

House Veterans and Military Development Committee

H.R.C. 20

Chairwoman Richardson, Vice Chair Mathews, Ranking Member Lawson-Rowe, and members of the Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Resolution 20.

For 250 years, the United States Navy has defended our nation, protected our commerce, and projected American strength and values across the globe. From the earliest days of the Revolutionary War to today's modern fleet, the Navy has been essential to preserving our freedom.

Though Ohio has no ocean coastline, our state has played an outstanding role in naval history. From Admiral Ernest J. King of Lorain, who commanded the Navy through World War II, to astronauts like Neil Armstrong, a naval aviator before he walked on the moon, and Medal of Honor recipient and WWII hero Rear Admiral Issac Kidd, Ohio has developed sailors, leaders, and innovators who helped shape the Navy and our nation. Our shipyards along the Great Lakes, our defense industries, and our proud tradition of service remind us that the Navy's strength is truly America's strength, from which Ohio has contributed greatly.

As a proud US Navy Chief, I served in all parts of the world for nearly two decades and many of those years were spent aboard the class of frigates named after the "Hero of Lake Erie", better known as Oliver Hazard Perry.

By passing this resolution it will send a powerful reminder to all who service and sacrifice, and to affirm to the men and women in uniform that their contributions are honored and remembered.

I respectfully urge this Committee, and the full House, to adopt House Resolution 20 in honor of the Navy's 250 years of service to our nation.

Respectfully,

Tim Zvoncheck

Commander, VFW Post 3345
Judge Advocate, VFW Department of Ohio
United States Navy Chief, 1983-1997