

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5308

To amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue quarter dollars in commemoration of the Nineteenth Amendment, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 2018

Ms. LEE (for herself and Mr. POLIQUIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

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## A BILL

To amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue quarter dollars in commemoration of the Nineteenth Amendment, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Women’s History and  
5 Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin  
6 Program Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) The tireless and passionate efforts of the  
2 suffragists, their supporters, and other stakeholders  
3 contributed to the movement to grant and protect  
4 the right of all women to vote.

5           (2) On August 26, 1920, after a long campaign  
6 by suffragists across the country, the United States  
7 Constitution was amended with the 19th Amend-  
8 ment, granting women the right to vote.

9           (3) On June 24, 1924, all Native Americans  
10 were granted citizenship, and by extension the right  
11 to vote.

12           (4) In 1948, the legal victories of Native Amer-  
13 ican veterans granted protections for the right of all  
14 Native men and women to vote.

15           (5) On June 27, 1952, the Immigration and  
16 Nationality Act of 1952 was enacted, granting citi-  
17 zenship to all individuals of Asian descent, and by  
18 extension, the right to vote.

19           (6) Enactment of the Voting Rights Act of  
20 1965 on August 6, 1965, granted Black women pro-  
21 tections to overcome the legal barriers that pre-  
22 vented many from exercising their right to vote even  
23 though all Blacks had been granted citizenship in  
24 1868 with ratification of the 14th Amendment.

1           (7) On August 6, 1975, the amendments to the  
2 reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 re-  
3 moved language barriers to mitigate discrimination  
4 against Hispanic, Asian, and Native American vot-  
5 ers.

6           (8) It was not until March 29, 1961, when the  
7 23rd Amendment passed that women in Washington,  
8 DC, were allowed to vote in all elections.

9           (9) Women’s history and the movement for  
10 women’s rights that the suffragists began extends  
11 beyond ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment.

12           (10) August 26, 2020, marks the centennial of  
13 the day that women were granted the right to vote  
14 in America.

15 **SEC. 3. ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING THE NINE-**  
16 **TEENTH AMENDMENT.**

17           (a) AMENDMENT TO NATIONAL SITES QUARTER  
18 DOLLAR PROGRAM.—Subsection (t) of section 5112 of  
19 title 31, United States Code, is amended—

20           (1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “Notwith-  
21 standing the fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1)  
22 and subsection (d)(2)” and inserting “Subject to  
23 paragraph (8), and notwithstanding the fourth sen-  
24 tence of subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2)”;

1           (2) by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the  
2 following:

3           “(7) PERIOD OF ISSUANCE.—Subject to para-  
4 graph (2), the program established under this sub-  
5 section shall continue in effect until a national site  
6 in each State has been honored and shall terminate  
7 not later than March 31, 2021.”; and

8           (3) by striking paragraph (8) and inserting the  
9 following:

10           “(8) DESIGNS STARTING ON JANUARY 1, 2021.—

11           “(A) TRANSITION PERIOD.—The design of  
12 the quarter dollar from January 1, 2021, to  
13 March 31, 2021, shall be as follows:

14           “(i) On January 1, 2021, the design  
15 shall be the final design of the national  
16 sites program established by this sub-  
17 section.

18           “(ii) On a date selected by the Sec-  
19 retary that is not earlier than January 15,  
20 2021, and not later than March 31, 2021,  
21 the design shall be the first design selected  
22 pursuant to the program described in sub-  
23 section (w).

24           “(B) DESIGN AFTER END OF PROGRAM.—

25           As of April 1, 2021, the design of the quarter

1           dollar shall be in accordance with subsection  
2           (w).”.

3           (b) ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING THE  
4 NINETEENTH AMENDMENT.—Section 5112 of title 31,  
5 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the  
6 following:

7           “(w) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF QUARTER DOL-  
8 LARS COMMEMORATING THE RATIFICATION OF THE  
9 NINETEENTH AMENDMENT.—

10           “(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING IN 2021.—Notwith-  
11 standing the fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1)  
12 and subsection (d)(2), quarter dollars issued during  
13 the period beginning on the date described in sub-  
14 section (t)(8)(A)(ii) and ending on the date de-  
15 scribed in paragraph (8) shall have designs on the  
16 reverse selected in accordance with this subsection.

17           “(2) NINETEENTH AMENDMENT QUARTER DOL-  
18 LAR DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

19           “(A) FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO  
20 PLACEMENT OF INSCRIPTIONS.—Notwith-  
21 standing subsection (d)(1), the Secretary may  
22 select a design for quarter dollars described in  
23 paragraph (1) in which—

24           “(i) the inscription described in the  
25 second sentence of subsection (d)(1) ap-

1           appears on the reverse side of any such quar-  
2           ter dollars; and

3           “(ii) any inscription described in the  
4           third sentence of subsection (d)(1) or the  
5           designation of the value of the coin ap-  
6           pears on the obverse side of any such quar-  
7           ter dollars.

8           “(B) SINGLE PROMINENT AMERICAN  
9           WOMAN.—Notwithstanding subsection (d)(1),  
10          the design on the reverse of each coin issued  
11          under this subsection shall—

12           “(i) be emblematic of the accomplish-  
13           ments and contributions of a prominent  
14           woman who was a resident of a State, the  
15           District of Columbia, or a territory;

16           “(ii) bear the name of the prominent  
17           woman and the State, District of Colum-  
18           bia, or territory; and

19           “(iii) bear other appropriate inscrip-  
20           tions.

21          “(3) ISSUANCE OF COINS DURING EACH  
22          YEAR.—

23           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The designs for the  
24           quarter dollar coins issued during each year of  
25           the period referred to in paragraph (1) shall be

1 emblematic of a maximum of 5 States, the Dis-  
2 trict of Columbia, or territories.

3 “(B) ORDER OF ISSUANCE.—The quarter  
4 dollar coins issued during each year of the pe-  
5 riod referred to in paragraph (1) shall be issued  
6 in alphabetical order of the area represented,  
7 starting with Alabama.

8 “(C) NUMBER OF EACH OF COIN DESIGNS  
9 IN EACH YEAR.—The Secretary shall prescribe  
10 the number of quarter dollars which shall be  
11 issued with each of the designs selected for each  
12 year.

13 “(4) SELECTION OF DESIGN.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each of the designs  
15 required under this subsection for quarter dol-  
16 lar coins shall—

17 “(i) be approved by the Secretary  
18 after—

19 “(I) submission of a rec-  
20 ommendation from the chief executive  
21 of the applicable State, the District of  
22 Columbia, or territory being com-  
23 memorated;

24 “(II) consultation with women’s  
25 groups and organizations within the

1 applicable State, the District of Co-  
2 lumbia, or territory being commemo-  
3 rated that are pursuing a mission fo-  
4 cused on increasing the inclusion of  
5 women, or improving the quality of  
6 life for women; and

7 “(III) consultation with the Com-  
8 mission of Fine Arts;

9 “(ii) be reviewed by the Citizens Coin-  
10 age Advisory Committee; and

11 “(iii) honor or commemorate a woman  
12 who has made significant contributions to  
13 the lives of individuals of the applicable  
14 State, the District of Columbia, or terri-  
15 tory.

16 “(B) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROC-  
17 ESS.—Designs for quarter dollars may be sub-  
18 mitted in accordance with the design selection  
19 and approval process developed by the Sec-  
20 retary.

21 “(C) PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary shall  
22 include in design selection, to the greatest ex-  
23 tent practicable, participation by—



1 “(i) the chief executive of the applica-  
2 ble State, District of Columbia, or terri-  
3 tory;

4 “(ii) artists from the States, District  
5 of Columbia, and territories;

6 “(iii) engravers of the United States  
7 Mint; and

8 “(iv) members of the general public  
9 from groups or organizations that are pur-  
10 suing a mission focused on increasing the  
11 inclusion of women or improving the qual-  
12 ity of life for women.

13 “(D) STANDARDS.—Because it is impor-  
14 tant that the Nation’s coinage and currency  
15 bear dignified designs of which the citizens of  
16 the United States can be proud, the Secretary  
17 shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate  
18 design for any coin minted under this sub-  
19 section.

20 “(E) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REP-  
21 RESENTATIONS.—The design of any quarter  
22 dollar under this subsection may not include—

23 “(i) a head and shoulders portrait or  
24 bust of any person, living or dead;

25 “(ii) a portrait of a living person; or

1                   “(iii) a depiction of an individual in a  
2                   size such that the coin could be considered  
3                   to be a ‘2-headed’ coin.

4                   “(F) RELEASE OF DESIGNS.—Not later  
5                   than August 31, 2020, the Secretary shall pub-  
6                   lish each of the first 5 designs described in sub-  
7                   paragraph (A).

8                   “(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For  
9                   purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all coins de-  
10                  scribed under this subsection shall be considered to  
11                  be numismatic items.

12                  “(6) ISSUANCE.—

13                  “(A) QUALITY OF COINS.—The Secretary  
14                  may mint and issue such number of quarter  
15                  dollars of each design selected under paragraph  
16                  (4) in uncirculated and proof qualities as the  
17                  Secretary determines to be appropriate.

18                  “(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding  
19                  subsection (b), the Secretary may mint and  
20                  issue such number of quarter dollars of each  
21                  design selected under paragraph (4) as the Sec-  
22                  retary determines to be appropriate, with a con-  
23                  tent of not less than 90 percent silver.

24                  “(7) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF THE ADMIS-  
25                  SION OF ADDITIONAL STATE.—If any additional

1 State is admitted into the Union before the termi-  
2 nation date described in paragraph (8), the Sec-  
3 retary may issue quarter dollar coins, in accordance  
4 with this subsection, with a design which is emblem-  
5 atic of such State during any 1 year of the period  
6 described in paragraph (1), in addition to the quar-  
7 ter dollar coins issued during such year in accord-  
8 ance with paragraph (3)(A).

9 “(8) TERMINATION DATE.—The authority to  
10 issue quarter dollar coins pursuant to this subsection  
11 shall terminate on December 31 of the year in which  
12 the final State or territory has been commemorated  
13 with a design pursuant to paragraph (3).

14 “(9) DESIGNS AFTER END OF PROGRAM.—On  
15 the first day of the year following the year of the  
16 date described in paragraph (8)—

17 “(A) the design on the obverse of the quar-  
18 ter dollar shall revert to the same design con-  
19 taining an image of President Washington in  
20 effect for the quarter dollar before the institu-  
21 tion of the 50-State quarter dollar program;  
22 and

23 “(B) notwithstanding the fourth sentence  
24 of subsection (d)(1), the design on the reverse  
25 of the quarter dollar shall contain an image of

1 General Washington crossing the Delaware  
2 River prior to the Battle of Trenton.

3 “(10) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

4 “(A) The term ‘territory’ means the Com-  
5 monwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American  
6 Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and  
7 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-  
8 lands.

9 “(B) The term ‘resident’, with respect to a  
10 State, the District of Columbia, or a territory,  
11 means that a woman resided in such State, the  
12 District of Columbia, or such territory for a pe-  
13 riod of at least 1 consecutive year.

14 “(x) SILVER BULLION INVESTMENT PRODUCT.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall strike  
16 and make available for sale such number of bullion  
17 coins as the Secretary determines to be appropriate  
18 that are exact duplicates of the quarter dollars  
19 issued under subsection (w), each of which shall—

20 “(A) have a diameter of 3.0 inches and  
21 weigh 5.0 ounces;

22 “(B) contain .999 fine silver;

23 “(C) have incused into the edge the  
24 fineness and weight of the bullion coin;

1           “(D) bear an inscription of the denomina-  
2           tion of such coin, which shall be ‘quarter dol-  
3           lar’; and

4           “(E) not be minted or issued by the  
5           United States Mint as so-called ‘fractional’ bul-  
6           lion coins or in any size other than the size de-  
7           scribed in subparagraph (A).

8           “(2) AVAILABILITY FOR SALE.—Bullion coins  
9           minted under paragraph (1)—

10           “(A) shall become available for sale no  
11           sooner than the first day of the calendar year  
12           in which the circulating quarter dollar coins of  
13           which such bullion coins are a duplicate are  
14           issued; and

15           “(B) may only be available for sale during  
16           the year in which such circulating quarter dol-  
17           lar coins are issued.”.

18 **SEC. 4. COLLECTION AND RECOGNITION PROGRAM.**

19           (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 1, 2018,  
20           the Secretary of the Treasury shall initiate a program to  
21           promote the collection of, and recognition of the subjects  
22           of, the coins authorized under the amendments made by  
23           this Act.

1           (b) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—The Secretary shall conduct  
2 a study on the progress of the program described in sub-  
3 section (a).

4           (c) **REPORT.**—Not later than March 1, 2019, the  
5 Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on the  
6 results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (b).

○