

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4104

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Negro Leagues baseball.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER (for himself and Mr. STIVERS) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Negro Leagues baseball.

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 “Negro Leagues Base-
5 ball Centennial Commemorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary
9 of the establishment of the Negro National League,
10 a professional baseball league formed in response to

1 African-American players being banned from the
2 major leagues.

3 (2) On February 13, 1920, Andrew “Rube”
4 Foster convened a meeting of 8 independent Afri-
5 can-American baseball team owners at the Paseo
6 YMCA in Kansas City, Missouri, to form a “league
7 of their own,” establishing the Negro National
8 League, the first successful, organized professional
9 African-American baseball league in the United
10 States.

11 (3) Soon, additional leagues formed in eastern
12 and southern States.

13 (4) The Negro Leagues would operate for 40
14 years until 1960.

15 (5) The story of the Negro Leagues is a story
16 of strong-willed athletes who forged a glorious his-
17 tory in the midst of an inglorious era of segregation
18 in the United States.

19 (6) The passion of the Negro Leagues players
20 for the National Pastime would not only change the
21 game, but also the United States.

22 (7) The creation of the Negro Leagues provided
23 a playing field for more than 2,600 African-Amer-
24 ican and Hispanic baseball players to showcase their
25 world-class baseball abilities.

1 (8) The Negro Leagues introduced an exciting
2 brand of baseball that was in stark contrast to
3 Major League Baseball.

4 (9) A fast, aggressive style of play attracted
5 black and white fans who sat together to watch
6 those games at a time when it was virtually unheard
7 of to interact socially in such a way.

8 (10) Negro Leagues baseball would become a
9 catalyst for economic development across the United
10 States in major urban centers such as Kansas City,
11 St. Louis, New York, Memphis, Baltimore, Wash-
12 ington, DC, Chicago, and Atlanta.

13 (11) The Negro Leagues pioneered “Night
14 Baseball” in 1930, 5 years before Major League
15 Baseball, and would introduce game changing inno-
16 vations such as shin guards and the batting helmet.

17 (12) The Negro Leagues helped make the Na-
18 tional Pastime a global game as players from the
19 Negro Leagues—

20 (A) were the first people from the United
21 States to play in many Spanish-speaking coun-
22 tries; and

23 (B) introduced professional baseball to the
24 Japanese in 1927.

1 (13) Jackie Robinson, a military veteran and
2 former member of the Negro league’s Kansas City
3 Monarchs, would break Major League Baseball’s
4 color barrier on April 15, 1947, with the Brooklyn
5 Dodgers, paving the way for other African-American
6 and Hispanic baseball players.

7 (14) The Negro Leagues were born out of seg-
8 regation yet would become a driving force for social
9 change in the United States.

10 (15) The Negro Leagues produced future Major
11 League Baseball stars, including Leroy “Satchel”
12 Paige, Larry Doby, Willie Mays, Henry Aaron,
13 Ernie Banks, and Roy Campanella.

14 (16) The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum was
15 established in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1990—

16 (A) to save from extinction a precious
17 piece of Americana and baseball history; and

18 (B) to use the many life lessons of the
19 powerful story of triumph over adversity of
20 Negro Leagues players to promote tolerance, di-
21 versity, and inclusion.

22 (17) In 2006, Congress granted National Des-
23 ignation to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum,
24 recognizing it as “America’s Home” for Negro
25 Leagues baseball history.

1 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

2 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treas-
3 ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)
4 shall mint and issue the following coins in commemoration
5 of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Negro
6 Leagues baseball:

7 (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5
8 coins, which shall—

9 (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

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

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

12 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000
13 \$1 coins, which shall—

14 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

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

17 (3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more
18 than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

19 (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

20 (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

21 (C) be minted to the specifications for half-
22 dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title
23 31, United States Code.

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

1 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
2 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins
3 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-
4 matic items.

5 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

6 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins
8 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the
9 Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and its mission to
10 promote tolerance, diversity, and inclusion.

11 (2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On
12 each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

13 (A) a designation of the value of the coin;

14 (B) an inscription of the year “2021”; and

15 (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,

16 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-
17 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

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

20 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation
21 with the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and the
22 Commission of Fine Arts; and

23 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory
24 Committee.

1 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

4 (b) MINT FACILITIES.—Only 1 facility of the United
5 States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality
6 of the coins minted under this Act.

7 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
8 issue coins minted under this Act only during the period
9 beginning on January 1, 2021, and ending on December
10 31, 2021.

11 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

12 (a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act
13 shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum
14 of—

15 (1) the face value of the coins;

16 (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with
17 respect to such coins; and

18 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins
19 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,
20 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

21 (b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk
22 sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable
23 discount.

24 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept
2 prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act
3 before the issuance of such coins.

4 (2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to pre-
5 paid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a rea-
6 sonable discount.

7 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this
9 Act shall include a surcharge as follows:

10 (1) A surcharge of \$35 per coin for the gold
11 coins.

12 (2) A surcharge of \$10 per coin for the silver
13 coins.

14 (3) A surcharge of \$5 per coin for the half-dol-
15 lar coins.

16 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of
17 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by
18 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act
19 shall be paid to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum to
20 fund educational and outreach programs and exhibits.

21 (c) AUDITS.—The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum
22 shall be subject to the audit requirements of section
23 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard
24 to the amounts received under subsection (b).

1 (d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),
2 no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance
3 under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as
4 of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin
5 would result in the number of commemorative coin pro-
6 grams issued during such year to exceed the annual 2
7 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under
8 section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code. The
9 Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out
10 this subsection.

11 **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

12 The Secretary shall take such actions as may be nec-
13 essary to ensure that—

14 (1) minting and issuing coins under this Act
15 will not result in any net cost to the United States
16 Government; and

17 (2) no funds, including applicable surcharges,
18 shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in sec-
19 tion 7(b) until the total cost of designing and issuing
20 all of the coins authorized by this Act (including
21 labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead ex-
22 penses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the
23 United States Treasury, consistent with sections

1 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States
2 Code.

○