



## Ruppersberger and Cardin to Honor Fort McHenry and the War of 1812 with Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin

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*Calling on Area Kids to Submit Design Ideas for Coin*

**(Washington, DC)** – Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD) and Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD) will honor Fort McHenry, the War of 1812, and the critical role Maryland played in the growth of our young nation with a Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin. H.R. 2097, the legislation creating the coin, just passed the House and Senate and was recently signed into law by the President. The lawmakers are calling on area kids to submit their design ideas for the coin to the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission.

The Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative coin will be minted in 2012 in coordination with the 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission to support bicentennial activities, assist in educational outreach, and preserve sites and structures relating to the War of 1812. After a 25-hour British bombardment of Fort McHenry during the War of 1812, Francis Scott Key saw an enormous American flag proudly flying over the fort, which was defending the City of Baltimore. Key was inspired to write The Star-Spangled Banner that eventually became America's national anthem.

**WHAT:** Ruppersberger, Cardin to Honor Fort McHenry and War of 1812 With Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin

**WHO:** Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD)  
Senator Benjamin Cardin (D-MD)  
Mr. Bill Pencek, Director of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission  
Mr. Alan Walden, Friends of Fort McHenry  
Area kids with Drawings of their Coin Design Ideas  
Re-Enactors in Period Dress

**WHEN:** 11:00 AM, Monday, September 27, 2010

**WHERE:** Fort McHenry  
2400 East Fort Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21230-5393