H. R. ______

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the health care professionals, first responders, scientists, researchers, all essential workers, and individuals who provided care and services during the coronavirus pandemic

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BERGMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the health care professionals, first responders, scientists, researchers, all essential workers, and individuals who provided care and services during the coronavirus pandemic

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Coronavirus Frontline Responders Commemorative Coin Act”.
SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Health care professionals working with patients in person and via telehealth made incredible sacrifices, including to their own personal wellbeing, to save lives during the coronavirus pandemic.

(2) First responders and law enforcement upheld their responsibilities at great personal risk to keep our national and local communities safe and slow the spread of the coronavirus.

(3) Scientists and researchers, including at our nation’s research universities, worked tirelessly and in innovative ways to understand, prevent, and treat the coronavirus.

(4) Individuals and families bravely took on new burdens to care for loved ones impacted by the coronavirus.

(5) The dedication of countless workers in essential professions made possible the nationwide effort to combat the coronavirus pandemic.

(6) In the face of an unprecedented public health crisis, the citizens of the United States of America came together and supported the dedicated health care professionals and others on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic.
(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to honor and commemorate the work of the coronavirus pandemic front-line responders.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coins:

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

(A) weigh 8.359 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

(C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

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

(A) weigh 26.73 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(C) contain at least 90 percent silver.

(3) HALF DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 300,000 half dollar coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 11.34 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

(C) be minted to the specifications for half dollar coins, contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.
(b) Legal Tender.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) Numismatic Items.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(d) Mintage Limit Exception.—If the Secretary determines, based on independent market-based research conducted by the designated recipient organization identified in section 7(b), that the mintage levels described in subsections (a), (b), and (c) are not adequate to meet public demand, the Secretary may increase the mintage levels as the Secretary determines is necessary to meet public demand.


(a) Design Requirements.—

(1) In general.—The designs of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the sacrifices made by health care workers and first responders during the coronavirus pandemic.

(2) Designations and Inscriptions.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

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

(B) an inscription of the year “2022”; and
(C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

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

(1) honor the sacrifices made by health care professionals, first responders, scientists, and researchers during the coronavirus pandemic;

(2) be selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(3) be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

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

(b) MINT FACILITIES.—Only one facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year period beginning on January 1, 2022.
SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) Sale Price.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coins;

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

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

(b) Bulk Sales.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) Prepaid Orders.—

(1) In General.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) Discount.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) In General.—All sales of coins minted under this Act shall include a surcharge as follows:

(1) A surcharge of $35 per coin for the $5 coin.

(2) A surcharge of $10 per coin for the $1 coin.
(3) A surcharge of $5 per coin for the half dollar coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the CDC Foundation to support the health care response to infectious diseases and pandemics.

(e) AUDITS.—The CDC Foundation shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code. The Secretary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—
(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

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

SEC. 9. MARKETING AND EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN.

The Secretary is encouraged to develop and execute a marketing and educational program, including appropriate cooperative marketing opportunities, to promote and sell the coins authorized in section 3.