SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION
No. 128

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Sponsored by:
Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.
District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)
Senator JAMES BEACH
District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:
Senators O'Scanlon and Pou

SYNOPSIS

Expresses support for commissioning of SSN-796, U.S.S. New Jersey, in New Jersey.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/20/2021)

A JOINT RESOLUTION expressing support for the commissioning of the SSN-796, the U.S.S. New Jersey, to take place in New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The SSN-796, a Virginia-class nuclear-powered cruise missile fast-attack submarine set for completion in late 2022 or 2023, will be the third United States Navy ship to bear the name the U.S.S. New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, The BB-16, a Virginia-class battleship, was the first ship to bear the name the U.S.S. New Jersey and was a member of the Great White Fleet; and

WHEREAS, The BB-62, an Iowa-class battleship, better known as the Battleship New Jersey, was the second ship to bear the name the U.S.S. New Jersey and it saw action in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Lebanon and is the most decorated battleship in Naval history with 19 Battle Stars; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship New Jersey is recognized as the official State Ship and is one of New Jersey's top tourist attractions being moored on the Camden City waterfront as a museum and memorial; and

WHEREAS, On May 24, 2015, Secretary of the Navy, Ray Mabus, announced that the SSN-796 would be the third ship to bear the name the U.S.S. New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, A ship's commissioning is an historic event that brings together our military, veterans, and local community with significant economic benefits for the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, A commissioning committee, that supports and maintains collaborative efforts with the Navy, has come together to support the SSN-796; and

WHEREAS, The U.S.S. New Jersey Commissioning Committee recommends the Camden waterfront in view of the Battleship New Jersey as a proper and fitting location to host the commissioning ceremony and related activities; and

WHEREAS, A letter, agreed upon and signed by all members of the New Jersey Congressional Delegation in support of New Jersey as the location for the commissioning of the SSN-796, will be sent to the Secretary of the Navy upon the nominee's confirmation by the United States Senate; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. The State of New Jersey hereby expresses its support for the commissioning ceremony and activities of the SSN-796, the U.S.S. New Jersey, to take place on the Camden waterfront.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the

Secretary of the Senate to the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the United States Navy, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Battleship New Jersey, the Adjutant General of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, and to every member of Congress elected from this State.

3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

A ship's commissioning is an historic event that brings together our military, veterans, and local community with significant economic benefits for the surrounding region. On May 24, 2015, Secretary of the Navy, Ray Mabus, announced that the SSN-796, would be the third ship to bear the name the U.S.S. New Jersey. The U.S.S. New Jersey Commissioning Committee recommends the Camden waterfront in view of the Battleship New Jersey as a proper and fitting location to host the commissioning ceremony and related activities.

The BB-16, a Virginia-class battleship, was the first ship to bear the name the U.S.S. New Jersey and the BB-62, an Iowa-class battleship, better known as the Battleship New Jersey, the official State Ship, was the second ship to bear the name the U.S.S. New Jersey. The SSN-796, a Virginia-class nuclear-powered cruise missile fast-attack submarine, will be the third United States Navy ship to bear the name the U.S.S. New Jersey.