

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration  
of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mr. KELLY, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) intro-  
duced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Com-  
mittee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins  
in commemoration of the invaluable service that working  
dogs provide to society.

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 “Working Dog Com-  
5 memorative Coin Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Dogs going back thousands of years have  
2           been tied to humans whether for protection, compan-  
3           ionship, or assisting in daily activities.

4           (2) The United States had an unofficial canine  
5           military presence assisting soldiers in the Civil War  
6           and World War I, but military K-9s did not become  
7           officially recognized until March 13, 1942. During  
8           the height of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the  
9           United States military employed approximately  
10          2,500 K-9s.

11          (3) Military K-9s have seen service in every  
12          major United States combat since World War I and  
13          have been praised by military leadership as an indis-  
14          pensable asset for military, police, government, and  
15          private security teams around the world.

16          (4) In 2000, section 2583 of title 10, United  
17          States Code (commonly known as “Robby’s Law”),  
18          was enacted, which allowed for the adoption of mili-  
19          tary K-9s by law enforcement agencies, former han-  
20          dlers, and other care groups.

21          (5) Since 2000, military K-9s have left service  
22          and gone onto work explosive detection for police  
23          forces and work as service dogs for veterans and  
24          families.

1           (6) Beyond their military working capacity,  
2           working dogs provide enhanced mobility assistance  
3           and renewed independence for the injured and dis-  
4           abled. Service dogs are able to support veterans  
5           struggling after war, hear for those who are deaf,  
6           see for those who are blind, and even sense changes  
7           in a person's body before a seizure. Working dogs  
8           play a vital role in improving the lives of many.

9           (7) The service dog programs of America's  
10          VetDogs were created to provide enhanced mobility  
11          and renewed independence to United States vet-  
12          erans, active-duty service members, and first re-  
13          sponders with disabilities.

14          (8) America's VetDogs provides—

15                (A) guide dogs for individuals who are  
16                blind or have low vision;

17                (B) hearing dogs for those who have lost  
18                their hearing later in life by alerting to alarms,  
19                door bells, sirens, and more;

20                (C) service dogs for those with other phys-  
21                ical disabilities that are specially trained to pro-  
22                vide balance, retrieve dropped items, open and  
23                close doors, turn on and off lights, carry a  
24                backpack, and more;

1 (D) facility dogs that are specially trained  
2 to spend time working with wounded veterans  
3 recovering at military hospitals and veterans  
4 medical centers;

5 (E) dogs that work with physical and occu-  
6 pational therapists as they treat soldiers and  
7 become an essential part of the healing process;  
8 and

9 (F) posttraumatic stress disorder service  
10 dogs that are trained to help mitigate the symp-  
11 toms of posttraumatic stress disorder by pro-  
12 viding the emotional and physical support a vet-  
13 eran may need.

14 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

15 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—In commemoration of the in-  
16 valuable service that working dogs provide to society, the  
17 Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter referred to in this  
18 Act as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following  
19 coins:

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

22 (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

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

24 (C) contain 90 percent gold.

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

3           (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

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

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

8           (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

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

10          (C) be minted to the specifications for half-  
11       dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title  
12       31, United States Code.

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

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

20       **SEC. 4. DESIGNS OF COINS.**

21       (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

22           (1) IN GENERAL.—The designs of the coins  
23       minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the  
24       vast contributions that working dogs serve in society  
25       to include the range of services that the dogs provide

1 in detection, military service, therapy, and assist-  
2 ance.

3 (2) DESIGNATIONS 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 “2025”; and

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

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

12 (1) selected by the Secretary, after consultation  
13 with America’s VetDogs and the Commission of  
14 Fine Arts; and

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

17 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

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

23 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may  
24 issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year  
25 period beginning on January 1, 2025.

1   **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

5                   (1) the face value of the coins;

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

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

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

14          (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

21   **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

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

24                   (1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coins;

25                   (2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coins; and

26                   (3) \$5 per coin for the half-dollar coins.

1 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of  
2 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by  
3 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act  
4 shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to America's  
5 VetDogs for general expenses associated with the fulfill-  
6 ment of the mission of America's VetDogs, including for  
7 costs associated with—

8 (1) personnel related to training, dog care, and  
9 consumer needs;

10 (2) consultants to facilitate the training of  
11 America's VetDogs certified service dog instructors;  
12 and

13 (3) travel, room, and board for clients served by  
14 America's VetDogs.

15 (c) AUDITS.—America's VetDogs shall be subject to  
16 the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31,  
17 United States Code, with regard to the amounts received  
18 under subsection (b).

19 (d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),  
20 no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance  
21 under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as  
22 of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin  
23 would result in the number of commemorative coin pro-  
24 grams issued during such year to exceed the annual 2  
25 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under



1 section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in  
2 effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Sec-  
3 retary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

4 **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

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

7 (1) minting and issuing coins under this Act  
8 will not result in any net cost to the United States  
9 Government; and

10 (2) no funds, including applicable surcharges,  
11 are disbursed to any recipient designated in section  
12 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of  
13 the coins authorized by this Act (including labor,  
14 materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses,  
15 marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United  
16 States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m)  
17 and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.