

Visual Identity Design for a U.S. Government–Approved Payment Stablecoin under the GENIUS Act

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Abstract

This paper proposes a concept design for the visual and symbolic system of a payment stablecoin approved by the U.S. government, envisioned within the legislative framework of the GENIUS Act. The design seeks to unify national iconography, digital innovation, and sovereign monetary authority through a modern and interoperable visual language. The work explores how symbolic continuity, technological expressiveness, and cross-cultural elements can together support the legitimacy and usability of a digital sovereign currency in the 21st century.

Keywords

GENIUS Act; Payment stablecoin; Visual identity design; Digital currency; Cross-cultural symbolism

1. Introduction

As central banks explore sovereign digital currencies, the visual identity of these instruments plays a critical role in conveying legitimacy, usability, and national trust. This design framework introduces a foundational concept for a U.S. payment stablecoin, integrating policy cues from the GENIUS Act with a coherent visual system that honors both traditional fiat symbols and emerging digital paradigms.

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CONCEPT DESIGN FOR PAYMENT STABLECOIN

UNDER THE GENIUS ACT



OBVERSE



REVERSE

Designed by Zibo Mi

2. Obverse Design

The obverse face features the Statue of Liberty—an enduring emblem of freedom, democratic ideals, and constitutional order. Positioned to the right is the national motto, “From Many, One America” (*E Pluribus Unum*), which encapsulates the principle of unity through diversity—a foundational value of the U.S. federal system and its monetary tradition.

Supplementary elements include the U.S. flag and the dollar symbol (\$), reinforcing the coin’s identity as a sovereign-backed digital asset. The overall composition echoes the visual grammar of conventional fiat currencies, thereby ensuring continuity with legacy trust frameworks and established monetary iconography.

3. Reverse Design

The reverse adopts a contemporary visual language rooted in digital infrastructure and enriched by cross-cultural references. At its center lies the numeral “1,” which operates on multiple levels:

- Denotative: Signifying the face value unit of the currency;
- Structural: Representing the 1:1 peg to the U.S. dollar;
- Conceptual: Evoking uniqueness, consensus, and protocol standardization in distributed ledger ecosystems.

Surrounding the central numeral is a ring derived from the BaGua (八卦), a classical Chinese metaphysical system that symbolizes equilibrium, transformation, and universal order. Its inclusion gestures toward the global and systemic aspirations of decentralized financial design, while affirming the design’s openness to pluralistic cultural frameworks.

A ring of binary code encircles the BaGua motif, visually referencing the coin’s native digital nature. Below, a QR code signifies programmability, on-chain verifiability, and traceability—core properties of blockchain-enabled currencies with smart contract functionality, regulatory compliance layers, and wallet integration.

The textual inscription “USD 2025 Payment Stablecoin” provides formal designation:

- USD confirms the dollar peg;
- 2025 marks the legislative milestone of the GENIUS Act’s passage;
- Payment Stablecoin defines its functional scope as a regulated medium for retail and institutional digital transactions.

4. Design Intent

This design is conceived not merely as a visual representation, but as a symbolic and infrastructural layer for sovereign digital currency systems. It functions as a bridge between the institutional trust architecture of fiat money and the decentralized, programmable future of financial networks.

Through the integration of:

- National iconography (e.g., the Statue of Liberty),
- Philosophical symbolism (e.g., the BaGua ring),
- Cryptographic elements (e.g., binary encoding and QR code), and
- Institutional anchors (e.g., dollar peg and federal inscriptions),

the design aims to articulate values of stability, legitimacy, technical interoperability, and cultural inclusivity. It operates as both a visual language prototype and a systemic preview of how sovereign-backed digital assets may be perceived, trusted, and transacted with in the near future.

5. Conclusion

As financial systems transition toward digitally native forms of currency, design becomes a vehicle for embedding identity, trust, and utility within monetary infrastructure. The proposed visual identity offers a conceptual and symbolic framework through which the U.S. government may communicate the integrity, authority, and openness of its digital payment instruments. This work contributes to ongoing dialogues at the intersection of public policy, design innovation, and monetary sovereignty.