

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2229

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the Foreign Service of the United States and its contribution to United States diplomacy.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 9, 2025

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the Foreign Service of the United States and its contribution to United States diplomacy.

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 “United States Foreign
5 Service Commemorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The diplomacy and foreign relations of the
9 United States began in 1775 when the Second Con-

1 tinenta Congress established the Committee of Se-
2 cret Correspondence, and it was during the Amer-
3 ican Revolution that the first ambassadors, envoys,
4 and secretaries, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Frank-
5 lin, and John Adams among them, helped secure the
6 independence of the new nation, recognition by for-
7 eign nations, loans to finance the revolution, and ne-
8 gotiate treaties.

9 (2) On September 15, 1789, the 1st United
10 States Congress passed an Act creating the Depart-
11 ment of State and appointing duties to it, including
12 the keeping of the Great Seal of the United States.
13 Initially there were 2 services devoted to diplomatic
14 and to consular activity. The Diplomatic Service pro-
15 vided ambassadors and staff for embassies overseas,
16 while the Consular Service provided consuls to assist
17 United States sailors and promote international
18 trade and commerce.

19 (3) After World War I ended, Congress com-
20 plemented the earlier efforts for Civil Service reform,
21 interrupted by World War I, to create a career, pro-
22 fessional diplomatic service. Representative John
23 Jacob Rogers of Massachusetts introduced his first
24 Foreign Service reform bill in 1919, followed by sev-
25 eral others. He was strongly supported in his efforts

1 by Secretary of State Charles Evans Hughes. The
2 legislation provided improvements in the Diplomatic
3 and Consular Services to attract highly qualified
4 candidates “by keen competition”. The objective was
5 to create “a real diplomatic career, open to any
6 American citizen who has the necessary qualifica-
7 tions”.

8 (4) The Act entitled “An Act for the reorga-
9 nization and improvement of the Foreign Service of
10 the United States, and for other purposes”, ap-
11 proved May 24, 1924 (43 Stat. 140, chapter 182)
12 (commonly known as the “Rogers Act of 1924”),
13 unified the Diplomatic and Consular Services in one
14 career organization based on competitive examina-
15 tion and merit promotion. It was named the “For-
16 eign Service of the United States of America”.
17 President Calvin Coolidge signed the bill into law on
18 May 24, 1924. The first class of new Foreign Serv-
19 ice officers was held in 1925.

20 (5) The Foreign Service of the United States is
21 the primary United States Federal Government pro-
22 fessional cadre of generalists and specialists charged
23 with the conduct of United States diplomacy under
24 the aegis of the United States Department of State.
25 It consists of a cadre of career professionals carrying

1 out the foreign policy of the United States and aid-
2 ing United States citizens abroad.

3 (6) In 1946, after World War II, Congress
4 passed the Foreign Service Act of 1946 (60 Stat.
5 999, chapter 957) to update the 1924 Rogers Act.

6 (7) In 1980, the Congress again updated the
7 Rogers Act, passing the Foreign Service Act of 1980
8 (22 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.), to promote the foreign pol-
9 icy of the United States by strengthening and im-
10 proving the Foreign Service of the United States.

11 (8) Since its inception, the Foreign Service of
12 the United States has included members of United
13 States departments and agencies such as the De-
14 partment of Agriculture, the Department of Com-
15 merce, the United States Agency for International
16 Development, and the United States Information
17 Agency. Embassies and consulates house and sup-
18 port personnel of the Department of Homeland Se-
19 curity (Immigration and Customs Enforcement and
20 Customs and Border Protection), the Federal Avia-
21 tion Administration, the American Battle Monu-
22 ments Commission, the Central Intelligence Agency,
23 and the Drug Enforcement Administration along
24 with the attachés of the Department of Defense and
25 the Armed Forces.

1 (9) Since the creation of the Foreign Service of
2 the United States, generations of Foreign Service
3 members and families have represented the United
4 States around the world, in peace and war. Over 320
5 names are inscribed in the memorial plaques erected
6 by the American Foreign Service Association and lo-
7 cated in the lobby of the Harry S. Truman Building,
8 the headquarters of the Department of State, to
9 honor “diplomatic and consular officers of the
10 United States who while on active duty lost their
11 lives under heroic or tragic circumstances”.

12 (10) Since its establishment in 1775, 250 years
13 ago, the United States Marine Corps has supported
14 United States diplomacy by protecting United States
15 embassies. For decades Marines were dispatched
16 from ships, fleets, and squadrons when it was nec-
17 essary to protect embassies and consulates in times
18 of crisis, and since 1949, Marine Security Guard de-
19 tachments at embassies have protected personnel,
20 property, and classified information.

21 (11) The Association for Diplomatic Studies
22 and Training is dedicated to capturing, preserving,
23 and sharing the experiences of United States dip-
24 lomats. The Association has created, managed, and
25 maintained a Foreign Affairs Oral History program

1 consisting of more than 2,600 first-person oral his-
2 tories of United States diplomats to capture and
3 share the legacy and contributions of modern United
4 States diplomacy. The Association is a nongovern-
5 mental, member-based, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organi-
6 zation housed on the campus of the George P.
7 Shultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center
8 and dependent on funds from members, donations,
9 contracts, and grants to sustain its work.

10 (12) In 2024, the Foreign Service of the United
11 States celebrated the 100th anniversary of its cre-
12 ation.

13 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

14 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—In celebration of diplomacy
15 and the Foreign Service of the United States, the Sec-
16 retary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to
17 as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following
18 coins:

19 (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5
20 coins, which shall—

21 (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

22 (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

23 (C) contain not less than 90 percent gold.

24 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000
25 \$1 coins, which shall—

1 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

3 (C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.

4 (3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more
5 than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

6 (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

7 (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

8 (C) be minted to the specifications for half-
9 dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title
10 31, United States Code.

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

14 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
15 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins
16 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-
17 matic items.

18 **SEC. 4. DESIGNS OF COINS.**

19 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The designs of the coins
21 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the im-
22 portance of diplomacy to the national interest of the
23 United States and of the creation of the Foreign
24 Service of the United States and its contributions to
25 modern diplomacy in the United States.

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

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

4 (B) an inscription of the year “2029”; and

5 (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,
6 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-
7 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

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

10 (1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation
11 with the Association for Diplomatic Studies and
12 Training and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

13 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory
14 Committee.

15 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

18 (b) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
19 issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year
20 period beginning on January 1, 2029.

21 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

25 (1) the face value of the coins;

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

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

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

9 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

16 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this
18 Act shall include a surcharge of—

19 (1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coins;

20 (2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coins; and

21 (3) \$5 for the half dollar coins.

22 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of
23 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by
24 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act
25 shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Association

1 for Diplomatic Studies and Training to support the collec-
 2 tion, curation, and sharing of diplomatic history in the
 3 United States via oral history, books, social media, and
 4 other means.

5 (c) AUDITS.—The Association for Diplomatic Studies
 6 and Training shall be subject to the audit requirements
 7 of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with
 8 regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

9 (d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),
 10 no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance
 11 under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as
 12 of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin
 13 would result in the number of commemorative coin pro-
 14 grams issued during such year to exceed the annual 2
 15 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under
 16 section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in
 17 effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Sec-
 18 retary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

19 **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

20 The Secretary shall take such actions as may be nec-
 21 essary to ensure that—

22 (1) minting and issuing coins under this Act
 23 will not result in any net cost to the United States
 24 Government; and

1 (2) no funds, including applicable surcharges,
2 are disbursed to the recipient designated in section
3 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of
4 the coins authorized by this Act (including labor,
5 materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses,
6 marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United
7 States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m)
8 and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

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