

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6751

AN ACT

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the life and legacy of Roberto Clemente.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Roberto Clemente
3 Commemorative Coin Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 The Congress finds the following:

6 (1) Roberto Clemente Walker was born on Au-
7 gust 18, 1934, to Don Melchor Clemente and Luisa
8 Walker in Barrio San Antón, Carolina, Puerto Rico,
9 as the youngest of 7 children.

10 (2) Clemente excelled in athletics as a young-
11 ster and, at the age of 17, was playing for the
12 Santurce Cangrejeros “Crabbers” of the Puerto
13 Rican Baseball League.

14 (3) In 1954, the Pittsburgh Pirates selected
15 Clemente in the first round of the Major League
16 Baseball Rule 5 draft.

17 (4) Pirates center fielder Earl Smith wore jer-
18 sey number 21 until he parted ways with the team
19 in April 1955, and Clemente wore number 13 until
20 then.

21 (5) In 1955, Clemente made his Major League
22 debut as he went on to play for the Pittsburgh Pi-
23 rates, starting as a right fielder.

24 (6) When the team traveled to Richmond, Vir-
25 ginia, for games or Florida for spring training,
26 Clemente encountered Jim Crow laws for the first

1 time when the Black players had to stay at a sepa-
2 rate, inferior hotel and were refused the option to
3 dine with their White counterparts.

4 (7) Clemente was known for being a proud
5 Afro-Latino and protested the discrimination that
6 Latin and Black ball players encountered.

7 (8) Clemente was known for defending the
8 rights of Black and Brown people, both on the field
9 and in the streets.

10 (9) After the assassination of Martin Luther
11 King, Jr., in 1968, Clemente and his teammates re-
12 fused to play until after the funerals and even wrote
13 a public statement showing their respect for Dr.
14 King.

15 (10) Clemente became a union leader in the in-
16 cipient Major League Baseball Players Association
17 and defended players' rights to demand better work-
18 ing conditions and benefits.

19 (11) In every city where the Pirates played,
20 Clemente visited sick children in hospitals.

21 (12) Clemente established training clinics, pro-
22 viding baseball lessons and fun for boys and girls in
23 Pittsburgh, his home island of Puerto Rico, and
24 throughout Latin America.

1 (13) In 1958, Clemente enlisted in the United
2 States Marine Corps Reserve after the 1958 season
3 and spent 6 months on active duty at Parris Island,
4 South Carolina, and Camp LeJeune, North Caro-
5 lina.

6 (14) Clemente served until 1964 and was in-
7 ducted into the Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame
8 in 2003.

9 (15) By the end of his career, Clemente had
10 joined the exclusive 3,000-hit club, was selected to
11 15 All-Star teams, and won 12 Gold Gloves, 2 World
12 Series, and a National League MVP award.

13 (16) In Clemente's 18 seasons with Pittsburgh
14 he won 4 batting titles, hit 240 home runs, and
15 posted a lifetime .317 batting average.

16 (17) In late 1972, a 6.3 magnitude earthquake
17 ravaged Managua, Nicaragua, and killed 5,000 peo-
18 ple.

19 (18) In his philanthropic spirit, Clemente sent
20 shipments of humanitarian aid to the country.

21 (19) After learning that 3 previous shipments
22 had been diverted by corrupt Somoza Government
23 officials, Clemente decided to accompany one of the
24 aid shipments.

1 (20) The four-engine DC-7 plane Clemente
2 chartered for a flight on New Year’s Eve crashed in
3 the Atlantic Ocean immediately after takeoff from
4 the coast of Isla Verde, Puerto Rico.

5 (21) On December 31, 1972, Clemente died in
6 the plane crash at the age of 38 years young.

7 (22) Since 1973, Major League Baseball gives
8 out the Roberto Clemente Award to one player in
9 the league who “best exemplifies the game of base-
10 ball, sportsmanship, community involvement and the
11 individual’s contribution to his team”.

12 (23) In 2002, Major League Baseball declared
13 the first annual Roberto Clemente Day.

14 (24) In 2021, Major League Baseball an-
15 nounced September 15 would be the permanent date
16 of Roberto Clemente Day to coincide with the begin-
17 ning of Hispanic Heritage month.

18 (25) Clemente was the first Latino player to ac-
19 complish many feats in Major League Baseball.

20 (26) Clemente was the first Puerto Rican, and
21 first person of Latino heritage, to win a World Se-
22 ries as a starter, be named league MVP, be named
23 World Series MVP, and be elected to the Hall of
24 Fame.

1 (27) Clemente was posthumously elected to the
2 National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1973, being the
3 first National League baseball player to receive the
4 mandatory 5-year waiting period waiver.

5 (28) Clemente was a legend in life and death,
6 a baseball star, a humanitarian activist, and a sym-
7 bol of Latin American pride;

8 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

9 (a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treas-
10 ury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”)
11 shall mint and issue the following coin:

12 (1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5
13 coins, which shall—

14 (A) weigh 8.359 grams;

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

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

17 (2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000
18 \$1 coins, which shall—

19 (A) weigh 26.73 grams;

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

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

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

24 (A) weigh 11.34 grams;

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

1 (C) be minted to the specifications for half-
2 dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title
3 31, United States Code.

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

7 (c) **NUMISMATIC ITEMS.**—For purposes of sections
8 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins
9 minted under this Act shall be considered to be numis-
10 matic items.

11 **SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.**

12 (a) **DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.**—

13 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The designs of the coins
14 minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the life
15 of Roberto Clemente including his human rights ac-
16 tivism and baseball stardom legacy. At least one ob-
17 verse design shall bear the image of Roberto
18 Clemente.

19 (2) **DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.**—On
20 each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

21 (A) an inscription of Roberto Clemente;

22 (B) a designation of the denomination of
23 the coin;

24 (C) an inscription of the year “2027”; and

1 (D) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,
2 “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-
3 ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

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

6 (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation
7 with the Roberto Clemente Foundation, Roberto
8 Clemente’s living family members, and the Commis-
9 sion of the Fine Arts; and

10 (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory
11 Committee.

12 **SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

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

15 (b) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may
16 issue coins under this Act only during the calendar year
17 beginning on January 1, 2027.

18 **SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.**

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

22 (1) the face value of the coins;

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

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

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

7 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

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

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

14 **SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.**

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

17 (1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin;

18 (2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and

19 (3) \$5 per coin for the half-dollar coin.

20 (b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of
21 title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by
22 the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act
23 shall be paid to the Roberto Clemente Foundation for ap-
24 plication to general expenses associated with the fulfill-
25 ment of the mission of the Roberto Clemente Foundation

1 including for costs associated with educational, youth
2 sports, and disaster relief historic preservation—

3 (c) AUDITS.—The Roberto Clemente Foundation,
4 shall be subject to the audit requirements of section
5 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard
6 to the amounts received under subsection (b).

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

17 **SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

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

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

23 (2) no funds, including applicable surcharges,
24 shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in sec-
25 tion 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing

1 all of the coins authorized by this Act (including
2 labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead ex-
3 penses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the
4 United States Treasury, consistent with sections
5 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States
6 Code.

Passed the House of Representatives December 4,
2024.

Attest:

Clerk.

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