

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Jens Stoltenberg, in recognition of his contributions to the security, unity, and defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. REED, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BENNET, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. COONS, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KAINE, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SMITH, Mr. KING, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. THUNE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. RICKETTS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Jens Stoltenberg, in recognition of his contributions to the security, unity, and defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

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 “Secretary General Jens
5 Stoltenberg Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Jens Stoltenberg served as the Prime Min-
4 ister of Norway from 2000 to 2001 and 2005 to
5 2013.

6 (2) Norway was a founding member of the
7 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in
8 this Act as “NATO”) on April 4, 1949.

9 (3) As Prime Minister of Norway, Jens
10 Stoltenberg oversaw Norway’s increased defense
11 spending levels and the modernization of the Nor-
12 wegian Armed Forces.

13 (4) A primary objective of NATO is to provide
14 security and support to member nations and pro-
15 mote democratic values to ensure stability and
16 peace.

17 (5) Jens Stoltenberg assumed the position of
18 Secretary General of NATO in October 2014.

19 (6) The United States was the first NATO
20 member to support Jens Stoltenberg’s appointment
21 as Secretary General.

22 (7) Jens Stoltenberg has led NATO through
23 significant new investments, reinforced its capabili-
24 ties and enhanced the collective defense of the Alli-
25 ance.

1 (8) Jens Stoltenberg has advocated for greater
2 burden sharing among members of the NATO Alli-
3 ance, and under his leadership the Alliance will see
4 23 member countries reach or exceed the 2 percent
5 defense spending commitment by 2024, compared to
6 4 member countries in 2014.

7 (9) Jens Stoltenberg's commitment to better
8 burden sharing has resulted in a stronger and more
9 sustainable Alliance than at any other time in
10 NATO history.

11 (10) Under Jens Stoltenberg's leadership,
12 NATO has successfully undergone multiple enlarge-
13 ment periods and has extended membership to Fin-
14 land, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Sweden.

15 (11) In addition to bolstering the collective se-
16 curity of the Alliance, NATO enlargement indicates
17 that an increasing number of countries are meeting
18 key benchmarks on the military, political and legal
19 requirements needed for NATO accession, enhancing
20 interoperability, defense expenditure and intelligence
21 sharing among member countries.

22 (12) Jens Stoltenberg has increased NATO's
23 partnerships with Indo-Pacific countries to cooperate
24 more closely to address our shared global challenges
25 including cyber defense, emergency technologies, and

1 the multitude of challenges posed by the People's
2 Republic of China.

3 (13) Jens Stoltenberg included Indo-Pacific
4 leaders at NATO summits and traveled to the region
5 which further cemented these important partner-
6 ships.

7 (14) Following Russia's full-scale invasion of
8 Ukraine in February 2022, Jens Stoltenberg has led
9 the Alliance in maintaining unprecedented unity
10 against Putin's unprovoked, illegal actions.

11 (15) Since February 2022, NATO members
12 have supplied Ukraine with the equipment and re-
13 sources it needs to defend its democracy and its sov-
14 ereignty.

15 (16) Jens Stoltenberg successfully marshaled
16 political and financial support from Indo-Pacific
17 partners to support Ukraine, including contributions
18 of munitions and military equipment and sizeable fi-
19 nancial contributions to NATO's Comprehensive As-
20 sistance Plan Action Trust Fund for Ukraine.

21 (17) Jens Stoltenberg's mandate was extended
22 a total of 4 times with unanimous support by NATO
23 allies, with 2 extensions agreed to following Russia's
24 unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

1 (18) Jens Stoltenberg is the second longest-
2 serving Secretary General, serving over 9 years in
3 this position.

4 (19) Jens Stoltenberg has re-committed that
5 the NATO Alliance will stand together against any
6 threat posed to a NATO member, ensuring contin-
7 ued peace and stability within NATO territory and
8 around the world.

9 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

10 (a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the
11 House of Representatives and the President pro tempore
12 of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the
13 award, on behalf of the Congress, of a single gold medal
14 of appropriate design to Jens Stoltenberg, in recognition
15 of his contributions to the security, unity, and defense of
16 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

17 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
18 award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the
19 Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall
20 strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and
21 inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary. The de-
22 sign shall bear an inscription of the name of Jens
23 Stoltenberg.

1 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

2 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
3 bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3, at a price
4 sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor,
5 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

6 **SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

7 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—Medals struck under this
8 Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title
9 31, United States Code.

10 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
11 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals
12 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
13 items.

14 **SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**
15 **SALE.**

16 (a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is
17 authorized to be charged against the United States Mint
18 Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be nec-
19 essary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under
20 this Act.

21 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALES.—Amounts received from
22 the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under sec-
23 tion 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Pub-
24 lic Enterprise Fund.