

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5537

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Conan, the military working dog of the United States Special Operations Forces.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 23, 2019

Mr. WATKINS 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 commemoration of Conan, the military working dog of the United States Special Operations Forces.

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 “Conan Commemorative
5 Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) Conan, a Belgian Malinois, has worked with
9 the United States Special Operations Forces for four

1 years and has taken part in approximately 50 mis-
2 sions;

3 (2) Conan served the United States coura-
4 geously on October 26, 2019, in northwestern Syria,
5 during a dangerous and daring nighttime raid that
6 resulted in the death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the
7 leader of the world’s most violent terror organiza-
8 tion, ISIS;

9 (3) with skill, determination, and bravery,
10 Conan chased Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi into a dead-
11 end tunnel where the ISIS leader ignited his suicide
12 vest, killing himself and his three children;

13 (4) the heroic actions of Conan were critical to
14 the success of the mission of the United States to
15 kill the world’s most wanted terrorist;

16 (5) Conan sacrificed physical well-being and
17 sustained injuries for the success of the mission and
18 in doing so, not a single American soldier was in-
19 jured during the operation; and

20 (6) Conan is an American hero that has made
21 the world a better and safer place.

22 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

23 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treas-
24 ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)
25 shall mint and issue the following coins in commemoration

1 of Conan, the military working dog of the United States
2 Special Operations Forces:

3 (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 100,000
4 \$5 coins, which shall—

5 (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

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

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

8 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 350,000
9 \$1 coins, which shall—

10 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

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

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

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

20 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

21 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins
23 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the life
24 and legacy of Conan.

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

3 (A) an image of Conan, based on the pho-
4 tograph of Conan released by President Trump
5 on Twitter on October 28, 2019, at 4:02 p.m.;

6 (B) a designation of the value of the coin;

7 (C) an inscription of the year 2022; and

8 (D) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,
9 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-
10 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

11 (b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted
12 under this Act shall be—

13 (1) selected by the Secretary, in consultation
14 with the Commission of Fine Arts; and

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

17 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

20 (b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United
21 States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality
22 of the coins minted under this Act.

23 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
24 issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year
25 period beginning on January 1, 2022.

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 a surcharge of—

24 (1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin; and

25 (2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin.

1 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of
2 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by
3 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act
4 shall be transferred to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
5 where they may be used, without further appropriation,
6 for the purpose of providing additional funds to the service
7 dog veterinary health benefit pursuant to section 1714 of
8 title 38, United States Code, or other similar provisions
9 of law administered by the Secretary.

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

21 (d) EXEMPTIONS.—Paragraphs (1)(A)(ii) and (2) of
22 section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, shall not
23 apply to surcharges under this Act.

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