

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1932

To authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to civil rights, higher education, the Catholic Church, the Nation, and the global community.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 1999

Mr. ROEMER (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. SOUDER, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. BLILEY, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. DANNER, Mr. DELAY, Mr. FROST, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HOLDEN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. QUINN, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. WALSH, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. KIND, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. WAMP, Mr. GORDON, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. HILL of Indiana, Mr. WYNN, Mr. MOORE, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TANNER, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. WU, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. LARSON, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. TURNER, Mr. SCOTT, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. HOYER, Mr. SISISKY, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. DOYLE, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. GILMAN, and Mr. MASCARA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services

A BILL

To authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf

of the Congress to Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to civil rights, higher education, the Catholic Church, the Nation, and the global community.

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 “Father Theodore M.
5 Hesburgh Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

8 (1) Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., has
9 made outstanding and enduring contributions to
10 American society through his activities in civil
11 rights, higher education, the Catholic Church, the
12 Nation, and the global community;

13 (2) Father Hesburgh was a charter member of
14 the United States Commission on Civil Rights from
15 its creation in 1957 and served as chairperson of the
16 Commission from 1969 to 1972;

17 (3) Father Hesburgh was president of the Uni-
18 versity of Notre Dame from 1952 until 1987, and
19 has been president emeritus since 1987;

20 (4) Father Hesburgh is a national and inter-
21 national leader in higher education;

1 (5) Father Hesburgh has been honored with the
2 Elizabeth Ann Seton Award from the National
3 Catholic Education Association and with more than
4 130 honorary degrees;

5 (6) Father Hesburgh served as co-chairperson
6 of the nationally influential Knight Commission on
7 Intercollegiate Athletics and as chairperson, from
8 1994 to 1996, of the Board of Overseers of Harvard
9 University;

10 (7) Father Hesburgh served under President
11 Ford as a member of the Presidential Clemency
12 Board, charged with deciding the fates of persons
13 committing offenses during the Vietnam conflict;

14 (8) Father Hesburgh served as chairman of the
15 board of the Overseas Development Council and in
16 that capacity led fundraising efforts that averted
17 mass starvation in Cambodia in 1979 and 1980;

18 (9) Father Hesburgh served from 1979 to 1981
19 as chairperson of the Select Commission on Immi-
20 gration and Refugee Policy, which made rec-
21 ommendations that served as the basis of congres-
22 sional reform legislation enacted 5 years later;

23 (10) Father Hesburgh served as ambassador to
24 the 1979 United Nations Conference on Science and
25 Technology for Development; and

1 (11) Father Hesburgh has served the Catholic
2 Church in a variety of capacities, including his serv-
3 ice from 1956 to 1970 as the permanent Vatican
4 representative to the International Atomic Energy
5 Agency in Vienna and his service as a member of
6 the Holy See's delegation to the United Nations.

7 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

8 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is
9 authorized to present, on behalf of the Congress, a gold
10 medal of appropriate design to Father Theodore M.
11 Hesburgh in recognition of his outstanding and enduring
12 contributions to civil rights, higher education, the Catholic
13 Church, the Nation, and the global community.

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

20 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

21 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
22 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3
23 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at
24 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,

1 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses,
2 and the cost of the gold medal.

3 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL MEDALS.**

4 The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national
5 medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United
6 States Code.

7 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; PROCEEDS**
8 **OF SALE.**

9 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
10 authorized to be charged against the Numismatic Public
11 Enterprise Fund an amount not to exceed \$30,000 to pay
12 for the cost of the medal authorized by this Act.

13 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the
14 sales of duplicate bronze medals under section 4 shall be
15 deposited in the Numismatic Public Enterprise Fund.

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