

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3252

To provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 24, 2012

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. VITTER, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. COBURN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. LEE, Mr. COONS, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. CARPER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Jack Nicklaus is a world-famous golf pro-
2 fessional, a highly successful business executive, a
3 prominent advertising spokesman, a passionate and
4 dedicated philanthropist, a devoted husband, father,
5 and grandfather, and a man with a common touch
6 that has made him one of the most popular and ac-
7 cessible public figures in history.

8 (2) Jack Nicklaus amassed 120 victories in pro-
9 fessional competition of national or international
10 stature, 73 of which came on the Professional Golf
11 Association (in this Act referred to as the “PGA”)
12 Tour, and professional major-championship titles.
13 His record 18 professional majors, which began 50
14 years ago as of June 2012, with his win at the 1962
15 U.S. Open as a 22-year-old rookie, remains the
16 standard by which all golfers are measured. He is
17 the only player in golf history to have won each
18 major championship at least 3 times, and is the only
19 player to complete a career “Grand Slam” on both
20 the regular and senior tours. He also owns the
21 record for most major championships as a senior
22 with 8.

23 (3) Jack Nicklaus’ magnetic personality and
24 unfailing sense of kindness and thoughtfulness have
25 endeared him to millions throughout the world.

1 (4) Jack Nicklaus has been the recipient of
2 countless athletic honors, including being named In-
3 dividual Male Athlete of the Century by Sports Illus-
4 trated, one of the 10 Greatest Athletes of the Cen-
5 tury by ESPN, and Golfer of the Century or Golfer
6 of the Millennium by every major national and inter-
7 national media outlet. He received the Muhammad
8 Ali Sports Legend Award and the first-ever ESPY
9 Lifetime Achievement Award. He became the first
10 golfer and only the third athlete to receive the Vince
11 Lombardi Award of Excellence, and is also a 5-time
12 winner of the PGA Player of the Year Award. He
13 was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame at
14 the age of 34.

15 (5) Jack Nicklaus has received numerous hon-
16 ors outside of the world of sports, including several
17 golf industry awards for his work and contributions
18 as a golf course designer, such as the Old Tom Mor-
19 ris Award, which is the highest honor given by the
20 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America,
21 and both the Donald Ross Award given by the
22 American Society of Golf Course Architects and the
23 Don A. Rossi Award given by the Golf Course Build-
24 ers Association of America. Golf Inc. magazine
25 named him the Most Powerful Person in Golf for a

1 record 6 consecutive years, due to his impact on var-
2 ious aspects of the industry through his course de-
3 sign work, marketing and licensing business, his am-
4 bassadorial role in promoting and growing the game
5 worldwide, and his involvement on a national and
6 global level with various charitable causes.

7 (6) Jack Nicklaus has been involved in the de-
8 sign of more than 290 golf courses worldwide, and
9 his business, Nicklaus Design, has 366 courses open
10 for play in 34 countries and 39 States.

11 (7) Jack Nicklaus served as the Global Amba-
12 sador for a campaign to include golf in the Olympic
13 Games, which was achieved and will begin in the
14 2016 Olympic program.

15 (8) Jack Nicklaus was honored by President
16 George W. Bush in 2005 by receiving the Presi-
17 dential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor given
18 to any United States civilian.

19 (9) Jack Nicklaus has a long-standing commit-
20 ment to numerous charitable causes, such as his
21 founding, along with wife Barbara, of the Nicklaus
22 Children's Health Care Foundation, which provides
23 pediatric health care services throughout South Flor-
24 ida and in other parts of the country. The Founda-
25 tion has raised over \$21,000,000 in just 6 years. He

1 has been a tireless supporter of numerous junior golf
2 initiatives, working with the PGA of America Junior
3 Golf Foundation over the course of 4 decades, in-
4 cluding the establishment of the Barbara and Jack
5 Nicklaus Junior Golf Endowment Fund and the
6 PGA-Nicklaus First Tee Teaching Grants. He also
7 is a spokesperson for several PGA of America and
8 USGA growth-of-the-game initiatives. He continues
9 to support several scholarship foundations, other
10 children's hospitals, and other causes, including spi-
11 nal-cord research, pancreatic cancer issues, and
12 Florida Everglades restoration.

13 (10) Jack Nicklaus continues to manage the
14 Memorial Tournament in his home State of Ohio, in
15 which contributions generated through the aid of
16 over 2,600 volunteers are given to support Nation-
17 wide Children's Hospital and close to 75 other Cen-
18 tral Ohio charities. This has garnered more than
19 \$5,700,000 for programs and services at Nationwide
20 Children's Hospital since 1976, so that Central Ohio
21 will continue to have one of the best children's hos-
22 pitals in the United States.

23 (11) Jack Nicklaus and his wife serve as hon-
24 orary chairman and active chairwoman, respectively,
25 of the Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation

1 in North Palm Beach, Florida, which provides free-
2 of-charge health assistance and services to more
3 than 4,000 children and their families through Child
4 Life programs (supporting therapeutic interventions
5 for children with chronic and acute conditions dur-
6 ing hospitalization), Miami Children’s Hospital
7 Nicklaus Care Centers (to offer a new option to
8 Palm Beach County area families with children who
9 require pediatric specialty care), and Safe Kids Pro-
10 gram (aimed at keeping children injury-free and of-
11 fering safety education in an effort to decrease acci-
12 dental injuries in children). In April, they announced
13 the planned opening of the Miami Children’s Hos-
14 pital Nicklaus Outpatient Center, a 22,000-square-
15 foot facility in Palm Beach County that will provide
16 pediatric urgent care, diagnostic services, and reha-
17 bilitation services.

18 (12) Jack Nicklaus established an annual pro-
19 am golf tournament called “The Jake” to honor his
20 17-month-old grandson who passed away in 2005,
21 and it serves as a primary fundraiser for the
22 Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation. The
23 event alone has raised well over \$3,000,000 over the
24 last several years.

1 (13) Jack Nicklaus and General John
2 Shalikashvili (ret.) serve as honorary chairs of the
3 American Lake Veterans Golf Course in Tacoma,
4 Washington, which neighbors a Veterans Adminis-
5 tration hospital and is designed for the rehabilitation
6 of wounded and disabled veterans. Nicklaus has do-
7 nated his design services for the improvement of the
8 course, and raised contributions for the addition of
9 9 new holes (the “Nicklaus Nine”), the construction
10 of the Rehabilitation and Learning Center, and the
11 upgrade of the maintenance facilities. The course is
12 considered the only one in the United States de-
13 signed solely for the use of disabled veterans. It
14 served over 37,000 veterans and their families in
15 2011 to use the healing powers of golf to rehabilitate
16 and recreate. The hope is that American Lake will
17 serve as a pilot program for the more than 150 Vet-
18 erans Administration hospitals nationwide.

19 (14) Jack Nicklaus serves as a spokesperson
20 and Trustee for the First Tee program, which brings
21 golf to children who would not otherwise be exposed
22 to it, and teaches them valuable, character-building
23 life lessons through the game of golf, and is a na-
24 tional co-chair of the organization’s More Than a
25 Game campaign.

1 (15) Jack Nicklaus remains active in tour-
2 nament golf, although he retired from competition in
3 the major championships in 2005, when he played
4 his final British Open and his final Masters Tour-
5 nament, and led the United States to a thrilling vic-
6 tory in the President’s Cup. He consults often with
7 the PGA Tour, and no fewer than 95 Nicklaus
8 courses have hosted a combined total of over 650
9 professional tournaments. In 2011 alone, Nicklaus
10 courses hosted 15 PGA Tour-sanctioned events.

11 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

12 (a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—The Speaker of the House of
13 Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Sen-
14 ate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presen-
15 tation, on behalf of Congress, of a gold medal of appro-
16 priate design to Jack Nicklaus in recognition of his service
17 to the Nation in promoting excellence and good sports-
18 manship.

19 (b) **DESIGN AND STRIKING.**—For the purpose of the
20 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
21 of the Treasury shall strike a gold medal with suitable em-
22 blems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the
23 Secretary.

1 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

2 Under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treas-
3 ury may prescribe, the Secretary may strike duplicate
4 medals in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to
5 section 2 and sell such duplicate medals at a price suffi-
6 cient to cover the costs of the duplicate medals (including
7 labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead ex-
8 penses) and the cost of the gold medal.

9 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL MEDALS.**

10 The medals struck under this Act are national medals
11 for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

12 **SEC. 5. FUNDING.**

13 (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is
14 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
15 Public Enterprise Fund an amount not to exceed \$30,000
16 to pay for the cost of the medals authorized by this Act.

17 (b) **PROCEEDS OF SALE.**—Amounts received from the
18 sale of duplicate bronze medals under section 3 shall be
19 deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise
20 Fund.

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