

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4940

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation’s first statewide investigative law enforcement agency, the Ranger Division of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 31, 2019

Mr. FLORES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation’s first statewide investigative law enforcement agency, the Ranger Division of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

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 “Texas Ranger Divi-
5 sion’s 200th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Established in 1823, the Texas Ranger Di-
2 vision of the Texas Department of Public Safety is
3 the oldest serving statewide law enforcement agency
4 in the Nation and will commemorate their 200th an-
5 niversary in 2023.

6 (2) The Texas Rangers began as a multicult-
7 tural agency, and over two centuries have included
8 Native Americans, Tejanos, Anglo Europeans, Afri-
9 can Americans, and Asian Americans serving in all
10 ranks. Women have also served in both field and
11 command ranks.

12 (3) Through the centuries, the Texas Rangers
13 have served first as a citizen militia protecting
14 ranches, farms, and settlements against hostile
15 raids; they became frontier law enforcement. After
16 the Civil War they became frontier peace officers
17 protecting against outlaws and banditry and pro-
18 viding law enforcement to new towns and settle-
19 ments on burgeoning railroad routes and cattle
20 trails. With the turn of the 20th century they be-
21 came a State Police handling lawlessness in oil
22 boomtowns, violations of Prohibition, and gangsters.

23 (4) In 1935, the Texas Rangers were incor-
24 porated into one of the first Departments of Public
25 Safety in the Nation. Today, they are internationally

1 respected for conducting major criminal investiga-
2 tions, suppression of organized crime, border recon-
3 naissance, SWAT, bomb squad, special rapid re-
4 sponse, crisis negotiation, joint intelligence center
5 management, and investigation of unsolved crimes.
6 Pioneering initiatives such as the interdiction for the
7 protection of children have resulted in invitations
8 from law enforcement agencies throughout the Na-
9 tion and internationally from Australia to Great
10 Britain to help initiate similar law enforcement ini-
11 tiatives.

12 (5) The Texas Rangers have partnered with
13 Federal agencies on numerous public safety and re-
14 lief initiatives such as in the aftermath of Hurricane
15 Harvey and with the Federal Bureau of Investiga-
16 tions on numerous occasions, including the pursuit
17 of Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow in 1934.

18 (6) The Texas Rangers are also an icon of
19 American popular culture. Songs, books, and novels
20 have been written about them since the 1840s. They
21 are America’s largest and oldest multimedia “fran-
22 chise” dating back to the earliest years of film,
23 radio, and television. They have been featured in
24 more than 225 movies and seven television series.

1 After the Alamo, the Texas Rangers are the best
2 internationally known historical symbol of Texas.

3 (7) The Texas Ranger Division Commemorative
4 Coin will be the first commemorative coin to honor
5 the Ranger Division of the Texas Department of
6 Public Safety.

7 (8) The United States should pay tribute to the
8 Nation's oldest statewide investigative law enforce-
9 ment agency, the Ranger Division of the Texas De-
10 partment of Public Safety, by minting and issuing
11 commemorative coins, as provided in this Act.

12 (9) A commemorative coin will bring national
13 and international attention to the lasting legacy of
14 this Nation's statewide investigative law enforcement
15 agency.

16 (10) The proceeds from a surcharge on the sale
17 of such commemorative coins will assist the financ-
18 ing of the State museum, charitable organizations,
19 and educational scholarship.

20 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

21 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treas-
22 ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)
23 shall mint and issue the following coins:

24 (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 100,000
25 \$5 gold coins, which shall—

- 1 (A) weigh 8.359 grams;
2 (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and
3 (C) contain not less than 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) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and
13 (C) be minted to the specifications for half
14 dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title
15 31, United States Code.

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

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

23 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

24 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins
2 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the
3 200 years of exemplary and unparalleled achieve-
4 ments of the Texas Ranger Division.

5 (2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On
6 each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

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

8 (B) an inscription of—

9 (i) the mint date “2023”;

10 (ii) the years “1823” and “2023”;

11 and

12 (iii) the inscription, “Courage Integ-
13 rity Perseverance”; and

14 (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,
15 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-
16 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”, and such other
17 inscriptions as the Secretary may determine to
18 be appropriate for the designs of the coins.

19 (3) COIN IMAGES.—

20 (A) OBVERSE.—The obverse of the coins
21 issued under this Act shall bear an image of a
22 Texas Ranger badge designed with the word
23 “Texas” at the top, a star in the center of the
24 badge, and the word “Rangers” at the bottom

1 of the badge emblematic of the Texas Ranger
2 Division and its history.

3 (B) REVERSE.—The reverse of the coins
4 issued under this Act shall bear an image em-
5 blematic of the Texas Rangers legendary status
6 in America’s cultural landscape. The image
7 should depict Texas Rangers on the western
8 frontier, including their geographic, political, or
9 cultural history.

10 (4) REALISTIC AND HISTORICALLY ACCURATE
11 DEPICTIONS.—The images for the designs of coins
12 issued under this Act shall be selected on the basis
13 of the realism and historical accuracy of the images
14 and on the extent to which the images are reminis-
15 cent of the dramatic and beautiful artwork on coins
16 of the so-called “Golden Age of Coinage” in the
17 United States, at the beginning of the 20th century,
18 with the participation of such noted sculptors and
19 metallic artists as James Earle Fraser, Augustus
20 Saint-Gaudens, Victor David Brenner, Adolph A.
21 Weinman, Charles E. Barber, and George T. Mor-
22 gan.

23 (b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted
24 under this Act shall be—

1 (1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation
2 with the Chief of the Ranger Division of the Texas
3 Department of Public Safety and the Commission of
4 Fine Arts; and

5 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coin Advisory
6 Committee.

7 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

10 (b) **MINT FACILITIES.**—Only 1 facility of the United
11 States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality
12 of the coins minted under this Act.

13 (c) **PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary may
14 issue coins under this Act only during the period begin-
15 ning on January 1, 2023, and ending on December 31,
16 2023.

17 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

18 (a) **SALE PRICE.**—The coins issued under this Act
19 shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum
20 of—

21 (1) the face value of the coins;

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

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

4 (b) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

11 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins minted under
13 this Act shall include a surcharge as follows:

14 (1) A surcharge of \$35 per coin for the \$5 gold
15 coin.

16 (2) A surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 sil-
17 ver coin.

18 (3) A surcharge of \$3 per coin for the half dol-
19 lar coin.

20 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of
21 title 31, United States Code, the Secretary shall promptly
22 distribute all surcharges received from the sale of coins
23 issued under this Act as follows:

24 (1) The first \$2,500,000 available for distribu-
25 tion under this section, to the National Center for

1 Missing & Exploited Children, to further the Cen-
2 ter's efforts to provide training, technical assistance,
3 and resources to law enforcement personnel and oth-
4 ers who investigate crimes against children, specifi-
5 cally cases of missing and exploited children.

6 (2) The next \$2,500,000 available for distribu-
7 tion under this section to the National Law Enforce-
8 ment Officers Memorial Fund, to further assist the
9 Fund in telling the story of American law enforce-
10 ment, honoring the fallen, and making it safer for
11 those officers who serve.

12 (3) Of amounts available for distribution after
13 the payments under paragraphs (1) and (2)—

14 (A) 50 percent shall be distributed to the
15 Texas Ranger Foundation Scholarship Program
16 for students to pursue higher education.

17 (B) 50 percent shall be distributed to the
18 Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum for
19 the preservation, maintenance, and display of
20 artifacts and documents.

21 (c) AUDITS.—All organizations, associations, and
22 funds shall be subject to the audit requirements of section
23 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard
24 to the amounts received under subsection (b).

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

12 **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

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

15 (1) minting and issuing coins under this Act
16 will not result in any net cost to the United States
17 Government; and

18 (2) no funds, including applicable surcharges,
19 shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in sec-
20 tion 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing
21 all of the coins authorized by this Act (including
22 labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead ex-
23 penses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the
24 United States Treasury, consistent with sections

- 1 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States
- 2 Code.

○