

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee established under section 5135 of title 31, United States Code.

#### SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

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

(b) **COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January 1, 2007, except that the Secretary may initiate sales of such coins, without issuance, before such date.

(c) **TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.**—No coins shall be minted under this Act after December 31, 2007.

#### SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) **SALE PRICE.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of the face value of the coins, the surcharge required under section 7(a) for the coins, and the cost of designing and issuing such coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, and marketing).

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

(c) **PREPAID ORDERS AT A DISCOUNT.**—

(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) **SURCHARGE REQUIRED.**—All sales shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(b) **DISTRIBUTION.**—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, and subsection (d), all surcharges which are received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Secretary of the Interior for the protection, preservation, and interpretation of resources and stories associated with Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, including the following:

(1) Site improvements at Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site.

(2) Development of interpretive and education programs and historic preservation projects.

(3) Establishment of cooperative agreements to preserve or restore the historic character of the Park Street and Daisy L. Gatson Bates Drive corridors adjacent to the site.

(c) **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.

(d) **CREDITABLE FUNDS.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of the law and recognizing the unique partnership nature of the Department of Interior and the Little Rock School District at the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site and the significant contributions made by the Little Rock School District to preserve and maintain the historic character of the high school, any non-Federal funds expended by the school district (regardless of the source of the funds) for improvements at the Little Rock Central High School National Historic

Site, to the extent such funds were used for the purposes described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (b), shall be deemed to meet the requirement of funds from private sources of section 5134(f)(1)(A)(ii) of title 31, United States Code, with respect to the Secretary of the Interior.

**SA 2676.** Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SUNUNU) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1047, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of each of the Nation's past Presidents and their spouses, respectively, to improve circulation of the \$1 coin, to create a new bullion coin, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 6, strike lines 6 through 11, and insert the following:

“(B) CONTINUITY PROVISIONS.—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall continue to mint and issue \$1 coins which bear any design in effect before the issuance of coins as required under this subsection (including the so-called ‘Sacagawea-design’ \$1 coins).

“(ii) **CIRCULATION QUANTITY.**—Beginning January 1, 2007, and ending upon the termination of the program under paragraph (8), the Secretary annually shall mint and issue such ‘Sacagawea-design’ \$1 coins for circulation in quantities of no less than 1/3 of the total \$1 coins minted and issued under this subsection.”

On page 17, lines 6 and 7, strike “transportation and”.

On page 17, line 7, strike “and entities”.

On page 17, line 18, strike “1-year” and insert “2-year”.

On page 17, line 24, strike “prominently”.

On page 23, line 18, strike “\$20” and insert “\$50”.

On page 24, line 2, strike “\$20” and insert “\$50”.

On page 24, line 3, insert “and proof” after “bullion”.

On page 24, line 4, strike “not to exceed 500,000 in any year” and insert “in such quantities, as the Secretary, in the Secretary’s discretion, may prescribe”.

On page 25, line 23, strike “the face value of the coins; and” and insert “the market value of the bullion at the time of sale; and”.

On page 26, between lines 9 and 10, insert the following:

“(8) **PROTECTIVE COVERING.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Each bullion coin having a metallic content as described in subsection (a)(11) and a design specified in paragraph (2) shall be sold in an inexpensive covering that will protect the coin from damage due to ordinary handling or storage.

“(B) **DESIGN.**—The protective covering required under subparagraph (A) shall be readily distinguishable from any coin packaging that may be used to protect proof coins minted and issued under this subsection.”

#### AUTHORITIES FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Friday, November 18, 2005, at 10 a.m., on Future of Science.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Finance be authorized to meet in open Executive Session during the session on Friday, November 18, 2005, immediately following a vote on the Senate Floor (tentatively scheduled to occur at 9:30 a.m.), in the President's Room, S-216 of the Capitol, to consider favorably reporting S. 2027, the U.S.-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader is recognized.

#### MISPLACED PRIORITIES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as elected representatives of the American people, we have a responsibility to work with each other and to focus on their needs. This is an obligation that Democratic Senators have not taken lightly.

We have spent the last 11 months trying to make a difference for each American citizen. Democrats fought to protect Social Security when those in the majority, the Republicans, tried to destroy it through their risky privatization scheme. Democrats fought for a budget that honors America's values. When Republicans passed a terrible budget, leading religious leaders called it immoral. They called it immoral because of its deep cuts and irresponsible tax breaks. Why did they do that? One only needs to look at the Old Testament or the New Testament to find why.

In the 112th Psalm we are told that: He hath given to the poor; his righteousness will endure forever. In the New Testament, in the Book of Galatians, second chapter, 10th verse: Only that we should remember the poor. That is why leading religious leaders of this country have called the budget an immoral one.

We moved quickly to help Katrina's victims, when that storm exposed the Bush administration's incompetence. It became clear that Republicans were going to sit on their hands. Democrats tried to help families with energy prices, when prices spiked and congressional Republicans only seemed to care about their friends in the oil industry.

We stood for the troops, veterans, and a success story in Iraq, when it became clear that the White House was more interested in launching vicious attacks than providing the leadership America needs.

Democrats know that we are sent here to do a job on behalf of the American people. We understand that together we can do better. Unfortunately, in most all instances, those in the majority have shunned our efforts. Instead of joining us in helping every American, they have blocked our efforts and decided to focus on the narrow interests of a special few. In fact, if you want to see the misplaced priorities of the Republican Party, look no further than the agenda they set for the Senate.