
9 Lake Placid games, from February 13 to 24, 1980,
10 in Lake Placid, New York.

11 (2) Team USA, comprised of collegiate players,
12 defeated the defending Olympic champion the Soviet
13 Union 4–3 on February 22, 1980, in the final round
14 of the 1980 Winter Olympics men’s hockey tour-
15 nament.

16 (3) The 1980 USA Olympic men’s hockey team
17 roster included—

18 (A) Bill Baker (Grand Rapids, MN);

19 (B) Neal Broten (Roseau, MN);

20 (C) Dave Christian (Warroad, MN);

21 (D) Steve Christoff (Richfield, MN);

22 (E) Jim Craig (North Easton, MA);

23 (F) Mike Eruzione (Winthrop, MA);

24 (G) John Harrington (Virginia, MN);

25 (H) Steve Janaszak (Saint Paul, MN);

26 (I) Mark Johnson (Madison, WI);

1 (J) Rob McClanahan (Saint Paul, MN);
2 (K) Ken Morrow (Flint, MI);
3 (L) Jack O'Callahan (Charlestown, MA);
4 (M) Mark Pavelich (Eveleth, MN);
5 (N) Mike Ramsey (Minneapolis, MN);
6 (O) Buzz Schneider (Grand Rapids, MN);
7 (P) Dave Silk (Scituate, MA);
8 (Q) Eric Strobel (Rochester, MN);
9 (R) Bob Suter (Madison, WI);
10 (S) Mark Wells (St. Clair Shores, MI); and
11 (T) Phil Verchota (Duluth, MN).

12 (4) The “Miracle on Ice” USA-Soviet Union
13 final round game aired on tape delay on Feb 22,
14 1980, from the Lake Placid Games and drew
15 34,200,000 average viewers. The match is remem-
16 bered as a “miracle” as collegiate hockey players de-
17 fied expectations in defeating a Soviet team that
18 won 4 consecutive gold medals dating back to 1964.

19 (5) Team USA defeated Finland 4–1 in its
20 final game to win the gold medal, its first gold
21 medal since 1960 in men’s hockey.

22 (6) Herb Brooks, the last player cut from the
23 1960 U.S. Olympic team that won gold at Squaw
24 Valley, guided the 1980 team to its historic gold
25 medal. Known as a motivator, Brooks molded a

1 team built around hard work, belief in oneself and
2 belief in teammates. He reminded his team when
3 they played the Soviets, “you were born to be hockey
4 players, everyone one of you . . . and you were
5 meant to be here”.

6 (7) The tournament occurred at a time when
7 the United States was struggling with rampant stag-
8 flation, high gas prices, hostages held in Iran, and
9 increased tensions with the Soviet Union whose inva-
10 sion of Afghanistan led to the boycott of the 1980
11 Summer Olympics.

12 (8) The Miracle on Ice was a turning point for
13 American hockey. The game was named the greatest
14 sports moment of the 20th century by Sports Illus-
15 trated.

16 (9) The historic win brought hockey to the
17 front-page of newspapers everywhere, and forever
18 opened the door to the NHL for American-born
19 players. The impact of the event was far-reaching
20 and is still being felt today.

21 (10) Since 1980 American interest in the sport
22 of Hockey has increased exponentially. Registrations
23 with USA Hockey have increased by nearly 400 per-
24 cent since 1980 from 136,000 to over 564,000, and

1 the number of NHL players from the United States
2 has increased from 72 in 1980 to 245 in 2024.

3 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS.**

4 (a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the
5 House of Representatives and the President pro tempore
6 of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the
7 presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of 3 gold medals
8 of appropriate design to the members of the 1980 U.S.
9 Olympic Men’s Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their
10 extraordinary achievement at the 1980 Olympic Winter
11 Games where, being comprised of amateur collegiate play-
12 ers, they defeated the dominant Soviet hockey team in the
13 historic “Miracle on Ice”, revitalizing American morale at
14 the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations and
15 transforming the sport of hockey in the United States.

16 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
17 award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the
18 Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall
19 strike gold medals with suitable emblems, devices, and in-
20 scriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

21 (c) DISPOSITION OF MEDALS.—Following the award
22 of the gold medals under subsection (a)—

23 (1) one gold medal shall be given to the Lake
24 Placid Olympic Center in Lake Placid, NY, where it

1 shall be displayed as appropriate and made available
2 for research;

3 (2) one gold medal shall be given to the United
4 States Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth, MN, where
5 it shall be displayed as appropriate and made avail-
6 able for research; and

7 (3) one gold medal shall be given to the U.S.
8 Olympic and Paralympic Museum in Colorado
9 Springs, CO, where it shall be displayed as appro-
10 priate and made available for research.

11 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

12 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
13 bronze of the gold medals struck under section 3, at a
14 price sufficient to cover the costs thereof, including labor,
15 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

16 **SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

17 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck under
18 this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51
19 of title 31, United States Code.

20 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
21 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals
22 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
23 items.

1 **SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**
2 **SALE.**

3 (a) **AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.**—There is
4 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
5 Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be nec-
6 essary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant
7 to this Act.

8 (b) **PROCEEDS OF SALE.**—The amounts received
9 from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under
10 section 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint
11 Public Enterprise Fund.

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