

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 27, 2022

**FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL LAUDS PASSAGE OF  
THE GREATEST GENERATION COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT IN  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. July 27, 2022** – Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) applauds Tuesday's passage of the Greatest Generation Commemorative Coin Act by the U.S. House of Representatives, which will raise private money to fund repairs to the National World War II Memorial.

The Greatest Generation Commemorative Coin Act authorizes the U.S. Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. Proceeds from the sale of the commemorative coins will be used to maintain and repair the Memorial, as well as for robust educational and commemorative programming.

"Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur and Congressman Adam Kinzinger showed strong leadership shepherding this bill through the U.S. House of Representatives to ensure its passage and we are grateful for their efforts to get this over the finish line," said Holly Rotondi, executive director of the Friends of the National World War II Memorial.

The National World War II Memorial was dedicated in Washington, D.C., on May 29, 2004 – the culmination of a 17-year effort. The World War II Memorial is the first national Memorial dedicated to all who served during World War II and acknowledges the commitment and achievement of the entire nation. The Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort here at home.

The commemorative coin will serve as an important representation of the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the brave Americans who fought to defend the nation and advance peace and freedom throughout the world. The proceeds of the sale of each coin will go to the Friends of the National World War II Memorial, a 501(c)(3) non-profit founded in 2007, to maintain and repair the Memorial, and for educational programming. Friends plays a vital role in educating the American public about World War II; preserving and maintaining the National World War II Memorial as a treasure for the American people; and facilitating key commemorative programs at the Memorial to pay a fitting tribute to America's "Greatest Generation."

Today, the Memorial is a top destination for millions of annual visitors from all over the country and the world. For many young visitors, their visit to the Memorial is a first glimpse at a grateful Nation's remembrance of the sacrifices made by the brave men and women who fought against tyranny. For WWII veterans, the Memorial is a special destination, a rendezvous point, and a gathering place for reflection, reunions, and commemorative programs. The Memorial stands as an important symbol of America's national unity, a timeless reminder of the moral strength and power that flows when free people are united and bonded together in a common and just cause for liberty.

**About Friends of the National World War II Memorial ([www.wwiimemorialfriends.org](http://www.wwiimemorialfriends.org)):**

Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends), based in Washington, D.C., is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to teaching the lessons of yesterday to unite the generations of tomorrow. Founded in 2007 by the creators of the National World War II Memorial, Friends brings visitors together for national ceremonies and experiences at the Memorial and for online educational programs centered around the themes of American unity, shared values and ideals, and the spirit of community.

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