

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 770

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of American innovation and significant innovation and pioneering efforts of individuals or groups from each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, to promote the importance of innovation in the United States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 31, 2017

Mr. HIMES (for himself, Mr. POSEY, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. COOPER, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mr. ROE of Tennessee) 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 recognition of American innovation and significant innovation and pioneering efforts of individuals or groups from each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, to promote the importance of innovation in the United States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “American Innovation
3 \$1 Coin Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AMERICAN INNOVATION \$1 COIN PROGRAM.**

5 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
6 amended by inserting after subsection (v) the following
7 new subsection:

8 “(w) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF \$1 COINS HON-
9 ORING INNOVATION, INNOVATORS, AND PIONEERS FROM
10 EACH STATE, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND EACH
11 TERRITORY.—

12 “(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING IN 2018.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sub-
14 section (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2) and in ac-
15 cordance with the provisions of this subsection,
16 during the 14-year period beginning on January
17 1, 2018 (or such later date as provided under
18 subparagraph (B)(ii)), the Secretary of the
19 Treasury shall mint and issue \$1 coins to be
20 known as ‘American Innovation \$1 coins’,
21 that—

22 “(i) have designs on the obverse se-
23 lected in accordance with paragraph
24 (2)(A); and

1 “(ii) have a design on the reverse se-
2 lected in accordance with paragraph
3 (2)(B).

4 “(B) CONTINUITY PROVISIONS.—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding
6 subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall con-
7 tinue to mint and issue \$1 coins honoring
8 Native Americans and their contributions
9 in accordance with subsection (r).

10 “(ii) FIRST YEAR.—Notwithstanding
11 subparagraph (A), if the Secretary finds
12 that it is not feasible and cost-effective to
13 mint and issue American Innovation \$1
14 coins beginning in 2018, the Secretary
15 may mint and issue \$1 coins bearing the
16 designs of such Presidential \$1 coins
17 issued pursuant to subsection (n) that the
18 Secretary determines to be appropriate. If
19 any such Presidential \$1 coin design bore
20 the inscription ‘In God We Trust’ incused
21 on the edge, the Secretary shall modify the
22 design to place that inscription on the
23 coin’s obverse only, and such modification
24 may be done without review by the Citizens

1 Coinage Advisory Committee nor consulta-
2 tion with the Commission of Fine Arts.

3 “(C) DEFINITION OF TERRITORY.—For
4 purposes of this subsection, the term ‘territory’
5 means the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,
6 Guam, American Samoa, the United States Vir-
7 gin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the
8 Northern Mariana Islands.

9 “(2) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—Notwith-
10 standing subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2), the
11 \$1 coins issued in accordance with paragraph (1)(A)
12 shall meet the following design requirements:

13 “(A) COIN OBVERSE.—The design on the
14 obverse of each coin issued under this sub-
15 section shall contain—

16 “(i) a design symbolic of Liberty; and

17 “(ii) the inscription ‘In God We
18 Trust’.

19 “(B) COIN REVERSE.—The design on the
20 reverse of each coin issued under this sub-
21 section shall bear the following:

22 “(i) An image or images emblematic
23 of one of the following from one of the 50
24 States, the District of Columbia, or the
25 territories of the United States:

1 “(I) A significant innovation.

2 “(II) An innovator or pioneer.

3 “(III) A group of innovators or
4 pioneers.

5 “(ii) The name of the State, the Dis-
6 trict of Columbia, or territory, as applica-
7 ble.

8 “(iii) The inscriptions ‘\$1’ and
9 ‘United States of America’.

10 “(C) EDGE-INCUSED INSCRIPTIONS.—

11 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The inscription of
12 the year of minting or issuance of the coin
13 and the inscription ‘E Pluribus Unum’
14 shall be edge-incused into the coin.

15 “(ii) PRESERVATION OF DISTINCTIVE
16 EDGE.—The edge-incusing of the inscrip-
17 tions under clause (i) on coins issued
18 under this subsection shall be done in a
19 manner that preserves the distinctive edge
20 of the coin so that the denomination of the
21 coin is readily discernible, including by in-
22 dividuals who are blind or visually im-
23 paired.

24 “(3) ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING IN-
25 NOVATION, INNOVATORS, AND PIONEERS.—

1 “(A) ORDER OF ISSUANCE.—The coins
2 issued under this subsection commemorating ei-
3 ther an innovation, an individual innovator or
4 pioneer, or a group of innovators or pioneers,
5 from each State, the District of Columbia, or a
6 territory shall be issued in alphabetic order of
7 the State, the District, or territory represented,
8 starting with Alabama.

9 “(B) ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMO-
10 RATING FOUR INNOVATIONS, INNOVATORS, AND
11 PIONEERS DURING EACH OF 14 YEARS.—

12 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Four \$1 coin de-
13 signs as described in this subsection shall
14 be issued during each year of the period
15 referred to in paragraph (1) until one coin
16 featuring one innovation, an individual in-
17 novator or pioneer, or a group of
18 innovators or pioneers, from each of the
19 States, the District of Columbia, and terri-
20 tories has been issued.

21 “(ii) NUMBER OF COIN DESIGNS IN
22 EACH YEAR.—The Secretary shall pre-
23 scribe, on the basis of such factors as the
24 Secretary determines to be appropriate, the
25 number of \$1 coins that shall be issued

1 with each of the designs selected for each
2 year of the period referred to in paragraph
3 (1).

4 “(iii) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF THE
5 ADMISSION OF ADDITIONAL STATES.—Not-
6 withstanding clause (i), if any additional
7 State or territory is admitted into the
8 Union before the end of the 14-year period
9 referred to in paragraph (1), the Secretary
10 of the Treasury may issue \$1 coins, in ac-
11 cordance with this subsection during any
12 one year of such 14-year period, in addi-
13 tion to the four \$1 coins issued during
14 such year in accordance with clause (i).

15 “(iv) APPLICATION IN THE EVENT OF
16 INDEPENDENCE.—Notwithstanding para-
17 graph (3)(B)(i), if any State or territory
18 becomes independent or otherwise ceases to
19 be a State or territory of the United States
20 before \$1 coins are minted pursuant to
21 this subsection, the subsection shall cease
22 to apply with respect to such State or ter-
23 ritory.

24 “(4) SELECTION OF CONCEPT AND DESIGN.—

1 “(A) CONCEPT.—With respect to each
2 State, the District of Columbia, and each terri-
3 tory to be honored with a coin under this sub-
4 section, the selection of the significant innova-
5 tion, innovator or pioneer, or group of
6 innovators or pioneers to be borne on the re-
7 verse of such coin shall be made by the Sec-
8 retary of the Treasury, after consultation with
9 the Governor or other chief executive of the
10 State, the District of Columbia, or territory
11 with respect to which a coin is to be issued
12 under this subsection.

13 “(B) DESIGN.—Each of the designs re-
14 quired under this subsection shall be selected by
15 the Secretary after—

16 “(i) consultation with—

17 “(I) the Governor or other chief
18 executive of the State, the District of
19 Columbia, or territory with respect to
20 which a coin is to be issued under this
21 subsection; and

22 “(II) the Commission of Fine
23 Arts; and

24 “(ii) review by the Citizens Coinage
25 Advisory Committee.

1 “(C) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROC-
2 ESS.—Designs for \$1 coins under this sub-
3 section may be submitted in accordance with
4 the design selection and approval process devel-
5 oped by the Secretary in the sole discretion of
6 the Secretary.

7 “(D) STANDARDS.—Because it is impor-
8 tant that the Nation’s coinage and currency
9 bear dignified designs of which the citizens of
10 the United States can be proud, the Secretary
11 shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate
12 design for any \$1 coin minted under this sub-
13 section.

14 “(E) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REP-
15 RESENTATIONS.—No head and shoulders por-
16 trait or bust of any person, living or dead, and
17 no portrait of a living person may be included
18 in the design of any coin issued under this sub-
19 section.

20 “(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For
21 purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all \$1 coins
22 minted under this subsection shall be considered to
23 be numismatic items.

24 “(6) ISSUANCE OF NUMISMATIC COINS.—The
25 Secretary may mint and issue such number of \$1

1 coins of each design selected under this subsection
2 in uncirculated and proof qualities as the Secretary
3 determines to be appropriate.

4 “(7) TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.—The
5 issuance of coins under this subsection shall termi-
6 nate when one innovation, an individual innovator or
7 pioneer, or a group of innovators or pioneers, from
8 each State, the District of Columbia, and each terri-
9 tory has been honored and may not be resumed ex-
10 cept by an Act of Congress.”.

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