

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6184

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 10 (legislative day, JULY 9), 2008

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
Urban Affairs

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## AN ACT

To provide for a program for circulating quarter dollar coins that are emblematic of a national park or other national site in each State, the District of Columbia, and each territory of the United States, 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 “America’s Beautiful  
3 National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008”.

4 **TITLE I—NATIONAL SITE**  
5 **QUARTER DOLLARS**

6 **SEC. 101. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) Yellowstone National Park was established  
9 by an Act signed by President Ulysses S. Grant on  
10 March 1, 1872, as the Nation’s first national park.

11 (2) The summer and autumn of 1890 saw the  
12 establishment of a number of national sites:

13 (A) August 19: Chickamauga and Chat-  
14 tanooga established as national military parks  
15 in Georgia and Tennessee.

16 (B) August 30: Antietam established as a  
17 national battlefield site in Maryland.

18 (C) September 25: Sequoia National Park  
19 established in California.

20 (D) September 27: Rock Creek Park estab-  
21 lished in the District of Columbia.

22 (E) October 1: General Grant National  
23 Park established in California (and subse-  
24 quently incorporated in Kings Canyon National  
25 Park).

1 (F) October 1: Yosemite National Park es-  
2 tablished in California.

3 (3) Theodore Roosevelt was this nation's 26th  
4 President and is considered by many to be our  
5 "Conservationist President".

6 (4) As a frequent visitor to the West, Theodore  
7 Roosevelt witnessed the virtual destruction of some  
8 big game species and the overgrazing that destroyed  
9 the grasslands and with them the habitats for small  
10 mammals and songbirds and conservation increas-  
11 ingly became one of his major concerns.

12 (5) When he became President in 1901, Roo-  
13 sevelt pursued this interest in conservation by estab-  
14 lishing the first 51 Bird Reserves, 4 Game Pre-  
15 serves, and 150 National Forests.

16 (6) He also established the United States For-  
17 est Service, signed into law the creation of 5 Na-  
18 tional Parks, and signed the Act for the Preserva-  
19 tion of American Antiquities in 1906 under which he  
20 proclaimed 18 national monuments.

21 (7) Approximately 230,000,000 acres of area  
22 within the United States was placed under public  
23 protection by Theodore Roosevelt.

24 (8) Theodore Roosevelt said that nothing short  
25 of defending this country in wartime "compares in

1 importance with the great central task of leaving  
2 this land even a better land for our descendants  
3 than it is for us”.

4 (9) The National Park Service was created by  
5 an Act signed by President Woodrow Wilson on Au-  
6 gust 25, 1916.

7 (10) The National Park System comprises 391  
8 areas covering more than 84,000,000 acres in every  
9 State (except Delaware), the District of Columbia,  
10 American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Vir-  
11 gin Islands.

12 (11) The sites or areas within the National  
13 Park System vary widely in size and type from vast  
14 natural wilderness to birthplaces of Presidents to  
15 world heritage archaeology sites to an African burial  
16 ground memorial in Manhattan and include national  
17 parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, his-  
18 torical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores,  
19 recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the  
20 White House.

21 (12) In addition to the sites within the National  
22 Park System, the United States has placed numer-  
23 ous other types of sites under various forms of con-  
24 servancy, such as the national forests and sites with-

1 in the National Wildlife Refuge System and on the  
2 National Register of Historic Places.

3 **SEC. 102. ISSUANCE OF REDESIGNED QUARTER DOLLARS**  
4 **EMBLEMATIC OF NATIONAL PARKS OR**  
5 **OTHER NATIONAL SITES IN EACH STATE, THE**  
6 **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND EACH TERRI-**  
7 **TORY.**

8 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is  
9 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
10 section:

11 “(t) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF QUARTER DOL-  
12 LARS EMBLEMATIC OF NATIONAL SITES IN EACH STATE,  
13 THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND EACH TERRITORY.—

14 “(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING UPON COMPLETION  
15 OF PRIOR PROGRAM.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the  
17 fourth sentence of subsection (d)(1) and sub-  
18 section (d)(2), quarter dollars issued beginning  
19 in 2010 shall have designs on the reverse se-  
20 lected in accordance with this subsection which  
21 are emblematic of the national sites in the  
22 States, the District of Columbia and the terri-  
23 tories of the United States.

24 “(B) FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO  
25 PLACEMENT OF INSCRIPTIONS.—Notwith-

1 standing subsection (d)(1), the Secretary may  
2 select a design for quarter dollars referred to in  
3 subparagraph (A) in which—

4 “(i) the inscription described in the  
5 second sentence of subsection (d)(1) ap-  
6 pears on the reverse side of any such quar-  
7 ter dollars; and

8 “(ii) any inscription described in the  
9 third sentence of subsection (d)(1) or the  
10 designation of the value of the coin ap-  
11 pears on the obverse side of any such quar-  
12 ter dollars.

13 “(C) INCLUSION OF DISTRICT OF COLUM-  
14 BIA, AND TERRITORIES.—For purposes of this  
15 subsection, the term ‘State’ has the same mean-  
16 ing as in section 3(a)(3) of the Federal Deposit  
17 Insurance Act.

18 “(2) SINGLE SITE IN EACH STATE.—The design  
19 on the reverse side of each quarter dollar issued dur-  
20 ing the period of issuance under this subsection shall  
21 be emblematic of 1 national site in each State.

22 “(3) SELECTION OF SITE AND DESIGN.—

23 “(A) SITE.—

24 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The selection of a  
25 national park or other national site in each

1 State to be honored with a coin under this  
2 subsection shall be made by the Secretary  
3 of the Treasury, after consultation with  
4 the Secretary of the Interior and the gov-  
5 ernor or other chief executive of each State  
6 with respect to which a coin is to be issued  
7 under this subsection, and after giving full  
8 and thoughtful consideration to national  
9 sites that are not under the jurisdiction of  
10 the Secretary of the Interior so that the  
11 national site chosen for each State shall be  
12 the most appropriate in terms of natural  
13 or historic significance.

14 “(ii) TIMING.—The selection process  
15 under clause (i) shall be completed before  
16 the end of the 270-day period beginning on  
17 the date of the enactment of the America’s  
18 Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar  
19 Coin Act of 2008.

20 “(B) DESIGN.—Each of the designs re-  
21 quired under this subsection for quarter dollars  
22 shall be—

23 “(i) selected by the Secretary after  
24 consultation with—

1                   “(I) the Secretary of the Interior;

2                   and

3                   “(II) the Commission of Fine

4                   Arts; and

5                   “(ii) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage

6                   Advisory Committee.

7                   “(C) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROC-

8                   ESS.—Recommendations for site selections and

9                   designs for quarter dollars may be submitted in

10                  accordance with the site and design selection

11                  and approval process developed by the Sec-

12                  retary in the sole discretion of the Secretary.

13                  “(D) PARTICIPATION IN DESIGN.—The

14                  Secretary may include participation by officials

15                  of the State, artists from the State, engravers

16                  of the United States Mint, and members of the

17                  general public.

18                  “(E) STANDARDS.—Because it is impor-

19                  tant that the Nation’s coinage and currency

20                  bear dignified designs of which the citizens of

21                  the United States can be proud, the Secretary

22                  shall not select any frivolous or inappropriate

23                  design for any quarter dollar minted under this

24                  subsection.

1           “(F) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN REP-  
2           PRESENTATIONS.—No head and shoulders por-  
3           trait or bust of any person, living or dead, no  
4           portrait of a living person, and no outline or  
5           map of a State may be included in the design  
6           on the reverse of any quarter dollar under this  
7           subsection.

8           “(4) ISSUANCE OF COINS.—

9           “(A) ORDER OF ISSUANCE.—The quarter  
10          dollar coins issued under this subsection bear-  
11          ing designs of national sites shall be issued in  
12          the order in which the sites selected under  
13          paragraph (3) were first established as a na-  
14          tional site.

15          “(B) RATE OF ISSUANCE.—The quarter  
16          dollar coins bearing designs of national sites  
17          under this subsection shall be issued at the rate  
18          of 5 new designs during each year of the period  
19          of issuance under this subsection.

20          “(C) NUMBER OF EACH OF 5 COIN DE-  
21          SIGNS IN EACH YEAR.—Of the quarter dollar  
22          coins issued during each year of the period of  
23          issuance, the Secretary of the Treasury shall  
24          prescribe, on the basis of such factors as the  
25          Secretary determines to be appropriate, the

1           number of quarter dollars which shall be issued  
2           with each of the designs selected for such year.

3           “(5) TREATMENT AS NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For  
4           purposes of sections 5134 and 5136, all coins mint-  
5           ed under this subsection shall be considered to be  
6           numismatic items.

7           “(6) ISSUANCE.—

8           “(A) QUALITY OF COINS.—The Secretary  
9           may mint and issue such number of quarter  
10          dollars of each design selected under paragraph  
11          (3) in uncirculated and proof qualities as the  
12          Secretary determines to be appropriate.

13          “(B) SILVER COINS.—Notwithstanding  
14          subsection (b), the Secretary may mint and  
15          issue such number of quarter dollars of each  
16          design selected under paragraph (3) as the Sec-  
17          retary determines to be appropriate, with a con-  
18          tent of 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

19          “(7) PERIOD OF ISSUANCE.—

20          “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph  
21          (2), the program established under this sub-  
22          section shall continue in effect until a national  
23          site in each State has been honored.

24          “(B) SECOND ROUND AT DISCRETION OF  
25          SECRETARY.—

1           “(i) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary  
2           may make a determination before the end  
3           of the 9-year period beginning when the  
4           first quarter dollar is issued under this  
5           subsection to continue the period of  
6           issuance until a second national site in  
7           each State, the District of Columbia, and  
8           each territory referred to in this subsection  
9           has been honored with a design on a quar-  
10          ter dollar.

11          “(ii) NOTICE AND REPORT.—Within  
12          30 days after making a determination  
13          under clause (i), the Secretary shall submit  
14          a written report on such determination to  
15          the Committee on Financial Services of the  
16          House of Representatives and the Com-  
17          mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban  
18          Affairs of the Senate.

19          “(iii) APPLICABILITY OF PROVI-  
20          SIONS.—If the Secretary makes a deter-  
21          mination under clause (i), the provisions of  
22          this subsection applicable to site and de-  
23          sign selection and approval, the order, tim-  
24          ing, and conditions of issuance shall apply  
25          in like manner as the initial issuance of

1 quarter dollars under this subsection, ex-  
2 cept that the issuance of quarter dollars  
3 pursuant to such determination bearing  
4 the first design shall commence in order  
5 immediately following the last issuance of  
6 quarter dollars under the first round.

7 “(iv) CONTINUATION UNTIL ALL  
8 STATES ARE HONORED.—If the Secretary  
9 makes a determination under clause (i),  
10 the program under this subsection shall  
11 continue until a second site in each State  
12 has been so honored.

13 “(8) DESIGNS AFTER END OF PROGRAM.—  
14 Upon the completion of the coin program under this  
15 subsection, the design on—

16 “(A) the obverse of the quarter dollar shall  
17 revert to the same design containing an image  
18 of President Washington in effect for the quar-  
19 ter dollar before the institution of the 50-State  
20 quarter dollar program; and

21 “(B) notwithstanding the fourth sentence  
22 of subsection (d)(1), the reverse of the quarter  
23 dollar shall contain an image of General Wash-  
24 ington crossing the Delaware River prior to the  
25 Battle of Trenton.

1           “(9) NATIONAL SITE.—For purposes of this  
2 subsection, the term ‘national site’ means any site  
3 under the supervision, management, or conservancy  
4 of the National Park Service, the United States For-  
5 est Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife  
6 Service, or any similar department or agency of the  
7 Federal Government, including any national park,  
8 national monument, national battlefield, national  
9 military park, national historical park, national his-  
10 toric site, national lakeshore, seashore, recreation  
11 area, parkway, scenic river, or trail and any site in  
12 the National Wildlife Refuge System.

13           “(10) APPLICATION IN EVENT OF INDEPEND-  
14 ENCE.—If any territory becomes independent or oth-  
15 erwise ceases to be a territory or possession of the  
16 United States before quarter dollars bearing designs  
17 which are emblematic of such territory are minted  
18 pursuant to this subsection, this subsection shall  
19 cease to apply with respect to such territory.”.

## 20 **TITLE II—BULLION INVESTMENT** 21 **PRODUCTS**

### 22 **SEC. 201. SILVER BULLION COIN.**

23           Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is  
24 amended by inserting after subsection (t) (as added by  
25 title I of this Act) the following new subsection:

1 “(u) SILVER BULLION INVESTMENT PRODUCT.—

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

7 “(A) have a diameter of 3.0 inches and  
8 weigh 5.0 ounces;

9 “(B) contain .999 fine silver;

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

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

15 “(E) not be minted or issued by the  
16 United States Mint as so-called ‘fractional’ bul-  
17 lion coins or in any size other than the size de-  
18 scribed in paragraph (A).

19 “(2) AVAILABILITY FOR SALE.—Bullion coins  
20 minted under paragraph (1)—

21 “(A) shall become available for sale no  
22 sooner than the first day of the calendar year  
23 in which the circulating quarter dollar of which  
24 such bullion coin is a duplicate is issued; and

1           “(B) may only be available for sale during  
2 the year in which such circulating quarter dol-  
3 lar is issued.

4           “(3) DISTRIBUTION.—

5           “(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the au-  
6 thorized dealers utilized by the Secretary in dis-  
7 tributing bullion coins and solely for purposes  
8 of distributing bullion coins issued under this  
9 subsection, the Director of the National Park  
10 Service, or the designee of the Director, may  
11 purchase numismatic items issued under this  
12 subsection, but only in units of no fewer than  
13 1,000 at a time, and the Director, or the Direc-  
14 tor’s designee, may resell or repackage such nu-  
15 mismatic items as the Director determines to be  
16 appropriate.

17           “(B) RESALE.—The Director of the Na-  
18 tional Park Service, or the designee of the Di-  
19 rector, may resell, at cost and without repack-  
20 aging, numismatic items acquired by the Direc-  
21 tor or such designee under subparagraph (A) to  
22 any party affiliated with any national site hon-  
23 ored by a quarter dollar under subsection (t)  
24 for repackaging and resale by such party in the  
25 same manner and to the same extent as such

1 party would be authorized to engage in such ac-  
2 tivities under subparagraph (A) if the party  
3 were acting as the designee of the Director  
4 under such subparagraph.”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 9, 2008.

Attest: LORRAINE C. MILLER,  
*Clerk.*