

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to people of the United States who were active in rescuing and aiding Jews and other refugees during the period of Nazi Germany's genocidal "Final Solution" policy to murder every Jew in Europe, in recognition of their contributions, which resulted in tens of thousands of Jews and others being spared from almost certain death.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SCHIFF introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to people of the United States who were active in rescuing and aiding Jews and other refugees during the period of Nazi Germany's genocidal "Final Solution" policy to murder every Jew in Europe, in recognition of their contributions, which resulted in tens of thousands of Jews and others being spared from almost certain death.

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 “American Rescuers
3 of the Holocaust Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2026”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) Between 1933 and 1945, United States res-
7 cue and relief organizations were responsible for sav-
8 ing many thousands of Jews and other refugees dur-
9 ing the Holocaust. United States groups sponsored,
10 financed, and organized numerous rescue and relief
11 efforts in Nazi-occupied and neutral Europe.

12 (2) These organizations operated in every coun-
13 try in Europe. There were hundreds of United
14 States citizens involved in this effort.

15 (3) The Jewish refugees and others who were
16 saved from almost certain death immigrated to the
17 United States, Israel, and other parts of the world.

18 (4) Refugee agencies worked in the face of op-
19 position to the resettling of Jewish refugees. In
20 1939, Congress rejected proposals to offer asylum to
21 20,000 Jewish children. In the same year, the
22 United States refused asylum to Jewish refugees
23 aboard the S.S. St. Louis, who were forced to return
24 to Europe, and 254 of whom died in the Holocaust.

1 (5) In addition, public opinion in the United
2 States was largely against aiding refugees, especially
3 through immigration.

4 (6) The rescue of Jews and other refugees was,
5 in some cases, extremely dangerous, especially when
6 conducted in Nazi-occupied territories or in collabo-
7 rator nations. A number of rescuers were arrested,
8 imprisoned, and some were killed.

9 (7) Many of these individuals and agencies
10 aided in the relief and resettlement of Jewish refu-
11 gees and others after the war.

12 (8) Among the most prominent was the War
13 Refugee Board, which was responsible for saving the
14 lives of 200,000 Jews and 20,000 non-Jews.

15 (9) A number of these organizations to be hon-
16 ored are still in existence and are continuing efforts
17 to help refugees throughout the world.

18 (10) The individuals being honored include any
19 person of the United States who participated in the
20 rescue or relief of Jews or other refugees who were
21 in danger as a result of the Nazi genocidal policy
22 against Jews and others in Europe, from 1933 to
23 1945.

1 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

2 (a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The President pro tem-
3 pore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Rep-
4 resentatives shall make appropriate arrangements for the
5 award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of
6 appropriate design in commemoration of the people of the
7 United States who were active in rescuing and aiding Jews
8 and other refugees during the period of Nazi Germany’s
9 genocidal “Final Solution” policy to murder every Jew in
10 Europe, in recognition of their contributions, which re-
11 sulted in tens of thousands of Jews and others being
12 spared from almost certain death.

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

18 (c) UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MU-
19 SEUM.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the
21 gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal
22 shall be given to the United States Holocaust Memo-
23 rial Museum, where it shall be available for display
24 and research in accordance with the Museum’s poli-
25 cies regarding materials in the Museum’s care.

1 (2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
2 Congress that the United States Holocaust Memo-
3 rial Museum should make the gold medal received
4 under paragraph (1) available for display elsewhere,
5 in accordance with the policies of the Museum re-
6 garding materials in the care of the Museum, at
7 other appropriate locations, including those associ-
8 ated with commemoration of the Holocaust and
9 other relevant entities, that may make such a re-
10 quest.

11 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

12 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
13 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3, at
14 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,
15 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

16 **SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

17 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursu-
18 ant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter
19 51 of title 31, United States Code.

20 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
21 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals
22 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
23 items.

1 **SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**
2 **SALE.**

3 (a) **AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.**—There is
4 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
5 Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be nec-
6 essary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant
7 to this Act.

8 (b) **PROCEEDS OF SALE.**—The amounts received
9 from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under
10 section 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint
11 Public Enterprise Fund.