

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1773

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.

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 million 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 childcare programs and other supports for
10 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 and young girls of
14 today.

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

23 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

24 (a) ROSIE THE RIVETER.—The term “Rosie the Riv-
25 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 Speaker of the
7 House of Representatives and the President pro tempore
8 of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the
9 award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of
10 appropriate design in commemoration to Rosie the Riv-
11 eter, collectively, in recognition of their contributions to
12 the Nation and the inspiration they have provided to ensu-
13 ing generations.

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

19 (c) NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the
21 gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal
22 shall be given to the National Museum of American
23 History of the Smithsonian Institution, where it
24 shall be available for display as appropriate and
25 made available for research.

1 (2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
2 Congress that the National Museum of American
3 History shall make the gold medal received under
4 paragraph (1) available for display elsewhere, par-
5 ticularly at other appropriate locations associated
6 with Rosie the Riveter.

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

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

14 **SEC. 6. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

15 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursu-
16 ant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter
17 51 of title 31, United States Code.

18 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section
19 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck
20 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

○