

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3526

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of David Crockett and his contributions to American history.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN 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 David Crockett and his contributions to American history.

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 “David ‘Davy’ Crockett
5 Commemorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) The year 2005 marks the 175th anniversary
9 of a courageous vote on the floors of Congress by
10 David Crockett.

1 (2) In 1830, during the 21st Congress, Rep-
2 resentative David Crockett rose to speak out in op-
3 position to a bill for the funding of the removal of
4 Southeastern Native American tribes to the west of
5 the Mississippi River.

6 (3) He was the only Member of Congress from
7 his State to oppose the bill, was fully aware that the
8 majority of his constituents favored the bill, and un-
9 derstood that he was providing his political foes with
10 an issue that they could—and did—use to attack
11 him.

12 (4) Undaunted by threats of political retalia-
13 tion, he refused to support a bill designed to remove
14 what he called “the poor remnants of a once power-
15 ful people” from their ancestral homes, claiming in-
16 stead that he would “sooner be honestly and politi-
17 cally damned, than hypocritically immortalized”.

18 (5) The year 2005 also marks the 50th anniver-
19 sary of the release of a feature-length motion picture
20 that returned David Crockett to the position he had
21 enjoyed 125 years earlier as the classic image of the
22 American frontier and the best reflection of the fron-
23 tier spirit.

1 (6) As “Davy” Crockett, he was popularized in
2 movies and television, and he became a cultural icon
3 of the 1950s.

4 (7) David Crockett first appeared on the na-
5 tional scene as the representative of a new, proud,
6 and irreverent American character and culture,
7 unique and apart from European customs and
8 mores.

9 (8) As a young man from the backwoods of
10 East Tennessee, David Crockett mastered the skills
11 necessary for life on the American frontier, including
12 marksmanship and hunting.

13 (9) The first rifle he owned, with which he de-
14 veloped those skills, is included in the collection at
15 the East Tennessee Historical Society and will be
16 featured prominently when the Historical Society
17 opens its expanded museum exhibit in 2005.

18 (10) His quick wit and natural leadership abili-
19 ties allowed him to move from the humblest of set-
20 tings to the halls of Congress.

21 (11) David Crockett was a committed public
22 servant serving 2 terms in the Tennessee General
23 Assembly and 3 terms in the United States House
24 of Representatives.

1 (12) During the last 3 months of his life, he
2 fought with others to secure independence for the
3 Republic of Texas before he died a hero's death at
4 the Alamo at the age of 49.

5 (13) His life was chronicled during and imme-
6 diately after his lifetime through theatrical produc-
7 tions, biographies, and in a series of almanacs from
8 1835–1856, galvanizing his persona as a true Amer-
9 ican folk hero.

10 (14) He has been the subject of at least 17 mo-
11 tion pictures and 12 television programs during the
12 20th century.

13 (15) David Crockett personified the spirit of
14 independence, individualism, and justice in his oppo-
15 sition to the Indian removal bill, a position that was
16 opposed by powerful political opponents, unpopular
17 with a majority of his own constituents, but dedi-
18 cated to principle.

19 (16) He was guided in this, as he was through-
20 out his life, by his best-known maxim: “Be always
21 sure you are right, then go ahead.”.

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

23 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—In commemoration of the
24 achievements and legacy of David Crockett, the Secretary

1 of the Treasury (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the
2 “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coins:

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 90 percent gold and 10 percent
8 alloy.

9 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 500,000
10 \$1 coins, which shall—

11 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

13 (C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 per-
14 cent copper.

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

18 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section
19 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted
20 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

21 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

22 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

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

1 legacy of David Crockett and his importance to Ten-
2 nessee, Texas, and the history of the United States.

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

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

6 (B) an inscription of the year “2005”; and

7 (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,
8 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-
9 ica”, “E Pluribus Unum”, and “David ‘Davy’
10 Crockett 1786–1836”.

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

13 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation
14 with the Commission of Fine Arts and the Board of
15 the East Tennessee Historical Society; and

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

18 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

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

24 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
25 issue coins minted under this Act only during the period

1 beginning on January 1, 2005, and ending on December
2 31, 2005.

3 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

7 (1) the face value of the coins;

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

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

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

16 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

23 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins minted under
25 this Act shall include a surcharge as follows:

1 (1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin.

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

3 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of
4 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by
5 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act
6 shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the East Ten-
7 nessee Historical Society to be used—

8 (1) to fund capital improvements for The East
9 Tennessee Historical Society and its museum; and

10 (2) to establish an endowment to be a perma-
11 nent source of support for The East Tennessee His-
12 torical Society and its vital mission of preserving, in-
13 terpreting, and promoting the history of Tennessee,
14 focusing on East Tennessee.

15 (c) AUDITS.—The East Tennessee Historical Society
16 shall be subject to the audit requirements of section
17 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard
18 to the amounts received by the Foundation under sub-
19 section (b).

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