



## CITIZENS COINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

801 9TH STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20220

December 15, 2023

The Honorable Janet Yellen  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington DC 20220

Dear Madam Secretary:

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) held a public meeting on November 28, 2023, during which the CCAC reviewed reverse candidate designs for the 2025 American Innovation \$1 Coin Program honoring innovations in Arkansas and Michigan. As background information regarding this program will accompany this communication, this letter details the CCAC's recommendations.

### Arkansas

The state of Arkansas has proposed honoring the innovator Raye Jean Montague, an American Naval Engineer and innovator of computer-aided design of naval ships. She is credited with developing the first computer-generated rough draft of a naval ship for the United States Navy. For the state of Arkansas, the Committee was joined by Montague's son, Dr. David Montague, who is the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Professor of Criminal Justice and Criminology at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, along with Dr. Blake Wintory, Services Director at the Arkansas Heritage Museum, part of the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

The Committee, by a vote of nine members in favor and one abstaining, recommended reverse design **AR-02**, with the portrait adjusted for accuracy as noted by the US Mint staff, and adding a delimitator between the inscriptions "Arkansas" and "Raye Montague." Reverse design **AR-02** features Raye Montague visualizing a United States Navy Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate, a ship she designed by computer. The grid pattern over the sea evokes the engineering and drafting techniques she digitized to accomplish her design. The additional inscription "RAYE MONTAGUE" rounds out the design. This design candidate was also favored by the Commission of Fine Arts.

### Michigan

The state of Michigan has proposed honoring the innovation of the automobile assembly line. The assembly line, driven by conveyor belts, reduced production time and a reduction in injuries to workers and the financial cost of production. This cost savings reduced the price of automobiles, increased pay for workers, and played an integral part in America's adoption of the automobile in everyday life. For the state of Michigan, Judge Steven Bieda, Chairman of the Michigan Tax Tribunal participated in the discussion with the Committee.

The CCAC reviewed six reverse candidate designs, from which the Committee unanimously recommended reverse candidate design **MI-06**, which was the preferred design of the liaison. This design features a 1930s-era assembly line where a team of auto workers lower an automobile cab into place. The additional inscription “AUTO ASSEMBLY LINE” rounds out the design.

As a collector of this series, I am confident that the addition of the 2025 Arkansas and Michigan coins will enhance the interest of numismatists in the American Innovation Dollar program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence S. Brown, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Lawrence S. Brown, Jr., MD, MPH, FACP, DFASAM  
CCAC Chair