

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 239

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of
Christa McAuliffe.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28, 2019

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. HASSAN) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing,
and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins
in recognition of Christa McAuliffe.

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 “Christa McAuliffe
5 Commemorative Coin Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Christa McAuliffe was a social studies
9 teacher at Concord High School in Concord, New
10 Hampshire.

1 (2) In 1985, Christa McAuliffe was selected to
2 be the first participant in the Teacher in Space pro-
3 gram of the National Aeronautics and Space Admin-
4 istration.

5 (3) On January 28, 1986, Christa McAuliffe
6 and 6 other astronauts were tragically killed during
7 the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster.

8 (4) In 1989, For Inspiration and Recognition of
9 Science and Technology (in this Act referred to as
10 “FIRST”) was founded to inspire young people’s in-
11 terest and participation in science and technology.

12 (5) The mission of FIRST “is to inspire young
13 people to be science and technology leaders, by en-
14 gaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that
15 build science, engineering, and technology skills, that
16 inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life
17 capabilities including self-confidence, communication,
18 and leadership”.

19 (6) 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the
20 founding of FIRST.

21 (7) Each year, more than 1,000,000 children
22 from the United States and more than 86 countries
23 participate in a FIRST program.

1 (8) Studies have shown that alumni of FIRST
2 programs are more likely to become scientists and
3 engineers and to volunteer in their communities.

4 (9) FIRST is dedicated to carrying on the mis-
5 sion of Christa McAuliffe of inspiring students and
6 creating a new generation of dreamers and innova-
7 tors.

8 (10) 2016 marked the 30th anniversary of the
9 Space Shuttle Challenger tragedy.

10 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

11 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—In commemoration of Christa
12 McAuliffe, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter re-
13 ferred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall mint and
14 issue not more than 350,000 \$1 coins, each of which
15 shall—

16 (1) weigh 26.73 grams;

17 (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

18 (3) contain at least 90 percent silver.

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

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

1 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

2 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins
4 minted under this Act shall bear—

5 (A) an image of and the name of Christa
6 McAuliffe on the obverse side; and

7 (B) a design on the reverse side that de-
8 picts the legacy of Christa McAuliffe as a teach-
9 er.

10 (2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On
11 each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

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

13 (B) an inscription of the year “2020”; and

14 (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,
15 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-
16 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

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

19 (1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation
20 with the family of Christa McAuliffe, FIRST, and
21 the Commission of Fine Arts; and

22 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory
23 Committee.

24 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

25 (a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this
26 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 under this Act only during the period begin-
6 ning on January 1, 2020, and ending on December 31,
7 2020.

8 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

12 (1) the face value of the coins;

13 (2) the surcharge provided under section 7(a)
14 with respect to the coins; and

15 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins,
16 including—

17 (A) labor;

18 (B) materials;

19 (C) dies;

20 (D) use of machinery;

21 (E) overhead expenses;

22 (F) marketing; and

23 (G) shipping.

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

4 (c) 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 the 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 issued under this
13 Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

14 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of
15 title 31, United States Code, and section 8(2), all sur-
16 charges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins
17 issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Sec-
18 retary to the FIRST robotics program for the purpose of
19 engaging and inspiring young people, through mentor-
20 based programs, to become leaders in the fields of science,
21 technology, engineering, and mathematics.

22 (c) AUDITS.—The FIRST robotics program shall be
23 subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of
24 title 31, United States Code, with respect to the amounts
25 received under subsection (b).

1 **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

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

4 (1) minting and issuing coins under this Act re-
5 sult in no net cost to the Federal Government; and

6 (2) no funds, including applicable surcharges,
7 are disbursed to any recipient designated in section
8 7(b) until the total cost of designing and issuing all
9 of the coins authorized by this Act, including labor,
10 materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses,
11 marketing, and shipping, is recovered by the United
12 States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m)
13 and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

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