

REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 107-201, §3(a)(2), July 23, 2002, 116 Stat. 737, provided that: “The Secretary of the Treasury shall issue regulations to implement the amendments made by paragraph (1) [amending this section].”

CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS CONCERNING AMERICAN EAGLE SILVER BULLION PROGRAM

Pub. L. 107-201, §2, July 23, 2002, 116 Stat. 736, provided that: “Congress finds that—

“(1) the American Eagle Silver Bullion coin leads the global market, and is the largest and most popular silver coin program in the United States;

“(2) established in 1986, the American Eagle Silver Bullion Program is the most successful silver bullion program in the world;

“(3) from fiscal year 1995 through fiscal year 2001, the American Eagle Silver Bullion Program generated—

“(A) revenues of \$264,100,000; and

“(B) sufficient profits to significantly reduce the national debt;

“(4) with the depletion of silver reserves in the Defense Logistic Agency’s Strategic and Critical Materials Stockpile, it is necessary for the Department of the Treasury to acquire silver from other sources in order to preserve the American Eagle Silver Bullion Program;

“(5) with the ability to obtain silver from other sources, the United States Mint can continue the highly successful American Eagle Silver Bullion Program, exercising sound business judgment and market acquisition practices in its approach to the silver market, resulting in continuing profitability of the program;

“(6) in 2001, silver was commercially produced in 12 States, including, [sic] Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah, and Washington;

“(7) Nevada is the largest silver producing State in the Nation, producing—

“(A) 17,500,000 ounces of silver in 2001; and

“(B) 34 percent of United States silver production in 2000;

“(8) the mining industry in Idaho is vital to the economy of the State, and the Silver Valley in northern Idaho leads the world in recorded silver production, with over 1,100,000,000 ounces of silver produced between 1884 and 2001;

“(9) the largest, active silver producing mine in the Nation is the McCoy/Cove Mine in Nevada, which produced more than 107,000,000 ounces of silver between 1989 and 2001;

“(10) the mining industry in Idaho—

“(A) employs more than 3,000 people;

“(B) contributes more than \$900,000,000 to the Idaho economy; and

“(C) produces \$70,000,000 worth of silver per year;

“(11) the silver mines of the Comstock lode, the premier silver producing deposit in Nevada, brought people and wealth to the region, paving the way for statehood in 1864, and giving Nevada its nickname as ‘the Silver State’;

“(12) mines in the Silver Valley—

“(A) represent an important part of the mining history of Idaho and the United States; and

“(B) have served in the past as key components of the United States war effort; and

“(13) silver has been mined in Nevada throughout its history, with every significant metal mining camp in Nevada producing some silver.”

ANNUAL REPORT ON SILVER PURCHASES IN SUPPORT OF AMERICAN EAGLE SILVER BULLION PROGRAM

Pub. L. 107-201, §3(c), July 23, 2002, 116 Stat. 737, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the United States Mint shall prepare and submit to Congress an annual report on the purchases of silver made pursuant to this

Act [amending this section and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and sections 5101 and 5112 of this title] and the amendments made by this Act.

“(2) CONCURRENT SUBMISSION.—The report required by paragraph (1) may be incorporated into the annual report of the Director of the United States Mint on the operations of the mint and assay offices, referred to in section 1329 of title 44, United States Code.”

TERMINATION OF COINAGE METAL FUND

All assets and liabilities of Coinage Metal Fund transferred to United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund and such coinage fund to cease to exist as separate fund as its activities and functions are subsumed under and subject to United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund, see section 5136 of this title.

§ 5117. Transferring gold and gold certificates

(a) All right, title, and interest, and every claim of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, a Federal reserve bank, and a Federal reserve agent, in and to gold is transferred to and vests in the United States Government to be held in the Treasury. Payment for the transferred gold is made by crediting equivalent amounts in dollars in accounts established in the Treasury under the 15th paragraph of section 16 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 467). Gold not in the possession of the Government shall be held in custody for the Government and delivered on the order of the Secretary of the Treasury. The Board of Governors, Federal reserve banks, and Federal reserve agents shall give instructions and take action necessary to ensure that the gold is so held and delivered.

(b) The Secretary shall issue gold certificates against gold transferred under subsection (a) of this section. The Secretary may issue gold certificates against other gold held in the Treasury. The Secretary may prescribe the form and denominations of the certificates. The amount of outstanding certificates may be not more than the value (for the purpose of issuing those certificates, of 42 and two-ninths dollars a fine troy ounce) of the gold held against gold certificates. The Secretary shall hold gold in the Treasury equal to the required dollar amount as security for gold certificates issued after January 29, 1934.

(c) With the approval of the President, the Secretary may prescribe regulations the Secretary considers necessary to carry out this section.

(Pub. L. 97-258, Sept. 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 984.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
5117(a)	31:441(1st, last sentences).	Jan. 30, 1934, ch. 6, §§2(a), 11, 48 Stat. 337, 342.
5117(b)	31:405b.	Jan. 30, 1934, ch. 6, §14(c), 48 Stat. 344; Mar. 18, 1968, Pub. L. 90-269, §12, 82 Stat. 51; re-stated Oct. 19, 1976, Pub. L. 94-564, §8, 90 Stat. 2661.
	31:408a(last proviso).	Jan. 30, 1934, ch. 6, §6(last proviso), 48 Stat. 340; Mar. 18, 1968, Pub. L. 90-269, §8, 82 Stat. 50.
5117(c)	31:441(2d sentence). 31:822b.	

In subsection (a), the words “On January 30, 1934” are omitted as executed. The word “gold” is substituted for “gold coin and gold bullion” for consistency and to

omit unnecessary words. The word “transferred” is substituted for “pass” for consistency in the subsection. The words “to be held in the Treasury” are added for consistency with the source provisions restated in subsection (b) of the revised section.

In subsection (b), the first sentence is substituted for 31:441(2d sentence) for consistency. The word “issued” in 31:405b is omitted as being included in “outstanding”. The words “of 42 and two-ninths dollars a fine troy ounce)” are substituted for “at the legal standard provided in section 449 of this title on October 19, 1976” because that was the legal standard in that section on that date. The text of 31:449 was repealed by section 6 of the Bretton Woods Agreements Act. The words “The Secretary shall hold . . . in the Treasury . . . as security” are substituted for “security . . . shall be maintained” in 31:408a(last proviso) because of the source provisions restated in section 321 of the revised title. The words “gold certificates issued after January 29, 1934” are substituted for “gold certificates (including the gold certificates held in the Treasury for credits payable therein)” for clarity and because of section 5118(c)(1)(A) of the revised title.

In subsection (c), the word “regulations” is substituted for “rules and regulations”, and the word “necessary” is substituted for “necessary or proper”, to eliminate unnecessary words.

§ 5118. Gold clauses and consent to sue

(a) In this section—

(1) “gold clause” means a provision in or related to an obligation alleging to give the obligee a right to require payment in—

- (A) gold;
- (B) a particular United States coin or currency; or
- (C) United States money measured in gold or a particular United States coin or currency.

(2) “public debt obligation” means a domestic obligation issued or guaranteed by the United States Government to repay money or interest.

(b) The United States Government may not pay out any gold coin. A person lawfully holding United States coins and currency may present the coins and currency to the Secretary of the Treasury for exchange (dollar for dollar) for other United States coins and currency (other than gold and silver coins) that may be lawfully held. The Secretary shall make the exchange under regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

(c)(1) The Government withdraws its consent given to anyone to assert against the Government, its agencies, or its officers, employees, or agents, a claim—

- (A) on a gold clause public debt obligation or interest on the obligation;
- (B) for United States coins or currency; or
- (C) arising out of the surrender, requisition, seizure, or acquisition of United States coins or currency, gold, or silver involving the effect or validity of a change in the metallic content of the dollar or in a regulation about the value of money.

(2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply to a proceeding in which no claim is made for payment or credit in an amount greater than the face or nominal value in dollars of public debt obligations or United States coins or currency involved in the proceeding.

(3) Except when consent is not withdrawn under this subsection, an amount appropriated

for payment on public debt obligations and for United States coins and currency may be expended only dollar for dollar.

(d)(1) In this subsection, “obligation” means any obligation (except United States currency) payable in United States money.

(2) An obligation issued containing a gold clause or governed by a gold clause is discharged on payment (dollar for dollar) in United States coin or currency that is legal tender at the time of payment. This paragraph does not apply to an obligation issued after October 27, 1977.

(Pub. L. 97-258, Sept. 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 985; Pub. L. 99-185, §2(d), Dec. 17, 1985, 99 Stat. 1178; Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title II, §2609, Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-475; Pub. L. 105-61, title VI, §641, Oct. 10, 1997, 111 Stat. 1318.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
5118(a)	31:773d.	Aug. 27, 1935, ch. 780, 49 Stat. 938.
5118(b)	31:315b.	Jan. 30, 1934, ch. 6, §5, 48 Stat. 340.
5118(c)(1), (2).	31:773a, 31:773b.	
5118(c)(3)	31:773c.	
5118(d)	31:463.	June 5, 1933, ch. 48, §1, 48 Stat. 113.
	31:463(note).	Oct. 28, 1977, Pub. L. 95-147, §4(c), 91 Stat. 1229.

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words “the phrase” are omitted as surplus. In clause (1), the words “declared to be against public policy by section 463 of this title” are omitted as surplus. Clause (2) is substituted for 31:773d(words after semicolon) for consistency in the revised title and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (b), the words “after January 30, 1934” in 31:315b are omitted as executed. The words “that may be lawfully held” are substituted for “which may be lawfully acquired and are legal tender for public and private debts” in 31:773a for consistency in the subsection and to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “and that the owners of the gold clause securities of the United States shall be, at their election, entitled to receive immediate payment of the stated dollar amount thereof with interest to the date of payment or to prior maturity or to prior redemption date, whichever is earlier” in section 1 of the Act of August 27, 1935 (ch. 780, 49 Stat. 938), are omitted as expired. The words “make the exchange” are substituted for “make such exchanges and payments upon presentation hereunder” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “No gold shall after January 30, 1934, be coined” in 31:315b are omitted because of section 5112 of the revised title. The text of 31:315b(proviso) is omitted as unnecessary because of the restatement. The text of 31:315b(last sentence) is omitted as executed.

In subsection (c)(1), before clause (A), the word “Government” is substituted for “United States” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code. The words “to anyone” are added for clarity. The words “whether by way of suit, counterclaim, set-off, recoupment, or other affirmative action or defense in its own name or in the name of” are omitted as surplus. The word “employees” is added for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the Code. The word “instrumentalities” is omitted as unnecessary because of section 101 of the revised title. The word “claim” is substituted for “right, privilege, or power” to eliminate unnecessary words and for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the Code. The words “in any proceeding of any nature whatsoever” are omitted as surplus. In clause (C), the words “or demand” are omitted as surplus.