

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 305

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support programs at the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 2023

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support programs at the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

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 “250th Anniversary of  
5 the United States Marine Corps Commemorative Coin  
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds the following:

3 (1) November 10, 2025, marks the 250th anni-  
4 versary of the United States Marine Corps.

5 (2) The United States Marine Corps has, over  
6 the course of its illustrious 250-year history, fought  
7 gallantly in defense of the United States.

8 (3) The United States Marine Corps has estab-  
9 lished itself as a leading military force, always pre-  
10 pared for tomorrow's challenges and to contend with  
11 the future character of war.

12 (4) The United States Marine Corps continues  
13 to exemplify the warrior ethos that has made it a  
14 fighting force of international repute.

15 (5) All Americans should commemorate the leg-  
16 acy of the United States Marine Corps and recog-  
17 nize the significant contributions the values em-  
18 bodied in the Corps have made in protecting the  
19 United States against its enemies.

20 (6) In 2000, Congress authorized the construc-  
21 tion of the Marine Corps Heritage Center as a mul-  
22 tipurpose facility for historical displays for the pub-  
23 lic viewing, curation and storage of artifacts, re-  
24 search facilities, classrooms, offices and associated  
25 activities consistent with the mission of the Marine  
26 Corps.

1           (7) On November 10, 2006, the Marine Corps  
2 Heritage Center opened to the public, with exhibits  
3 that share the history of the Marine Corps from  
4 1775 until 1975, and with planned future exhibits  
5 on modern day Marine Corps history from the end  
6 of the Vietnam War through the wars in Iraq and  
7 Afghanistan.

8           (8) The United States should pay tribute to the  
9 250th anniversary of the United States Marine  
10 Corps by minting and issuing a commemorative coin.

11           (9) The surcharge proceeds from the sale of a  
12 commemorative coin, which would have no net costs  
13 to the taxpayers, would raise valuable funding for  
14 the continuation of educational programs of the Ma-  
15 rine Corps Heritage Center.

16 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

17           (a) DENOMINATIONS.—In commemoration of the  
18 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, the  
19 Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred  
20 to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following  
21 coins:

22           (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5  
23 coins, which shall—

24                   (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

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

1 (C) contain not less than 90 percent gold.

2 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000  
3 \$1 coins, which shall—

4 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

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

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

9 (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

10 (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

11 (C) be minted to the specifications for half-

12 dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title

13 31, United States Code.

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

17 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections  
18 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins  
19 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-  
20 matic items.

21 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

22 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—The design of the  
23 coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the  
24 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

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

3 (1) a designation of the value of the coin;

4 (2) an inscription of the year “2025”; and

5 (3) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In  
6 God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and  
7 “E Pluribus Unum”.

8 (c) SELECTION.—The design for the coin minted  
9 under this Act shall be—

10 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation  
11 with the Commission of Fine Arts, the Commandant  
12 of the Marine Corps, and the Marine Corps Heritage  
13 Foundation; and

14 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory  
15 Committee.

16 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

19 (b) MINT FACILITY.—Any facility of the United  
20 States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality  
21 of the coins minted under this Act.

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

1 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

5 (1) the face value of the coins;

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

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

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

14 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

21 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this  
23 Act shall include—

24 (1) a surcharge of \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin;

25 (2) a surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin;

26 and

1           (3) a surcharge of \$5 per coin for the half dol-  
2       lar coin.

3       (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f)(1) of  
4 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by  
5 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act  
6 shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Marine  
7 Corps Heritage Foundation and shall only be used for the  
8 purposes of supporting the mission of the Marine Corps  
9 Heritage Center.

10       (c) AUDITS.—The Marine Corps Heritage Founda-  
11 tion, shall be subject to the audit requirements of section  
12 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard  
13 to the amounts received under subsection (b).

14       (d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),  
15 no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance  
16 under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as  
17 of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin  
18 would result in the number of commemorative coin pro-  
19 grams issued during such year to exceed the annual 2  
20 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under  
21 section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in  
22 effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Sec-  
23 retary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

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  
5 will not result in any net cost to the United States  
6 Government; and

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

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