

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

H. C. R. No. 20

Representatives Dovilla, Santucci

**Cosponsors: Representatives Barhorst, Brennan, Claggett, Click, Deeter, Demetriou,
Fischer, Fowler Arthur, Gross, Hall, T., Johnson, Kishman, King, Klopfenstein, Miller,
M., Newman, Rader, Ray, Robb Blasdel, Schmidt, Stephens, Synenberg**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To honor the distinguished service and exceptional valor 1
of the men and women of the United States Navy and to 2
commemorate the 250th anniversary of its founding. 3

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):

WHEREAS, On October 13, 1775, the Continental Congress 4
adopted a resolution establishing what is now the United States 5
Navy with "a swift sailing vessel, to carry ten carriage guns, 6
and a proportionable number of swivels, with eighty men, be 7
fitted, with all possible despatch, for a cruise of three 8
months..."; and 9

WHEREAS, After the American War of Independence, the U.S. 10
Constitution empowered the new Congress "to provide and maintain 11
a navy"; and 12

WHEREAS, Acting on this authority, Congress established the 13
Department of the Navy on April 30, 1798; and 14

WHEREAS, In 1972, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Elmo R. 15
Zumwalt authorized official recognition of October 13 as the 16
birthday of the U.S. Navy "to enhance a greater appreciation of 17

our Navy heritage, and to provide a positive influence toward 18
pride and professionalism in the naval service"; and 19

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio has deep and abiding connections 20
to the history and heritage of the U.S. Navy, including the 21
signal victory of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry in the Battle of 22
Lake Erie during the War of 1812 and the vital contributions of 23
Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) to a top- 24
secret mission in Dayton during the Second World War; and 25

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio has produced numerous decorated 26
Naval officers throughout U.S. history, including Commander 27
Abraham Whipple, who commanded several ships in the Continental 28
Navy during the Revolutionary War and later, as a member of the 29
Ohio Company, helped found Marietta, Ohio; Lieutenant Commander 30
William R. Hoel of Butler County, who served with distinction in 31
command of USS Pittsburg, helping to secure the capture of 32
Vicksburg during the Civil War; Rear Admiral Isaac Campbell Kidd 33
of Cleveland, the highest ranking officer to lose his life in 34
the attack on Pearl Harbor, who posthumously received the Medal 35
of Honor for devotion to duty and extraordinary courage; and 36
Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King of Lorain, who held supreme naval 37
command in unprecedented simultaneous capacity as Chief of Naval 38
Operations and Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, during the Second 39
World War; and 40

WHEREAS, Several astronauts with Naval backgrounds have 41
hailed from Ohio, including Lieutenant Neil A. Armstrong of 42
Wapakoneta, a Naval aviator during the Korean War and the first 43
man to walk on the moon; Colonel John H. Glenn, Jr. of 44
Cambridge, a Marine Corps aviator during the Second World War 45
and Korean War and the first American to orbit the earth; 46
Captain James A. Lovell, Jr., a Naval aviator, pilot of the 47
Apollo 8 mission and the commander of the Apollo 13 mission; 48
Colonel Robert F. Overmyer of Lorain, a Marine aviator, Apollo 49

support crew member, and Space Shuttle commander; Captain Sunita 50
L. Williams of Euclid, who served on the International Space 51
Station and is one of the most experienced spacewalkers in 52
history; and 53

WHEREAS, The United States has honored the people of Ohio 54
on numerous occasions in U.S. history by naming four ships USS 55
Ohio, a schooner during the War of 1812, a ship of the line 56
launched in 1820, a Maine-class dreadnought battleship (BB-12) 57
commissioned in 1904, and the leading ship of a class of nuclear 58
powered submarines (SSGN-726) commissioned in 1981 and still in 59
service; and 60

WHEREAS, The United States has named a myriad of other 61
ships after Ohio locations, including USS Akron, USS Bucyrus 62
Victory, USS Cincinnati (five times), USS Cleveland (four 63
times), and USS Columbus; and 64

WHEREAS, Ohio has three active Navy Reserve Centers located 65
in Akron, Cincinnati, and Columbus, which provide support for 66
Navy Reserve units and hundreds of Sailors; and 67

WHEREAS, for two-and-a-half centuries, millions of 68
Americans have served - and many have given the last full 69
measure of devotion - as Sailors who lived by the Navy's core 70
values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment; now therefore be it 71

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 72
Assembly of the State of Ohio, honor the distinguished service 73
and exceptional valor of the men and women of the United States 74
Navy and commemorate the 250th anniversary of its founding; and 75
be it further 76

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 77
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 78
Ohio Commission for the U.S. Semiquincentennial, the commanding 79
officers of the three Navy Reserve Centers in Ohio, and the news 80

media of Ohio.

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