

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2782

To award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. R. Adams Cowley, in recognition of his lifelong commitment to the advancement of trauma care.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 2013

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER (for himself, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. HOYER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. DELANEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Dr. R. Adams Cowley, in recognition of his lifelong commitment to the advancement of trauma care.

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 “Dr. R. Adams Cowley
5 Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) Dr. Cowley was a pioneer in the practice of
2 open-heart surgery, trauma mitigation and emer-
3 gency medical services. His goal through vigorous
4 research into the impacts of trauma was to reduce
5 the instances of death due to shock and was award-
6 ed a \$100,000 contract from the Army to study the
7 effects of shock in soldiers.

8 (2) Dr. Cowley established the first clinical
9 shock trauma unit in the Nation in 1960. Dr.
10 Cowley’s realization of the importance of the first 60
11 minutes of treatment after critical injury led to an
12 idea called the “Golden Hour Theory”.

13 (3) Dr. Cowley’s advocacy of the Golden Hour
14 theory led to the first medevac transport system in
15 1969 after the opening of the new 5-story, 32-bed
16 Center for the Study of Trauma in Baltimore, Mary-
17 land.

18 (4) Dr. Cowley’s work continued to produce
19 new advances in shock trauma treatment. In 1979,
20 former Maryland Governor Marvin Mandel issued an
21 Executive order establishing the Center for the
22 Study of Trauma at the Maryland Institute for
23 Emergency Medicine and Dr. Cowley was appointed
24 Director of the Division of Emergency Medical Serv-
25 ices.

1 (5) Dr. Cowley was a tireless advocate for the
2 Shock Trauma Center throughout his entire career
3 testifying before Maryland legislators and fighting
4 for funding for equipment, helicopters and anything
5 else he needed to build the EMS System in Mary-
6 land.

7 (6) Dr. Cowley’s hard work laid the foundation
8 for emergency medicine to become a discipline of its
9 own. Hundreds of medical personnel have trained at
10 the Shock Trauma Center including members of the
11 United States Military in preparation for deploy-
12 ment to Afghanistan and Iraq.

13 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

14 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
15 the House of Representatives and the President pro tem-
16 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements
17 for the posthumous presentation, on behalf of the Con-
18 gress, of a gold medal of appropriate design in commemo-
19 ration of Dr. R. Adams Cowley, in recognition of his life-
20 long commitment to the advancement of trauma care.

21 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
22 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
23 of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Sec-
24 retary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems,

1 devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Sec-
2 retary.

3 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

4 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
5 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3
6 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at
7 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,
8 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses,
9 and the cost of the gold medal.

10 **SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

11 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursu-
12 ant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter
13 51 of title 31, United States Code.

14 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section
15 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck
16 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

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