



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

OCT 02 2017

The Honorable Daniel Ramos
Ohio House of Representatives
Assembly
77 S. High Street, 10th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Dear Mr. Ramos:

Thank you for your efforts to honor Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King and to recognize his contributions to our Navy and Nation. I wish you the best of luck in your worthy endeavor and I happily endorse your proposal to put forth legislation making his birthday an official State Holiday in Ohio.

Not only was Admiral King one of Ohio's favorite sons, but he was also one of our Navy's most capable leaders. Having served at sea on destroyers, submarines, and battleships, and later earning his "wings of gold" as a Naval Aviator, Admiral King demonstrated mastery of the Navy's core capabilities— capabilities which remain vital to our Navy today. His firm, steady leadership at the helm of our Navy as Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations during World War II was critical to victory and to the preservation of freedom and democracy around the world.

As President of the Naval Historical Foundation following his retirement, Admiral King was keenly aware of the importance of preserving, learning from, and honoring our history. The declaration of an Ohio State Holiday in his honor would be a fitting tribute to this fine American hero.

I appreciate your taking the time to share your thoughts on this matter. If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Spencer", is written over a horizontal line.

Richard V. Spencer