

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 269

To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Jens Stoltenberg, in recognition of his contributions to the security, unity, and defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2025

Mr. DUNN of Florida (for himself, Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. McCORMICK, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. NORCROSS, and Mr. LAWLER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Jens Stoltenberg, in recognition of his contributions to the security, unity, and defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

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 “Secretary General Jens
5 Stoltenberg Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Jens Stoltenberg served as the Prime Min-
2 ister of Norway from 2000 to 2001 and 2005 to
3 2013.

4 (2) Norway was a founding member of the
5 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in
6 this Act as “NATO”) on April 4, 1949.

7 (3) As Prime Minister of Norway, Jens
8 Stoltenberg oversaw Norway’s increased defense
9 spending levels and the modernization of the Nor-
10 wegian Armed Forces.

11 (4) A primary objective of NATO is to provide
12 security and support to member nations and pro-
13 mote democratic values to ensure stability and
14 peace.

15 (5) Jens Stoltenberg assumed the position of
16 Secretary General of NATO in October 2014.

17 (6) The United States was the first NATO
18 member to support Jens Stoltenberg’s appointment
19 as Secretary General.

20 (7) Jens Stoltenberg has led NATO through
21 significant new investments, reinforced its capabili-
22 ties and enhanced the collective defense of the Alli-
23 ance.

24 (8) Jens Stoltenberg has advocated for greater
25 burden sharing among members of the NATO Alli-

1 ance, and under his leadership the Alliance will see
2 23 member countries reach or exceed the 2 percent
3 defense spending commitment by 2024, compared to
4 4 member countries in 2014.

5 (9) Jens Stoltenberg’s commitment to better
6 burden sharing has resulted in a stronger and more
7 sustainable Alliance than at any other time in
8 NATO history.

9 (10) Under Jens Stoltenberg’s leadership,
10 NATO has successfully undergone multiple enlarge-
11 ment periods and has extended membership to Fin-
12 land, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Sweden.

13 (11) In addition to bolstering the collective se-
14 curity of the Alliance, NATO enlargement indicates
15 that an increasing number of countries are meeting
16 key benchmarks on the military, political and legal
17 requirements needed for NATO accession, enhancing
18 interoperability, defense expenditure and intelligence
19 sharing among member countries.

20 (12) Jens Stoltenberg has increased NATO’s
21 partnerships with Indo-Pacific countries to cooperate
22 more closely to address our shared global challenges
23 including cyber defense, emergency technologies, and
24 the multitude of challenges posed by the People’s
25 Republic of China.

1 (13) Jens Stoltenberg included Indo-Pacific
2 leaders at NATO summits and traveled to the region
3 which further cemented these important partner-
4 ships.

5 (14) Following Russia's full-scale invasion of
6 Ukraine in February 2022, Jens Stoltenberg has led
7 the Alliance in maintaining unprecedented unity
8 against Putin's unprovoked, illegal actions.

9 (15) Since February 2022, NATO members
10 have supplied Ukraine with the equipment and re-
11 sources it needs to defend its democracy and its sov-
12 ereignty.

13 (16) Jens Stoltenberg successfully marshaled
14 political and financial support from Indo-Pacific
15 partners to support Ukraine, including contributions
16 of munitions and military equipment and sizeable fi-
17 nancial contributions to NATO's Comprehensive As-
18 sistance Plan Action Trust Fund for Ukraine.

19 (17) Jens Stoltenberg's mandate was extended
20 a total of 4 times with unanimous support by NATO
21 allies, with 2 extensions agreed to following Russia's
22 unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

23 (18) Jens Stoltenberg is the second longest-
24 serving Secretary General, serving over 9 years in
25 this position.

1 (19) Jens Stoltenberg has re-committed that
2 the NATO Alliance will stand together against any
3 threat posed to a NATO member, ensuring contin-
4 ued peace and stability within NATO territory and
5 around the world.

6 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

7 (a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the
8 House of Representatives and the President pro tempore
9 of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the
10 award, on behalf of the Congress, of a single gold medal
11 of appropriate design to Jens Stoltenberg, in recognition
12 of his contributions to the security, unity, and defense of
13 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

14 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
15 award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the
16 Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall
17 strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and
18 inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary. The de-
19 sign shall bear an inscription of the name of Jens
20 Stoltenberg.

21 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

22 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
23 bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3, at a price
24 sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor,
25 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

1 **SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

2 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—Medals struck under this
3 Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title
4 31, United States Code.

5 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
6 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals
7 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
8 items.

9 **SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**
10 **SALE.**

11 (a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is
12 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
13 Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be nec-
14 essary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under
15 this Act.

16 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALES.—Amounts received from
17 the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under sec-
18 tion 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Pub-
19 lic Enterprise Fund.

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