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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend title 36, United States Code, to designate “National Rosie the Riveter Day” and request the President to issue an annual proclamation.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GARAMENDI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend title 36, United States Code, to designate “National Rosie the Riveter Day” and request the President to issue an annual proclamation.

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 “National Rosie the Riv-  
5 eter Day Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) National Rosie the Riveter Day is a collec-  
2           tive national effort to raise awareness of the more  
3           than 6,000,000 American women who joined the  
4           workforce during World War II.

5           (2) Americans have chosen to honor women  
6           workers who contributed to the Home Front during  
7           World War II, including through the award of a  
8           Congressional Gold Medal.

9           (3) These women left their homes to work or  
10          volunteer full-time in factories, farms, shipyards, air-  
11          plane factories, banks, and other institutions in sup-  
12          port of the war effort.

13          (4) These women worked with the United Serv-  
14          ice Organizations and the American Red Cross,  
15          drove trucks, riveted airplane parts, collected critical  
16          materials, rolled bandages, and served on rationing  
17          boards.

18          (5) These women in the workforce persevered  
19          often in the face of harassment, discrimination, and  
20          prejudice to support their country and families in a  
21          time of great need.

22          (6) Women of color overcame long-held policies  
23          of discrimination and racial segregation to make  
24          significant contributions to the war effort and  
            workforce.

1           (7) Our “Rosie the Riveters,” the American  
2 women who worked and sacrificed during World War  
3 II, are a testament to women’s empowerment and  
4 invaluable contribution to the war effort, inspiring  
5 future generations of women and girls.

6           (8) It is fitting and proper to recognize and  
7 preserve the history and legacy of working women,  
8 including volunteer women, during World War II to  
9 promote cooperation and fellowship among such  
10 women and their descendants.

11           (9) These women and their descendants wish to  
12 further the advancement of patriotic ideas, excel-  
13 lence in the workplace, and loyalty to the United  
14 States of America.

15           (10) March 21, during Women’s History  
16 Month, would be an appropriate date to designate as  
17 “National Rosie the Riveter Day”.

18 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION.**

19           (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of Title 36, United  
20 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
21 lowing new section:

22 **“SEC. 149. NATIONAL ROSIE THE RIVETER DAY.**

23           “(a) DESIGNATION.—March 21 is National Rosie the  
24 Riveter Day.

1           “(b) PROCLAMATION.—The President is requested to  
2 issue each year a proclamation—

3                   “(1) calling on the people of the United States  
4 to observe National Rosie the Riveter Day with ap-  
5 propriate ceremonies and activities; and

6                   “(2) urging civil and educational authorities of  
7 States, territorial, tribal, and local governments to  
8 observe National Rosie the Riveter Day through ap-  
9 propriate programs and activities.”.

10          (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
11 tions for chapter 1 of title 36, United States Code, is  
12 amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“149. National Rosie the Riveter Day.”.



To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the women who contributed to the Home Front during World War II, and for other purposes.

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the women who contributed to the Home Front during World War II.

*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 “Rosie the Riveter Commemorative Coin Act”.

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

- (1) During World War II, more than six million American women entered the workforce to fill the vacancies left by men who had joined the armed forces and support the Home Front. Millions of women already working outside the home shifted to employment in critical industries to support the war effort.
- (2) Women went to work or volunteer full-time in factories, farms, shipyards, banks, and other institutions in support of the U.S. military overseas. They worked with the United Service Organizations and the American Red Cross, drove street cars, riveted airplane parts, collected critical materials, rolled bandages, and served on rationing boards.
- (3) This women workforce met not only the ever-growing demands for war materials, including equipment, weaponry, ammunition, and military rations, but also the demand for support services in schools, hospitals, and offices.
- (4) Collectively, the American women who held employment or volunteered in support of the war effort during World War II have been represented by the iconic image of “Rosie the Riveter.”
- (5) As riveters, welders, and other laborers, a diverse women workforce played an integral part in shipyards, aircraft factories, and other areas of the defense industrial base.
- (6) Women in the workforce faced the “double burden” of responsibilities on the job and at home as the primary caregivers and wage earners during World War II.
- (7) “Rosies” persevered often in the face of harassment, discrimination, and prejudice to support their country and families in a time of great need. Despite equal pay regulations, women were regularly paid 10 to 15 cents an hour lower than their male counterparts even during wartime.

- (8) Black, Latina, Indigenous, Asian American, and Pacific Islander “Rosies” were subjected to racist discrimination, violence, and harassment at work, at home, and in public. Women of color overcame long-held policies of discrimination and racial segregation to make significant contributions to the war effort and labor market.
- (9) Our “Rosies” are a testament to women’s empowerment and the invaluable contribution of women to the American war effort during World War II, inspiring future generations of women and girls.
- (10) Americans have chosen to honor the women who contributed to the Home Front during World War II, including through the award of a Congressional Gold Medal and the annual celebration of National Rosie the Riveter Day on March 21.
- (11) The work, sacrifice, and dedication of our “Rosies” are worthy of national reflection and commemoration.
- (12) It is fitting and proper to recognize and preserve the history and legacy of American women who contributed to the Home Front during World War II for their patriotic commitment to their country and perseverance in the face of adversity.

### **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—In recognition and celebration of the American women who contributed to the Home Front during World War II, 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 not less than 90 percent gold.

(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 not less than 90 percent silver.

(3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 750,000 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) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that, to the extent possible without significantly adding to the purchase price of the coins, the coins minted under this Act should be produced in a fashion that provides a more dramatic display of the obverse design.

#### **SEC. 4. DESIGNS OF COINS.**

(a) **DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The designs of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the legacy of the diverse women workforce who contributed to the Home Front during World War II.

(2) **DESIGNATION 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 “2025”; and

(C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(b) **SELECTION.**—The designs of the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Rosie the Riveter Trust and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

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

## **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:

(1) A surcharge of \$35 per coin for the \$5 coins;

(2) A surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 coins; and

(3) A surcharge of \$5 per coin for the half-dollar coins.

(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 Rosie the Riveter Trust to support the National Park Service in maintaining and repairing the Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park, and for educational and commemorative programs.

(c) **AUDITS.**—The Rosie the Riveter Trust 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 (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury 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, winning design compensation, 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.

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, D.C. 20510**

March 21, 2024

Dr. Joseph L. Kelley, Chair  
Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee  
United States Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Room 3300  
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Chair Kelley and Members of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee:

We write you today to respectfully request the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee provide a recommendation to the United States Postmaster General to issue a commemorative stamp or series of stamps, honoring the legacy of all women of many races who contributed to the Home Front during World War II.

During World War II, more than six million women entered the workforce to fill the vacancies left by men who had joined the armed forces and support the American Home Front. Millions of women already working outside the home shifted to employment in critical industries to support the war effort. This women workforce met not only the ever-growing demands for war materials, including equipment, weaponry, ammunition, and military rations, but also the demand for support services in schools, hospitals, and offices.

Collectively, the American women who held employment or volunteered in support of the war effort during World War II have been represented by the iconic image of "Rosie the Riveter," with her red bandana, blue coveralls, and flexed bicep. However, the traditional image of "Rosie the Riveter" captures only a portion of the women who contributed to the Home Front during World War II.

Black, Indigenous, and "Rosies" of color were critical to wartime production. One in four Indigenous women worked in factories and defense production lines.<sup>1</sup> More than 600,000 Black "Rosies" entered paid service in the defense industry.<sup>2</sup> Thousands of Latina "Rosies" worked on railroads and farms as well as in mines, shipyards, and airplane factories.<sup>3</sup> Asian American women, previously barred from employment in the defense industry, entered the workforce, especially on the West Coast.<sup>4</sup> As riveters, welders, and other laborers, a diverse women

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<sup>1</sup> "Native Women and World War II," National Museum of the American Indian, accessed February 18, 2024, <https://americanindian.si.edu/static/why-we-serve/topics/native-women-and-world-war-2/>.

<sup>2</sup> Aaron Randle, "'Black Rosies': The Forgotten African American Heroines of the WWII Homefront," HISTORY, March 11, 2024, <https://www.history.com/news/black-rosie-the-riveters-wwii-homefront-great-migration>.

<sup>3</sup> "Los Veteranos—Latinos in WWI," National WWII Museum, July 1, 2017, <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/sites/default/files/2017-07/los-veteranos-fact-sheet.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> Lakshmi Gandhi, "The Asian American Women Who Fought to Make Their Mark in WWII," HISTORY, last modified June 6, 2023, <https://www.history.com/news/asian-american-women-wwii-contributions>.

workforce played an integral part in shipyards, aircraft factories, and other areas of the defense industry.

Moreover, “Rosies” endured significant gender discrimination and sexual harassment from their coworkers and employers. Despite equal pay regulations, women were regularly paid 10 to 15 cents an hour lower than their male counterparts.<sup>5</sup> Women in the workforce faced the “double burden” of responsibilities on the job and at home as the primary caregiver and wage earner. Black, Latina, Indigenous, and Asian American “Rosies” were subjected to racist discrimination, violence, and harassment at work, at home, and in public.

On April 10, 2024, Congress will award the Congressional Gold Medal to Rosie the Riveter in honor of every woman who supported America’s war efforts during World War II. The Commission of Fine Arts’ recommended design for the Medal emphasizes the diversity of women and professions in the wartime workforce, pairing the depiction of five “Rosies” with the phrase “Honoring All Women of Many Races Who Came Together to Carry Our Nation During WWII” on the obverse with the iconic image of Rosie the Riveter on the reverse.<sup>6</sup>

The United States Postal Service has featured the iconic image of “Rosie the Riveter” on two commemorative stamps in honor of women’s contributions to the Home Front during World War II, issued in 1992 and 1999.<sup>7</sup> We find it fitting to honor all women of many races who contributed to the Home Front during World War II on a stamp or series of stamps that depict “Rosies” of many races and professions. We strongly believe that the work, sacrifice, and dedication of all “Rosies” are worthy of this significant commemoration.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



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John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

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<sup>5</sup> Randle.

<sup>6</sup> Secretary Thomas E. Luebke, “Congressional Gold Medal to honor ‘Rosie the Riveter,’” U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, (CFA 15/SEP/22-6, Washington, D.C., 2022), <https://www.cfa.gov/records-research/project-search/cfa-15-sep-22-6>.

<sup>7</sup> “Women on Stamps,” United States Postal Service, 2003, <https://about.usps.com/publications/pub512.pdf>.



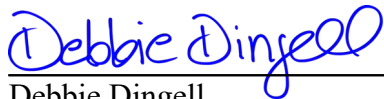
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Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



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Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



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Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress

Enclosures: USPS commemorative stamps in honor of women's contributions to the Home Front during World War II, issued in 1992 and 1999; Commission of Fine Arts' recommended design for the Rosie the Riveter Congressional Gold Medal