AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

I

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1923

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2019

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

---

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.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

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

(2) On August 26, 1920, after a long campaign by suffragists across the country, the United States Constitution was amended with the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote.

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

(4) In 1948, the legal victories of Native American veterans granted protections for the right of all Native men and women to vote.

(5) On June 27, 1952, the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 was enacted, granting citizenship to all individuals of Asian descent, and by extension, the right to vote.

(6) Enactment of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 on August 6, 1965, granted Black women protections to overcome the legal barriers that prevented many from exercising their right to vote even though all Blacks had been granted citizenship in 1868 with ratification of the 14th Amendment.

(7) On August 6, 1975, the amendments to the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 removed language barriers to mitigate discrimination against Hispanic, Asian, and Native American voters.

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

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

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

SEC. 3. ISSUANCE OF COINS COMMEMORATING THE NINETEENTH AMENDMENT.

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

(1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking ''Notwithstanding the fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2)'' and inserting ''Subject to paragraph (8), and notwithstanding the fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2)'';

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

''(7) PERIOD OF ISSUANCE.—Subject to paragraph (2), the program established under this subsection shall continue in effect until a national site in each State has been honored and shall terminate not later than March 31, 2021.''; and

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

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

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

''(i) On January 1, 2021, the design shall be the final design of the national sites program established by this subsection.

''(ii) On a date selected by the Secretary that is not earlier than January 15, 2021, and not later than March 31, 2021, the design shall be the first design selected pursuant to the program described in subsection (x).

''(B) DESIGN AFTER END OF PROGRAM.—As of April 1, 2021, the design of the quarter

dollar shall be in accordance with subsection (x).''.

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

''(x) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF QUARTER DOLLARS COMMEMORATING THE RATIFICATION OF THE NINETEENTH AMENDMENT.—

''(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING IN 2021.—Notwithstanding the fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and subsection (d)(2), quarter dollars issued during the period beginning on the date described in subsection (t)(8)(A)(ii) and ending on the date described in paragraph (8) shall have designs on the reverse selected in accordance with this subsection.

''(2) NINETEENTH AMENDMENT QUARTER DOLLAR DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO PLACEMENT OF INSCRIPTIONS.—Notwithstanding subsection (d)(1), the Secretary may select a design for quarter dollars described in paragraph (1) in which—

''(i) the inscription described in the second sentence of subsection (d)(1) ap-

pears on the reverse side of any such quarter dollars; and

''(ii) any inscription described in the third sentence of subsection (d)(1) or the designation of the value of the coin appears on the obverse side of any such quarter dollars.

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

''(i) be emblematic of the accomplishments and contributions of a prominent woman who was a resident of a State, the District of Columbia, or a territory;

''(ii) bear the name of the prominent woman and the State, District of Columbia, or territory; and

''(iii) bear other appropriate inscriptions.

''(3) ISSUANCE OF COINS DURING EACH YEAR.—

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

emblematic of the accomplishments and contributions of a prominent woman from a maximum of 5 States, the District of Columbia, or territories.

''(B) ORDER OF ISSUANCE.—The quarter dollar coins issued during each year of the period referred to in paragraph (1) shall be issued in alphabetical order of the area represented, starting with Alabama.

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

''(4) SELECTION OF DESIGN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each of the designs required under this subsection for quarter dollar coins shall—

''(i) be determined by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts;

''(ii) be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee; and

''(iii) honor or commemorate a woman who has made significant contributions to

the lives of individuals of the applicable State, the District of Columbia, or territory.

''(B) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROCESS.—Designs for quarter dollars may be submitted in accordance with the design selection and approval process developed by the Secretary.

''(C) PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary shall include in design development, to the greatest extent practicable, input by—

''(i) the chief executive of the applicable State, District of Columbia, or territory;

''(ii) engravers of the United States Mint;

''(iii) members of the general public from groups or organizations that are pursuing a mission focused on increasing the inclusion of women or improving the quality of life for women; and

''(iv) women's groups and organizations within the applicable State, the District of Columbia, or territory being commemorated that are pursuing a mission fo-

cused on increasing the inclusion of women, or improving the quality of life for women.

''(D) STANDARDS.—Because it is important that the Nation's coinage and currency bear dignified designs of which the citizens of the United States can be proud, the Secretary shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate design for any coin minted under this subsection.

''(E) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REPRESENTATIONS.—The design of any quarter dollar under this subsection may not include—

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

''(ii) a portrait of a living person; or

''(iii) a depiction of an individual in a size such that the coin could be considered to be a '2-headed' coin.

''(F) RELEASE OF DESIGNS.—Not later than December 31, 2020, the Secretary shall identify the first 5 women to be honored.

''(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all coins de-

scribed under this subsection shall be considered to be numismatic items.

''(6) ISSUANCE.—

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

''(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding subsection (b), the Secretary may mint and issue such number of quarter dollars of each design selected under paragraph (4) as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, with a content of not less than 90 percent silver.

''(7) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF THE ADMISSION OF ADDITIONAL STATE.—If any additional State is admitted into the Union before the termination date described in paragraph (8), the Secretary may issue quarter dollar coins, in accordance with this subsection, with a design which is emblematic of such State during any 1 year of the period described in paragraph (1), in addition to the quarter dollar coins issued during such year in accordance with paragraph (3)(A).

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

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

''(A) the design on the obverse of the quarter dollar shall revert to the same design containing an image of President Washington in effect for the quarter dollar before the institution of the 50-State quarter dollar program; and

''(B) notwithstanding the fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1), the design on the reverse of the quarter dollar shall contain an image of General Washington crossing the Delaware River prior to the Battle of Trenton.

''(10) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) The term 'territory' means the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

''(B) The term 'resident', with respect to a State, the District of Columbia, or a territory, means that a woman resided in such State, the District of Columbia, or such territory for a period of at least 1 consecutive year.

''(y) SILVER BULLION INVESTMENT PRODUCT.—

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

''(A) have a diameter of 3.0 inches and weigh 5.0 ounces;

''(B) contain .999 fine silver;

''(C) have incused into the edge the fineness and weight of the bullion coin;

''(D) bear an inscription of the denomination of such coin, which shall be 'quarter dollar'; and

''(E) not be minted or issued by the United States Mint as so-called 'fractional' bullion coins or in any size other than the size described in subparagraph (A).

''(2) AVAILABILITY FOR SALE.—Bullion coins minted under paragraph (1) shall become available

for sale no sooner than the first day of the calendar year in which the circulating quarter dollar coins of which such bullion coins are a duplicate are issued.''.

SEC. 4. COLLECTION AND RECOGNITION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1, 2020, the Secretary of the Treasury shall initiate a program to promote the collection of, and recognition of the subjects of, the coins authorized under the amendments made by this Act.

(b) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall conduct a study on the progress of the program described in subsection (a).

(c) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (b).

○