



## H.R. 6184 – America’s Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 6184 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Michael Castle (R-DE) on June 4, 2008. The bill was ordered to be reported from the House Committee on Financial Services by a vote of 54-0 on June 25, 2008.

H.R. 6184 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 9, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.R. 6184 directs the Secretary of the Treasury to redesign and issue all quarter dollars with an emblem of national sites on the reverse side of the coin, beginning in 2010.

*Note: “National site” refers to any site under the supervision, management, or conservancy of a department or agency of the Federal government.*

The bill requires that one national site or national park in each State, the District of Columbia, and United States territories be selected for representation on these coins. The Secretary will select such sites for the coins only after consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and chief executive of each State, D.C., and U.S. territory. H.R. 6184 further authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to select the designs for the coins after consultation with the Secretary of Interior and the Commission of Fine Arts. The Secretary may not select any frivolous or inappropriate designs, and no representation of a person living or dead may be included.

H.R. 6184 directs that these quarter dollar coins be issued in the order in which the sites represented were established as a national site. In addition, the coins will be issued at a rate of five new designs per year. After the completion of this coin program, the quarter dollar will again be issued with an image of President Washington on the face, and a design of General Washington crossing the Delaware River on the reverse of the coin.

The bill instructs the Secretary of the Treasury to make available for sale silver bullion coins that are exact duplicates of the national site quarter dollars. H.R. 6184 also authorizes the Director of the National Park Service to purchase for resale or distribution bullion coins issued under this Act.

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### BACKGROUND

The National Park Service currently administers 391 sites in the United States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories covering over 84 million acres of land and water. The first National Park, Yellowstone, was established in 1872 by President Grant. In the early twentieth century, President Theodore Roosevelt established the United States Forest Service and took approximately 230 million acres of land under Federal protection.

In addition to the National Park System, the Federal government maintains other national sites which include national forests, the National Wildlife Refuge System, and sites on the National Register of Historic Places. These are examples of sites which may be represented on quarter dollar coins under this legislation.

The U.S. Mint, under the supervision of the Secretary of the Treasury, has the sole authority to issue currency in the United States. The Mint also often produces commemorative coins, medals, and bullion coins. In recent years, the United States Mint has produced between 11-20 million coins annually.



## [National Park Service](#)

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### COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that enacting H.R. 6184 "would reduce direct spending by \$26 million over the 2010-2018 period." [Full CBO Cost Estimate](#)

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### STAFF CONTACT

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