

Bretton Woods 2.0: The Digital Fort Knox Proposal

Rhode Island Bitcoin Policy Initiative | Dan Hersey, Founder | March 2026

Thank you for meeting with RIBPI to discuss the Bretton Woods 2.0 proposal. Below is a summary of the key points from our conversation for your reference and internal circulation.

THE PROBLEM

\$38.4T National Debt	\$1T+/yr Interest Payments	73% → 58% Dollar Reserve Share	2.7% Gold Covers of Debt
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The U.S. is borrowing money to pay interest on money it has already borrowed. Interest payments now exceed defense spending. The nation's gold reserves cover just 2.7% of obligations. The gap between America's debt and its hard-asset reserves has never been wider.

THE PROPOSAL: DUAL-ASSET STRATEGIC RESERVE

Combine America's existing **8,133 metric tonnes of gold (~\$1.05T)** with a strategic **1,000,000 Bitcoin reserve** acquired over five years (per the BITCOIN Act of 2025, S.954). 20-year mandatory hold. Multi-signature cold storage. Full public transparency via blockchain verification.

WHY THIS MATTERS FOR THE BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEES

- **Debt reduction without spending cuts:** Asset appreciation over 20 years could offset meaningful debt without cutting Medicare, Social Security, or environmental programs.
- **No new taxes required:** The reserve appreciates passively in a mathematically scarce asset (21M cap).
- **Dollar strengthening:** A verifiable dual-asset reserve restores global confidence in the dollar as de-dollarization accelerates.
- **Radical transparency:** Unlike Fort Knox (unaudited since the 1950s), Bitcoin reserves are verifiable by any citizen in real time.

ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

52.4% of Bitcoin mining globally uses sustainable energy, including renewables and nuclear (Cambridge CCAF, 2025). Mining increasingly monetizes stranded energy at hydroelectric dams, flared gas sites, and geothermal plants—energy that would otherwise be wasted. A reserve policy can include clean energy requirements for any government-affiliated operations, aligning fiscal innovation with environmental leadership.

CURRENT STATUS

Executive Order (Mar 6, 2025): Strategic Bitcoin Reserve established. ~200,000 BTC held. 20-year mandatory hold.	BITCOIN Act (S.954): Introduced by Sen. Lummis. Would authorize purchasing 1M BTC over 5 years. Pending in Congress.
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NEXT STEPS

The full Bretton Woods 2.0 proposal is attached for the Senator and senior staff's review. RIBPI is available as a nonpartisan resource for any follow-up questions, deeper briefings, or policy analysis on digital asset fiscal strategy. The national debt is not a partisan problem—and we welcome the opportunity to continue this conversation.

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