A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

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

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

WHEREAS, The Second Continental Congress in Pennsylvania commissioned Lieutenant John Paul Jones who, on the Delaware River, was the first to raise an American national flag, the Grand Union Flag, on a naval vessel; and
WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps was founded in Pennsylvania on November 10, 1775, when the Second Continental Congress at Independence Hall authorized the recruitment of two battalions; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED (the House of Representatives concurring), That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Secretary of the Navy to designate the City of Philadelphia and both banks of the Delaware River as the site of the main
celebration of the 250th birthdays of the United States Navy and
the United States Marine Corps in October and November 2025; and
be it further
RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania authorize URGE the United States Navy and the
United States Marine Corps to participate by bringing active-duty ships, aircraft, equipment and personnel that represent the
United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps; and be it
further
RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
the President of the United States, the United States Secretary
of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, the Commandant of the
Marine Corps and each member of the Pennsylvania Congressional
Delegation.