



Take Action Now: The Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Coin Project

Background

Girl Scouts aims to inspire girls to be leaders in their own lives by building the courage, confidence, and character to raise their voices and be advocates of issues and ideas important to them. The year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which gave women the right to vote.

The Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act (H.R. 1923, S. 2427) was introduced in the House of Representatives on March 27, 2019, by Representatives Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Anthony Gonzalez (R-OH). Identical legislation was introduced in the Senate on August 1, 2019, by Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) and Deb Fischer (R-NE).

The legislation would authorize a series of quarters to be minted in honor of women's history and suffrage. The Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act would create a new series of commemorative circulating coins that highlight women's suffragists and other trailblazers from the District of Columbia and each state and territory in the United States. States would help choose the women and accomplishments they wish to recognize by working with community groups and organizations like Girl Scout councils.

Take Action!

You can make a difference and recognize the importance of women's suffrage and contributions in U.S. history. Use your voice to speak out in support of the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act, using resources in Girl Scouts' online template:

- Educate family members and friends about the bill using our talking points
- Write a letter to your member of Congress with the template letter in the toolkit
- Engage others over social media to spread the word

By connecting with others on this issue, you can inspire them to take action, too!

Make Your Voice Heard

How to Find Your Legislators and Send a Message in Support of the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act

How to find your legislators:

- Go to: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members>
- Enter your address and click the magnifying glass icon
- Your legislators (2 senators, 1 representative) should appear on the left side of the screen
- Your legislators' websites and contact information will be provided beneath their names

(*Note:* Each legislator has a district office and a Washington, DC, office. You will want to send your letter to the Washington, DC, office.)

Once you have identified your legislators, there are a few ways to contact them to ask for their support of the bill.

- Send an email (or use the contact form on their legislative website)
- Send a letter directly to their office (you can do this even if you've emailed!)
- Contact them via social media
- Call their office(s)

How to send a letter:

A **sample letter** is provided on page 4. The letter should be personalized with your name and where you are from and addressed to the legislator you are writing to.

After you personalize the letter:

To send through the mail

- Print the letter
- Label an envelope with your name and address in the top left-hand corner
- The legislator's address will go in the center of the envelope

Example: The Honorable Buddy Carter

2432 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

- Place the letter inside the envelope, seal it, and stamp it
- You're ready to send it!

OR

To send via email

- Highlight the entire letter (after personalization)
- Right-click "Copy"
- Open email to send a new message
- Type legislator's email address in the "To" line

- In the subject line, write: “**Support the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act**”)
- In the body of the message, right-click “Paste”
- Click “Send”!

How to contact your legislators via social media:

Sample social media posts are provided below on page 5 to help you lobby your members of Congress via Twitter, Facebook, and even Instagram!

You can find your legislators' social media handles with their contact information.

How to contact your legislators via phone call:

Talking points on page 6 can assist you in making your case to your members of Congress on why it is important to support the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act.

- Call your legislator's Washington, DC, office
- It is not likely that you will be able to speak to the actual legislator, but the staff member who answers the phone will relay your message to them
- Tell the staff member who you are, where you are from, and why supporting the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act is important to you.

Sample Letter

The Honorable [FIRST NAME] [LAST NAME]
United States [Senate/House of Representatives]
Washington, DC [20510/20515]

[DATE]

Dear [Senator/Representative] [LAST NAME]:

My name is [name] and I am a Girl Scout from [city], [state]. As our country recognizes the 100th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, paving the way for women's right to vote, I ask you to support the bipartisan Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act (H.R. 1923, S. 2427). Introduced by Representatives Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Anthony Gonzalez (R-OH) in the House of Representatives, and Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) and Deb Fischer (R-NE) in the Senate, this legislation would create a new series of commemorative circulating coins that highlight women suffragists and other trailblazers from the District of Columbia and each state and territory in the United States.

Passing the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act would promote learning about women whose advocacy made it possible for more people to participate in our democracy. As a Girl Scout, I'm grateful for the opportunity to raise my voice, and I look forward to one day casting a ballot, thanks to the work of suffragists in every state. Please cosponsor the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act to honor the centennial of women's suffrage today!

Sincerely,

[NAME]

Suggested Social Media Posts

Post any of the below messages on social media and be sure to tag your Member of Congress!

- I am a Girl Scout. @YourMemberOfCongress I support the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act (H.R. 1923/S. 242) because remarkable women who have contributed to our country's progress deserve more recognition
- Celebrate the 19th Amendment Centennial! @YourMemberOfCongress cosponsor the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act (H.R. 1923/S. 242)
- The centennial of the 19th amendment is important to me because _____. @YourMemberOfCongress help celebrate this important anniversary by cosponsoring H.R. 1923/S. 242!
- @YourMemberOfCongress support the bipartisan Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act! (H.R. 1923/S. 242)
- In honor of the 19th Amendment Centennial, @YourMemberOfCongress cosponsor the Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act (H.R. 1923/S. 242) today.

Talking Points

- 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States constitution, which gave women the right to vote.
- Girl Scouts celebrates this occasion by rallying multiple generations around the centennial through national and local council engagement initiatives and partnerships to increase awareness of past suffrage achievements.
- This is also an opportunity to highlight the importance of civic education in Girl Scouts and engage girls across our Movement and those who care about them to lead positive change through civic engagement opportunities.
- Girl Scouts are taking civic action to honor this important date in history for women by advocating for legislation that will celebrate the centennial of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment and increase gender diversity and representation on our currency.
- Girl Scouts supports the bipartisan effort to pass the ***Women's History and Nineteenth Amendment Centennial Quarter Dollar Coin Program Act*** that was introduced in the House of Representatives on March 27, 2019, by Representatives Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Anthony Gonzalez (R-OH) and is currently cosponsored by 112 bipartisan members of the House of Representatives. Identical legislation was introduced in the Senate on August 1, 2019, by Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) and Deb Fischer (R-NE).
- Beginning in 2021, the legislation would authorize a series of quarters to be minted in honor of women's history and suffrage.
 - Using the 50 States Quarters Program as a model, this Act would create a new series of commemorative circulating coins that highlight women suffragists and other trailblazers from the District of Columbia and each state and territory in the United States.
- States would help choose the women and accomplishments they wish to recognize by working with community groups and organizations like Girl Scout councils.
- Girl Scouts encourages those who wish to honor women's history and the 100th anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to use their voices and encourage Congress to pass this bill.