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Congress passes measure to mint 2 new coins

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WASHINGTON — A bill creating new coins commemorating the War of 1812 and "The Star-Spangled Banner" will be sent to President Obama.

The Senate approved legislation creating the coins Tuesday. It had previously passed the House of Representatives. The coins are expected to be minted in 2012, a date that coincides with the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. Part of the coin will honor Francis Scott Key's song, which was written during the war.

Two coins with the same design will be minted — one silver and another gold, each with a different value.

The \$5 gold coin will be sold for \$35. A \$1 silver coin will be sold for \$10. Proceeds will fund programs to celebrate the bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the Battle for Baltimore, the battle after which Key wrote his song.