



## S. 682 – THE EDWARD WILLIAM BROOKE III CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

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### FLOOR SITUATION

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S. 682 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) on March 30, 2007. S. 682 was agreed to unanimously by the Senate on March 29, 2007. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, but was never considered.

S. 682 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on June 10, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

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S. 682 requires Congress to make appropriate arrangements for the presentation of a Congressional gold medal to Edward William Brooke III.

The bill additionally requires the Secretary of the Treasury to design the medal with suitable emblems and inscriptions. S. 682 authorizes funds to pay for the cost of the medals to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund. The Secretary may design and sell duplicate bronze medals, proceeds of which will be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

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### BACKGROUND

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Born on October 26, 1919, Edward William Brooke III was the first African-American to be elected to the United States Senate by popular vote. Senator Brooke served as Senator from Massachusetts for two terms, from 1967 to 1979.

During World War II, Senator Brooke served for five years in the U.S. Army in the 366<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment in the European theater. He attained the rank of captain and received a Bronze Star Medal.

Senator Brooke has been recognized with several previous honors, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2004, the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit from the Government of Italy, a State courthouse dedicated in his honor in Massachusetts and the NAACP Springarn Medal.

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### COST

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The Congressional Budget Office did not have a cost estimate available for S. 682 as of June 10, 2008.

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### STAFF CONTACT

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For questions or further information contact Adam Hepburn at (202) 226-2302.