government procurement agencies and parastatals not affiliated with the coercive organs of that country. The amended Regulations will also provide for the licensing of all transactions necessary and incident to licensed sales transactions, such as insurance and shipping arrangements. Financing for the licensed sales transactions will be permitted in the manner described in the amended Regulations.

3. During the reporting period, OFAC reviewed numerous applications for licenses to authorize transactions under the Regulations. Consistent with OFAC's ongoing scrutiny of banking transactions, the largest category of license approvals (20) involved types of financial transactions that are consistent with U.S. policy. Most of these licenses authorized personal remittances not involving Libya between persons who are not blocked parties to flow through Libyan banks located outside Libya. Three licenses were issued authorizing certain travel-related transactions. One license was issued to a U.S. firm to allow it to protect its intellectual property rights in Libya; another authorized receipt of payment for legal services; and a third authorized payments for telecommunications services. A total of 26 licenses were issued during the reporting period.

4. During the current 6-month period, OFAC continued to emphasize to the international banking community in the United States the importance of identifying and blocking payments made by or on behalf of Libya. The office worked closely with the banks to assure the effectiveness of interdiction software systems used to identify such payments. During the reporting period, 87 transactions potentially involving Libya, totaling nearly $3.4 million, were interdicted.

5. Since my last report, OFAC has collected 7 civil monetary penalties totaling $38,000 from 2 U.S. financial institutions, 3 companies, and 2 individuals for violations of the U.S. sanctions against Libya. The violations involved export transactions relating to Libya and dealings in Government of Libya property or property in which the Government of Libya had an interest.

On April 23, 1999, a foreign national permanent resident in the United States was sentenced by the Federal District court for the Middle District of Florida to 2 years in prison and 2 years supervised release for criminal conspiracy to violate ecomonic sanctions against Libya, Iran, and Iraq. He had previously been convicted of violation of the Libyan Sanctions Regulations, the Iranian Transactions Regulations, the Iraqi Sanctions Regulations, and the Export Administration Regulations for exportation of industrial equipment to the oil, gas, petrochemical, water, and power industries of Libya, Iran, and Iraq.

Various enforcement actions carried over from previous reporting periods have continued to be aggressively pursued. Numerous investigations are ongoing and new reports of violations are being scrutinized.

6. The expenses incurred by the Federal Government in the 6-month period from January 7 through July 6, 1999, that are directly attributable to the exercise of powers and authorities conferred by the declaration of the Libyan national emergency are estimated at approximately $4.4 million. Personnel costs were largely centered in the Department of the Treasury (particularly in the Office of Foreign Assets Control, the Office of the General Counsel, and the U.S. Customs Service), the Department of State, and the Department of Commerce.

7. In April 1999, Libya surrendered the 2 suspects in the Lockerbie bombing for trial before a Scottish court seated in the Netherlands. In accordance with UNSCR 748, upon the suspects' transfer, UN sanctions were immediately suspended. We will insist that Libya fulfill the remaining UNSCR requirements for lifting UN sanctions and are working with UN Secretary Annan and UN Secretary Council members to ensure that Libya does so promptly. U.S. unilateral sanctions remain in force, and I will continue to exercise the powers at my disposal to apply these sanctions fully and effectively, as long as they remain appropriate. I will continue to report periodically to the Congress on significant developments as required by law.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *July 19, 1999.*

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules but not before 6 p.m.

LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1033) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1033

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 ''Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) the expedition commanded by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, which came to be called ''The Corps of Discovery'', was one of the most remarkable and productive scientific and military exploring expeditions in all American history;

(2) President Thomas Jefferson gave Lewis and Clark the mission to ''explore the Missouri River & such principal stream of it, as, by its course and communication with the waters of the Pacific Ocean, whether the Columbia, Oregon, Colorado, or any other river may offer the most direct and practical water communication across this continent for the purposes of commerce'';

(3) the Expedition, in response to President Jefferson's directive, greatly advanced our geographical knowledge of the continent and prepared the way for the extension of the American fur trade with American Indian tribes throughout the land;

(4) President Jefferson directed the explorers to take note of and carefully record the natural resources of the newly acquired territory known as Louisiana, as well as diligently report on the native inhabitants of the land;

(5) the Expedition departed St. Louis, Missouri on May 14, 1804;

(6) the Expedition held its first meeting with American Indians at Council Bluff near present-day Fort Calhoun, Nebraska, in August 1804, spent its first winter at Fort Mandan, North Dakota, crossed the Rocky Mountains by the mouth of the Columbia River in mid-November of that year, and wintered at Fort Clatsop, near the present-day city of Astoria, Oregon;

(7) the Expedition returned to St. Louis, Missouri, on September 23, 1806, after a 28-month journey covering 8,000 miles during which it traversed 11 future States: Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon;

(8) accounts from the journals of Lewis and Clark and the detailed maps that were prepared by the Expedition enhance knowledge of the western continent and routes for commerce;

(9) the Expedition significantly enhanced amicable relationships between the United States and the autonomous American Indian nations, and the friendship and respect fostered between American Indian tribes and the Expedition represents the best of diplomacy and relationships between divergent nations and cultures; and

(10) the Lewis and Clark Expedition has been called the most perfect expedition of its kind in the history of the world and paved the way for the United States to become a great world power.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATION.—In commemoration of the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the ''Secretary'') shall mint and issue not more than 500,000 $1 coins, each of which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

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

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. SOURCES OF BULLION.

The Secretary may obtain silver for minting coins under this Act from any available source, including stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

SEC. 5. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the expedition of Lewis and Clark.

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

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

(B) an inscription of the year ''2004'' and the years ''1804–1806''; and

(C) inscriptions of the words ''Liberty'', ''In God We Trust'', ''United States of America'', and ''E Pluribus Unum''.

(3) OBVERSE OF COIN.—The obverse of each coin minted under this Act shall bear the likeness of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark.

(4) GENERAL DESIGN.—In designing this coin, the Secretary shall also consider incorporating appropriate elements from the Jefferson Peace and Friendship Medal which Lewis and Clark presented to the Chiefs of the various Indian tribes they encountered and shall consider recognizing Native American culture.

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts and shall be reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.

SEC. 6. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

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

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

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the period beginning on January 1, 2004, and ending on December 31, 2004.

SEC. 7. SALE OF COINS.

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

(1) the face value of the coins;

(2) the surcharge provided in subsection (d) with respect to such coins; and

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

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

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

(d) SURCHARGES.—All sales of coins minted under this Act shall include a surcharge of $10 per coin.

SEC. 8. DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, the proceeds from the surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary as follows:

(1) NATIONAL LEWIS AND CLARK BICENTENNIAL COUNCIL.—⅔ to the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council, for activities associated with commemorating the bicentennial of the Expedition.

(2) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.—⅓ to the National Park Service for activities associated with commemorating the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

(b) AUDITS.—Each organization that receives any payment from the Secretary under this section shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 9. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

(a) NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government.

(b) PAYMENT FOR COINS.—A coin shall not be issued under this Act unless the Secretary has received—

(1) full payment for the coin;

(2) security satisfactory to the Secretary to indemnify the United States for full payment; or

(3) a guarantee of full payment satisfactory to the Secretary from a depository institution whose deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration Board.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this Member rises today to urge the passage of H.R. 1033, legislation introduced by this Member which authorizes the U.S. Department of the Treasury to mint 500,000 one-dollar coins to commemorate the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The coins will be of legal tender. In addition, this measure will raise money to defer costs of bicentennial celebrations.

Original cosponsors of this legislation include the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER), the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY), the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS), and the gentleman from Montana (Mr. HILL), who is the co-chairman of the Lewis and Clark Caucus. Last Congress, a very similar bill was introduced by this Member; and we, in fact, had 299 House cosponsors.

This Member would especially like to thank the gentleman from Iowa (Chairman LEACH) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) the subcommittee chairman for expediting the consideration of this legislation once House-Senate tactics on revenue measures on this Congressional measure were settled. I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) for his role, as well.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to note a Lewis and Clark commemorative coin bill, which this Member also introduced, conforming with all rules of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, passed the House in the 105th Congress by a vote of 398 to 2, but was not individually passed by the Senate before the 105th Congress adjourned.

President Thomas Jefferson, eager to explore newly-acquired land from the Louisiana Purchase, chose Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to begin the expedition, which came to be called ''The Corps of Discovery.''

President Jefferson gave the following directive to Lewis and Clark to ''explore the Missouri River and such principal streams of it, as, by its course and communication with the waters of the Pacific Ocean, whether the Columbia, Oregon, Colorado, or any other river may offer the most direct and practicable water communication across this continent for the purposes of commerce.''

Lewis and Clark departed St. Louis on May 14, 1804, and returned to St. Louis 28 months later on September 23, 1806. The journey covered 8,000 miles of the land which now constitutes the States of Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon.

This expedition was one of the most remarkable and productive military and scientific exploring expeditions in all of American history. This expedition advanced our geographical knowledge of the continent and its beautiful natural resources.

In addition, the expedition greatly enhanced amicable relationships and nurtured a mutual friendship and respect between the United States and the autonomous American Indian nations. Furthermore, Sacajawea, the young Native American woman who was a guide and interpreter for the expedition, deserves our acknowledgment and admiration.

In addition, the distinguished Senator from North Dakota, Senator BYRON DORGAN, has simultaneously introduced a companion bill on this subject in the other body, S. 1187.

Under H.R. 1033, these coins will include the likeness of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and the U.S. Mint considers incorporating appropriate elements from the Jefferson Peace and Friendship Medal which Lewis and Clark presented to the chiefs of the various Indian tribes they encountered and shall consider recognizing Native American culture.

In its 1997 report, the congressionally authorized Citizens Coin Advisory Committee recommended commemorating the Lewis and Clark Expedition with the coin. This Lewis and Clark Commemorative Coin authorized by this legislation will be scheduled to be minted and into circulation in the year 2004.

The legislation provides that the net proceeds from the surcharges included in the price of the coin shall be distributed to the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council, two-thirds of it, and the National Park Service, the remaining third, to be used by the Park Service for activities associated with commemorating the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Thus, this contribution from the proceeds of coin sales to the Park Service will save taxpayers on currently planned Lewis and Clark events.

The legislation also includes language requiring the Department of the Treasury to take action necessary to ensure that the minting and issuing of the coins result in no net costs to the United States.

Moreover, the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council, which advocates this commemorative coin, is an outgrowth of the Lewis and Clark Trails Foundation, Incorporated, which was created in 1969 to continue the work of the 1964 congressionally established Lewis and Clark Trails Commission.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, this Member believes that the courage and resilience and discoveries of Lewis and Clark assisted by Native Americans along the route of their great expedition, ''The Corps of Discovery,'' left an indelible and lasting contribution to the settlement and perhaps to the ultimate boundaries of the United States.

Lewis and Clark, in 1804, began an expedition from St. Louis into the unknown wilderness of the West.

□ 1415

They returned in 1806 with a wealth of knowledge and experience which has been invaluable in the development of the United States and the American Nation. We still stand in awe of their intrepid journey to explore the American West.

Therefore, this Member would strongly encourage his colleagues to vote for H.R. 1033, the Lewis and Clark Commemorative Coin Bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1033, and I give special commendation to the principal author of the bill, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), and to the two Democratic lead sponsors on the bill, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) and the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY). I commend them for their fine work advancing it to the House floor.

The bill requires the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin commemorating the Lewis and Clark expedition. The expedition, led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, was one of the most remarkable and productive scientific and military expeditions in all American history.

At the direction of President Thomas Jefferson, Lewis and Clark led an expedition force of some 40 soldiers and civilians up the Missouri river, across the Rocky Mountains, along the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean. The expedition covered a vast stretch of America's territory, over 8,000 miles, and 11 future States, including what is now Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

The pioneering spirits of Lewis and Clark culminated in the development of new maps for uncharted territories and a collection and study of previously unknown species of plants and animals. With their new glimpse of uncharted territories, Lewis and Clark inspired subsequent generations of Americans to push the American frontier to the Pacific ocean.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation celebrates this historic geographical and scientific exploration of the United States. The minting and issuance of the Lewis and Clark commemorative coin will be done at no cost to the American taxpayer and proceeds from its sale will accrue to the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council and the National Park Service. Both of these organizations are currently preparing for the bicentennial celebration of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 1033.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER), the chief Democratic sponsor of this bill.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding me this time, and I appreciate the leadership of the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER). I would like to express my strong support for H.R. 1033, the Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act. I hope this time we get it through, that there are not hang-ups.

I was pleased with what the House did in the last session. It is of particular interest to me as the only graduate of Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, the namesake of the great explorers; in fact, both my degrees are from the institution. I grew up in the Pacific Northwest, steeped in the lore and tradition that surrounded the Lewis and Clark expedition.

It is very important to us in the Pacific Northwest. One hundred years ago in our community, the centennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition was celebrated in a world's fair that had a profound impact on our community, on the Pacific Northwest and the West Coast in general.

This resolution, which passed the House last year and has been ably described by the gentleman from Nebraska and the gentleman from New York, has the potential of providing resources for a national celebration of this undertaking. I will not bore Members or our guests with further recitation of that exploration, but suffice it to say that over 200 years ago when President Jefferson coaxed the Congress to appropriate $2,500 for this exploration, it was money well spent; and I think that the resources that will be invested in this celebration will likewise be well spent.

There is a great deal that we need to do to reconnect with our friends in the Native American communities in the 11 States throughout the passage of the expedition, for us to acknowledge the contributions they made and understand what it means in today's world to be connected to people of other ethnic backgrounds, particularly Native Americans, but also I think this is an international respect as well.

It is a chance for our Nation to reflect on the power of exploration and scientific advancement, to reach out to others in the Native American community who were a part of that exploration, who on more than one occasion rescued the explorers. It is an opportunity for us as a Nation to reflect on our ancestors who had the ability to dream on a vast scale.

Today, we need this observance and all that it requires to help us face our destiny in a new century. I am pleased to be associated with the legislation and hope that the House will act expeditiously.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I want to simply conclude by thanking the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER). During the last Congress he was extremely helpful in us getting the 290 cosponsors to meet the subcommittee requirement, and I appreciate his effort and his long interest in Lewis and Clark.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1033.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1033, the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act, and I want to personally thank Congressman BEREUTER, the sponsor of the legislation, for his work on this issue.

Nearly two hundred years after the Corps of Discovery, Americans of all ages have begun a national pilgrimage to follow the steps of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The journey today stands as one of the most remarkable and productive scientific and military exploring expeditions in all of American History. H.R. 1033 recognizes this extraordinary journey and the discipline, sacrifice and strength shown by Lewis and Clark by authorizing the Treasury to mint one-dollar and half-dollar coins to commemorate the bicentennial of the expedition.

The bill will not only serve to highlight this historic expedition and the roles of Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, and the many Native Americans who aided in the journey, but it will also provide a source of financial support for commemorative activities. After the cost of minting is covered, the proceeds from the sale of the coin will be distributed to the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council and the National Park Service which will allow both entities to continue their work in planning and organizing bicentennial events.

As we continue preparing for the bicentennial of this historic expedition, it is important that Congress play an active role in supporting and promoting its commemoration. I urge my colleagues to recognize the importance of the Lewis and Clark expedition to the nation and the efforts of the bicentennial council and the National Park Service to highlight its bicentennial by passing this legislation.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1033.

The question was taken.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

LEIF ERICSON MILLENNIUM COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 31) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in conjunction with the minting of coins by the Republic of Iceland in commemoration of the millennium of the discovery of the New World by Leif Ericson.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 31

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 ''Leif Ericson Millennium Commemorative Coin Act''.

SEC. 2. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) $1 SILVER COINS.—In conjunction with the simultaneous minting and issuance of commemorative coins by the Republic of Iceland in commemoration of the millennium of the discovery of the New World by Leif Ericson, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the ''Secretary'') shall mint and issue not more than 500,000 1 dollar coins, which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;

(2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

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

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 3. SOURCES OF BULLION.

The Secretary may obtain silver for minting coins under this Act from any available source, including stockpiles established under the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the millennium of the discovery of the New World by Leif Ericson.

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

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

(B) an inscription of the year ''2000''; and

(C) inscriptions of the words ''Liberty'', ''In God We Trust'', ''United States of America'', and ''E Pluribus Unum''.

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

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Leifur Eiríkson Foundation and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

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

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

(c) COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January 1, 2000.

(d) TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.—No coins may be minted under this Act after December 31, 2000.

SEC. 6. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins minted under this Act shall include a surcharge of $10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—All surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Leifur Eiríkson Foundation for the purpose of funding student exchanges between students of the United States and students of Iceland.

(c) AUDITS.—The Leifur Eiríkson Foundation shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received by the Foundation under subsection (b).

SEC. 7. GENERAL WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), no provision of law governing procurement or public contracts shall be applicable to the procurement of goods and services necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

(b) EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.—Subsection (a) shall not relieve any person entering into a contract under the authority of this Act from complying with any law relating to equal employment opportunity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH).

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 31, a bill that will implement a unique program to issue a millennium commemorative dollar coin. The year 2000 will mark the 1,000th anniversary of the voyage of discovery by Leif Ericson, an Icelander, who was the son of Eric the Red, a Norseman, in 1000 A.D. Ericson set off from Iceland to explore lands to the west, beyond Greenland. Recent archaeological research has confirmed evidence of contemporaneous European settlement on Newfoundland as a result of this voyage and its successors.

A unique feature of this bill is that it would permit the simultaneous issuance of a commemorative U.S. silver dollar and a silver Kronor Icelandic coin, both produced by the United States Mint and both celebrating the voyage of Leif Ericson. Both of these coins would be produced in limited mintages with 250,000 silver dollars authorized. This will be a significant numismatic event, a 1,000-year anniversary, two countries jointly issuing coins commemorating the same event, a limited boxed edition of both coins being issued by the Mint and the surcharge proceeds going to promote scholarship and student exchanges between the two countries.

Interestingly, the Icelandic coin will depict Leif Ericson as he appears on a statue that stands today in Reykjavik. This statue of the great explorer was created by the sculptor Stirling Calder, father of another great artist of this century, Alexander Calder, and was presented by the United States Congress to the parliament of Iceland, known as the Althing, on its 1,000th anniversary in 1930. It is very appropriate that our relatively young country take this opportunity to commemorate a 1,000-year link to Europe and one of the earliest of the many ethnic strains that make up our society today. During the year 2000 the Smithsonian will be mounting a traveling exhibition devoted to the millennium of the Viking contacts with the new world. It will trace how the Nordic sagas recorded during these voyages entered European consciousness and the myth describing a fertile land far to the west. Recent archaeological finds hint that 11th century Viking explorers might have visited coastal and interior areas considerably to the south of the Newfoundland site. Additional research and scholarship funded by this coin program is designed to contribute to a better understanding of this hardy folk and their relationship to modern peoples of this hemisphere.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS), the subcommittee chairman; and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), the ranking members of the full committee and subcommittee, for their extraordinary cooperation.

As Members may recall, this bill passed this Chamber in the last Congress. I urge its adoption today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 31. I commend the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH), the chairman of the committee, and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. VENTO), the distinguished ranking Democrat on the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, for the tremendous work they have done on this bill. I would point out that the gentleman from Minnesota very much wanted to be the floor manager from the Democratic respective on this bill, but he had been apprised it would be taken up tomorrow, had made a number of previous important appointments that he simply could not break, and asked me to substitute in his stead.

This bill commemorates the millennium of Leif Ericson's arrival in the New World, a watershed event in the history of our continent. The bill would require the Secretary of the Treasury, in conjunction with the simultaneous minting and issuance by the Republic of Iceland of its own coin, to mint up to, I believe, one-half million dollars of one-dollar commemorative coins.