

medicine in South Carolina, for being a role model to all aspiring doctors.

To Maggie Lena Walker, who in 1867 became the first African-American and first woman to become president of a bank. Thank you Ms. Walker for showing our children that they too can run a bank.

Thank you to Granville T. Woods, who in 1901 received a patent on his invention of the third rails that are still used today on subway systems in New York and Chicago.

To Garret A. Morgan who in 1923 received a patent on his invention of the traffic light.

To Jan E. Matzeliger who in 1883 patented the lasting machine which improved the speed and reduced the labor associated with constructing shoes.

To those eight black slaves who in 1777, organized the first black Baptist church. Thank you for showing us the importance of establishing our spiritual base even though the devil is all around us.

To Harriet Wilson. Thank you for writing the first novel published by a black writer in 1859, your words continue to inspire.

To Nat Turner, who in August 1831 led a slave revolt in Virginia. Thank you for fighting and dying to be free.

To those four young girls that died in the Birmingham church bombing, my daughter's life has been made easier by your sacrifice, and rest eternally assured that that sacrifice will not be forgotten, by me or her.

To Arthur Ashe, Tennis Hall of Famer, writer, historian, philanthropist, and father. Thank you for courage, and wisdom and strength. You showed with your life what a man could become.

To madame C.J. Walker the first African-American millionaire. Thank you for showing us how to do business.

To Fred Gregory, Guion Bluford, the late Ron McNair, and Mae Jemmison. Thank you for showing our kids that the sky is not the limit.

To Parren Mitchell, former U.S. Congressman from Maryland. Thank you for believing in African-American businesses.

To Marion Anderson and Leontyne Price. Thank you for showing the world that we too sing in America.

To Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, the first man to ever perform open heart surgery. Thank you for showing the world how to heal an ailing heart.

To Dr. and Mrs. Walter R. Tucker. Thank you for being an example of excellence and ambition.

To Harriet Tubman, conductor on the underground railroad to deliver over 300 Africans from the south to the north out of slavery. You did not have to come back for us, but you did and we owe you a debt of gratitude.

Finally, I want to say a special thank you to Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who committed his life to telling the history of the African in America. Thank you Dr. Woodson for insisting that if a

story of America were told, this story had to be included.

SAVE THE GREENBACK ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Save the Greenback Act, a bill designed to preserve the status of the American 1 dollar bill, also known as the American Greenback, which has been a staple of our currency since 1862, and since 1869 has carried the likeness of the Founder of our Nation, George Washington.

The Kingston Trio's song that said "And I don't give a damn about a greenback dollar," has maintained a timelessness and elegance for future generations. However, the plans to discontinue printing the 1 dollar bill and to phase it out of existence, will incite a great number of people into giving a damn about a greenback dollar, because their pockets will be weighted down with heavy change instead of having a few bills tucked into their billfolds.

During that entire period, we have never heard the American people express their disagreement, or their displeasure with the 1 dollar bill. In fact, as many of you are aware, the mere mention of any redesign of our currency inevitably triggers an onslaught of calls from constituents.

In past Congresses there have been misguided efforts by special interests to replace the 1 dollar bill with a coin. The proponents of this coin make three bold claims; that is will be easier to handle, it will be popular with the American people and that it will save money.

Let me address each of these claims in turn: Imagine if you will, replacing ten 1 dollar bills in your wallet with ten coins in your pocket. After several days, one might suspect a conspiracy by clothing manufacturers in drafting the dollar coin proposal, as everyone's pockets begin to wear out.

As to the coin's popularity with the American people: There have been three national polls on this issue in the last year. In every poll, the American people overwhelmingly rejected any attempt to do away with the dollar bill and have expressed their displeasure for replacing it with a coin.

The most recent poll was conducted in January, under the auspices of the House Budget Committee. Only 18 percent of those questioned preferred a dollar coin.

Earlier polls have indicated a very real concern by the American people that if the dollar coin becomes law, the price of items purchased from vending machines, such as food, laundry and diet coke will rise. They also expect to see increases in the costs of other items such as parking meters and pay telephone calls.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation designed to eliminate the dollar bill will an excuse by the special interests to raise prices on everyday items—a future sales tax, to be levied on all Americans but falling the hardest on those who can least afford it.

None of us really want to see a repeat of the Susan B. Anthony drama in which the dollar coin was overwhelmingly rejected by the public. It did not save a nickel when it was minted, although proponents said at the time that a substantial savings would be realized.

At this moment, there are over 300 million Susan B. Anthony coins sitting idle in the U.S. Mint. Will we have to make room a few years down the road for the new dollar coin because we did not heed the hard lessons of the past?

It is not enough to blame the failure of the Susan B. Anthony on its design alone. The people rejected it as part of the currency system. They had a choice, and they voted against it.

It is important to note that the proposed dollar coin legislation will not allow the American people a choice, but will mandate on them a coin that they do not want.

Further, the dollar coin will not generate sufficient savings to justify such a major disruption in the lives and habits of the American people. Given the serious economic challenges facing this Congress, I believe that there are more urgent problems before us than forcing a change from the 1 dollar bill to a coin.

The costs of changing to a 1 dollar coin would be significant to many in the private sector including but not limited to the small town banks which would have to retool their coin counting, wrapping and sorting equipment—costs which would inevitably be passed on to their customers. The facts is, the 1 dollar bill has remained in existence for so long because people didn't want to carry bulky coins. They still don't.

Mr. Speaker, many of us were elected to this body by a public tired of being dictated to by their Government, having unwanted legislation forced on them, and tired of laws enacted for the sole benefit of special interests. We would do well to remember that we are here to advance the interests of the American people and not put needless obstacles in their path.

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HUGE SAVINGS POSSIBLE FROM ELIMINATING WASTEFUL EXPENDITURES ON HANFORD NUCLEAR FACILITY CLEANUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BATEMAN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss how \$274 million in wasteful expenditures can be cut from