

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 892

To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the women in the United States who joined the workforce during World War II, providing the aircraft, vehicles, weaponry, ammunition, and other materials to win the war, that were referred to as “Rosie the Riveter”, in recognition of their contributions to the United States and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 27, 2019

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the women in the United States who joined the workforce during World War II, providing the aircraft, vehicles, weaponry, ammunition, and other materials to win the war, that were referred to as “Rosie the Riveter”, in recognition of their contributions to the United States and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.

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 “Rosie the Riveter Con-
3 gressional Gold Medal Act of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) Over 70 years ago there was a call to ac-
7 tion, a demand for workers to fill the vacancies left
8 by the men who went to fight in the war.

9 (2) More than 6,000,000 women answered the
10 call then, entering the workforce during World War
11 II and providing the equipment, weaponry, and am-
12 munition to achieve final victory and end the war.

13 (3) These women left their homes to work or
14 volunteer full-time in factories, farms, shipyards, air-
15 plane factories, banks, and other institutions in sup-
16 port of the military overseas.

17 (4) They worked with the United Service Orga-
18 nizations and the American Red Cross, drove trucks,
19 riveted airplane parts, collected critical materials,
20 rolled bandages, and served on rationing boards.

21 (5) Our “Rosie the Riveter”, the women who
22 worked and sacrificed to strengthen this country
23 during World War II, are among the greatest living
24 heroines in the United States.

25 (6) These women persevered, despite often fac-
26 ing harassment from their male colleagues and dis-

1 approval from their male family members, and all
2 the while continued to maintain their “other jobs”
3 as caretakers of children and their households.

4 (7) Minority women also overcame long-held
5 policies of discrimination and made significant con-
6 tributions to the war effort.

7 (8) Because of the “Rosies”, Federal, State,
8 and local agencies coordinated with business owners
9 to develop child care programs and other supports
10 for working mothers.

11 (9) The example that these women set during
12 World War II continues to inspire us and blaze a
13 path for the working women of today.

14 (10) Specifically, the images of “Rosie the Riv-
15 eter” and the phrase “We Can Do It” continue to
16 symbolize the empowerment of women today, rep-
17 resenting patriotic women who want to serve and
18 strengthen their country and to inspire young girls
19 to become “21st Century Rosies” by aspiring to and
20 attaining positions of leadership in all walks of life
21 in the United States.

22 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

23 (a) ROSIE THE RIVETER.—The term “Rosie the Riv-
24 eter” includes any female individual who held employment

1 or volunteered in support of the war efforts during World
2 War II.

3 (b) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the
4 Secretary of the Treasury.

5 **SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

6 (a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The President pro tem-
7 pore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Rep-
8 resentatives shall make appropriate arrangements for the
9 award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of
10 appropriate design to Rosie the Riveter, collectively, in
11 recognition of their contributions to the United States and
12 the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.

13 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
14 award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary shall
15 strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and
16 inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

17 (c) NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the
19 gold medal in honor of Rosie the Riveter, the gold
20 medal shall be given to the National Museum of
21 American History of the Smithsonian Institution,
22 where it will be available for display as appropriate
23 and made available for research.

24 (2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
25 Congress that the National Museum of American

1 History should make the gold medal received under
2 paragraph (1) available for display elsewhere, par-
3 ticularly at other appropriate locations associated
4 with Rosie the Riveter.

5 **SEC. 5. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Under such regulations as the
7 Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell
8 duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under sec-
9 tion 4, at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the med-
10 als, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and
11 overhead expenses.

12 (b) PROCEEDS.—Amounts received from the sale of
13 the duplicates under subsection (a) shall be deposited in
14 the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund estab-
15 lished under section 5136 of title 31, United States Code.

16 **SEC. 6. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

17 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—Medals struck under this
18 Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title
19 31, United States Code.

20 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section
21 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck
22 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

○