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 material 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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 14, 2019

Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. DESAULNIER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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 material 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.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Rosie the Riveter Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

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

(2) More than 6 million women answered the call then, entering the workforce during World War II and providing the equipment, weaponry and ammunition to achieve final victory and end the war.

(3) These women left their homes to work or volunteer full-time in factories, farms, shipyards, airplane factories, banks, and other institutions in support of the military overseas.

(4) They worked with the United Service Organizations and the American Red Cross, drove trucks, riveted airplane parts, collected critical materials, rolled bandages, and served on rationing boards.

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

(6) These women persevered, despite often facing harassment from their male colleagues and dis-
approval from their male family members, and all
the while continued to maintain their “other jobs”
as caretakers of children and their households.

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

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

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

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

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

(a) Rosie the Riveter.—The term “Rosie the Riv-
eter” includes any female individual who held employment
or volunteered in support of the war efforts during World War II.

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

SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design in commemoration to Rosie the Riveter, collectively, in recognition of their contributions to the Nation and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal shall be given to the National Museum of American History of the Smithsonian Institution, where it shall be available for display as appropriate and made available for research.
(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the National Museum of American History shall make the gold medal received under paragraph (1) available for display elsewhere, particularly at other appropriate locations associated with Rosie the Riveter.

SEC. 5. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 4 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

SEC. 6. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

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