

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 452

AN ACT

To award 3 Congressional Gold Medals to the members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Men’s Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their extraordinary achievement at the 1980 Winter Olympics where, being comprised of amateur collegiate players, they defeated the dominant Soviet hockey team in the historic “Miracle on Ice”, revitalizing American morale at the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations and transforming the sport of hockey in the United States.

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 “Miracle on Ice Con-
5 gressional Gold Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The USA Olympic men’s ice hockey team
9 competed at the 1980 Winter Olympics, officially the
10 XIII Olympic Winter Games and known as the 1980
11 Lake Placid games, from February 13 to 24, 1980,
12 in Lake Placid, New York.

13 (2) Team USA, comprised of collegiate players,
14 defeated the defending Olympic champion the Soviet
15 Union 4–3 on February 22, 1980, in the final round
16 of the 1980 Winter Olympics men’s hockey tour-
17 nament.

18 (3) The 1980 USA Olympic men’s hockey team
19 roster included—

20 (A) Bill Baker (Grand Rapids, MN);

21 (B) Neal Broten (Roseau, MN);

22 (C) Dave Christian (Warroad, MN);

23 (D) Steve Christoff (Richfield, MN);

24 (E) Jim Craig (North Easton, MA);

25 (F) Mike Eruzione (Winthrop, MA);

1 (G) John Harrington (Virginia, MN);
2 (H) Steve Janaszak (Saint Paul, MN);
3 (I) Mark Johnson (Madison, WI);
4 (J) Rob McClanahan (Saint Paul, MN);
5 (K) Ken Morrow (Flint, MI);
6 (L) Jack O’Callahan (Charlestown, MA);
7 (M) Mark Pavelich (Eveleth, MN);
8 (N) Mike Ramsey (Minneapolis, MN);
9 (O) Buzz Schneider (Grand Rapids, MN);
10 (P) Dave Silk (Scituate, MA);
11 (Q) Eric Strobel (Rochester, MN);
12 (R) Bob Suter (Madison, WI);
13 (S) Mark Wells (St. Clair Shores, MI); and
14 (T) Phil Verchota (Duluth, MN).

15 (4) The “Miracle on Ice” USA-Soviet Union
16 final round game aired on tape delay on February
17 22, 1980, from the Lake Placid Games and drew
18 34,200,000 average viewers. The match is remem-
19 bered as a “miracle” as collegiate hockey players de-
20 fied expectations in defeating a Soviet team that
21 won 4 consecutive gold medals dating back to 1964.

22 (5) Team USA defeated Finland 4–1 in its
23 final game to win the gold medal, its first gold
24 medal since 1960 in men’s hockey.

1 (6) Herb Brooks, the last player cut from the
2 1960 U.S. Olympic team that won gold at Squaw
3 Valley, guided the 1980 team to its historic gold
4 medal. Known as a motivator, Brooks molded a
5 team built around hard work, belief in oneself and
6 belief in teammates. He reminded his team when
7 they played the Soviets, “you were born to be hockey
8 players, everyone one of you * * * and you were
9 meant to be here”.

10 (7) The tournament occurred at a time when
11 the United States was struggling with rampant stag-
12 flation, high gas prices, hostages held in Iran, and
13 increased tensions with the Soviet Union whose inva-
14 sion of Afghanistan led to the boycott of the 1980
15 Summer Olympics.

16 (8) The Miracle on Ice was a turning point for
17 American hockey. The game was named the greatest
18 sports moment of the 20th century by Sports Illus-
19 trated.

20 (9) The historic win brought hockey to the
21 front-page of newspapers everywhere, and forever
22 opened the door to the National Hockey League for
23 American-born players. The impact of the event was
24 far-reaching and is still being felt today.

1 (10) Since 1980 American interest in the sport
2 of hockey has increased exponentially. Registrations
3 with USA Hockey have increased by nearly 400 per-
4 cent since 1980 from 136,000 to over 564,000, and
5 the number of National Hockey League players from
6 the United States has increased from 72 in 1980 to
7 245 in 2024.

8 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS.**

9 (a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the
10 House of Representatives and the President pro tempore
11 of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the
12 presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of 3 gold medals
13 of appropriate design to the members of the 1980 U.S.
14 Olympic Men’s Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their
15 extraordinary achievement at the 1980 Olympic Winter
16 Games where, being comprised of amateur collegiate play-
17 ers, they defeated the dominant Soviet hockey team in the
18 historic “Miracle on Ice”, revitalizing American morale at
19 the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations and
20 transforming the sport of hockey in the United States.

21 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
22 award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the
23 Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall
24 strike gold medals with suitable emblems, devices, and in-
25 scriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

1 (c) DISPOSITION OF MEDALS.—Following the award
2 of the gold medals under subsection (a)—

3 (1) one gold medal shall be given to the Lake
4 Placid Olympic Center in Lake Placid, NY, where it
5 shall be displayed as appropriate and made available
6 for research;

7 (2) one gold medal shall be given to the United
8 States Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth, MN, where
9 it shall be displayed as appropriate and made avail-
10 able for research; and

11 (3) one gold medal shall be given to the U.S.
12 Olympic and Paralympic Museum in Colorado
13 Springs, CO, where it shall be displayed as appro-
14 priate and made available for research.

15 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

16 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
17 bronze of the gold medals struck under section 3, at a
18 price sufficient to cover the costs thereof, including labor,
19 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

20 **SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

21 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck under
22 this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51
23 of title 31, United States Code.

24 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
25 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals

1 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
2 items.

3 **SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**
4 **SALE.**

5 (a) **AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.**—There is
6 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
7 Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be nec-
8 essary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant
9 to this Act.

10 (b) **PROCEEDS OF SALE.**—The amounts received
11 from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under
12 section 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint
13 Public Enterprise Fund.

Passed the House of Representatives April 28, 2025.

Attest:

Clerk.

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