

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 3074
OFFERED BY MRS. MCCLAIN OF MICHIGAN

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Common Cents Act”.

3 SEC. 2. SPECIFICATIONS OF 5-CENT COINS AND ELIMI-
4 NATION OF ONE-CENT COINS.

5 Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is
6 amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)—

8 (A) in paragraph (5), by striking “weighs
9 5 grams.” and inserting the following:
10 “weighs—

11 “(A) 5 grams, with respect to such coin
12 that is an alloy of copper and nickel; or

13 “(B) between 4 and 6 grams, with respect
14 to such coin as described in subsection (c).”;
15 and

16 (B) in paragraph (6)—

17 (i) by striking “except as provided
18 under subsection (c) of this section,”; and

1 (ii) by striking “and weighs 3.11
2 grams”;

3 (2) in subsection (b)—

4 (A) in the sixth sentence—

5 (i) by inserting “either” before “an
6 alloy”; and

7 (ii) by inserting “or a composition de-
8 scribed in subsection (c)” before the pe-
9 riod;

10 (B) by inserting “with respect to such
11 coins that are an alloy of copper and nickel”
12 after “nickel required”; and

13 (C) by striking “Except” through “zinc”
14 and inserting “The one-cent coin is composed of
15 copper and zinc”;

16 (3) by amending subsection (c) to read as fol-
17 lows:

18 “(c) 5-CENT COIN.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The 5-cent coin may be a
20 coin with an inner layer of zinc and an outer layer
21 of nickel.

22 “(2) COMPOSITION.—The Secretary may pre-
23 scribe the composition of zinc and nickel in the 5-
24 cent coin, subject to testing and evaluation that such

1 composition reduces the cost incurred to produce
2 such coin.”; and

3 (4) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(bb) ELIMINATION OF ONE-CENT COIN.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
6 provision of law, the Secretary shall cease production
7 of one-cent coins for general circulation, but may
8 continue to produce and issue one-cent coins for sale
9 as numismatic items.

10 “(2) NO EFFECT ON LEGAL TENDER.—Any
11 one-cent coin that is minted and issued on any date
12 before the date of the enactment of this subsection
13 shall remain legal tender for all debts, public
14 charges, taxes, and dues.”.

