

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 164 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY ROBINSON, BARTOLOTTA, LANGERHOLC, BROOKS,
TOMLINSON, SCAVELLO, GEBHARD, SANTARSIERO, MASTRIANO, ARGALL,
KANE, FONTANA, YUDICHAK, GORDNER, HUTCHINSON, L. WILLIAMS,
DUSH, COMITTA, MARTIN, COSTA, J. WARD, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL,
CAPPELLETTI, STEFANO, VOGEL, PITTMAN, MUTH, AUMENT, SCHWANK,
BROWNE AND STREET, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

AS AMENDED, OCTOBER 18, 2021

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Secretary of the Navy to designate the City of
2 Philadelphia and both banks of the Delaware River as the site
3 of the main celebration of the 250th birthdays of the United
4 States Navy and the United States Marine Corps in October and
5 November 2025.

6 WHEREAS, The United States Navy was founded in Pennsylvania
7 on October 13, 1775, when the Second Continental Congress at
8 Independence Hall in Philadelphia authorized its first ships;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Later that year in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
11 the Continental Navy commissioned its first ship and granted its
12 first commission to John Barry, the "Father of the American
13 Navy"; and

14 WHEREAS, The Second Continental Congress in Pennsylvania
15 commissioned Lieutenant John Paul Jones who, on the Delaware
16 River, was the first to raise an American national flag, the
17 Grand Union Flag, on a naval vessel; and

1 WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps was founded in
2 Pennsylvania on November 10, 1775, when the Second Continental
3 Congress at Independence Hall authorized the recruitment of two
4 battalions; and

5 WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps was born later that
6 year after its first commissioned officer, Captain Samuel
7 Nicholas, held a recruiting drive in Tun Tavern in Philadelphia;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The first United States Marine Corps amphibious
10 operation, mounted from Pennsylvania, seized sorely needed
11 gunpowder for the Continental Army; and

12 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has continued to
13 design and build ships and aircraft and has contributed sons and
14 daughters to lead the United States Navy and the United States
15 Marine Corps since their birth; and

16 WHEREAS, The United States Navy's 250-year history should be
17 celebrated by assembling ships, including the Pennsylvania State
18 Flagship Niagara, from every major war the United States Navy
19 has fought; and

20 WHEREAS, This assemblage would be possible only in the
21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because Philadelphia has preserved
22 USS Olympia, the sole survivor of the Spanish-American War; and

23 WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps' 250th birthday
24 should be celebrated by rebuilding Tun Tavern in Philadelphia,
25 drawing United States Marines from the Commonwealth of
26 Pennsylvania and beyond; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED (the House of Representatives concurring), That the
28 General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the
29 Secretary of the Navy to designate the City of Philadelphia and
30 both banks of the Delaware River as the site of the main

1 celebration of the 250th birthdays of the United States Navy and
2 the United States Marine Corps in October and November 2025; and
3 be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of
5 Pennsylvania ~~authorize~~ URGE the United States Navy and the <--
6 United States Marine Corps to participate by bringing active-
7 duty ships, aircraft, equipment and personnel that represent the
8 United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
11 the President of the United States, the United States Secretary
12 of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, the Commandant of the
13 Marine Corps and each member of the Pennsylvania Congressional
14 Delegation.