

House Resolution 38 - Introduced

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H.R. _____ S.R. _____

1 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. _____
1 2 BY ZIRKELBACH, WHITEAD, WINDSCHITL, D. TAYLOR,
1 3 BAILEY, FICKEN, KEARNS, BUKTA, MASCHER,
1 4 ALONS, SWEENEY, WATTS, VAN ENGELENHOVEN,
1 5 TYMESON, THOMAS, GAYMAN, and RANTS
1 6 A Resolution to protect and preserve the battleship
1 7 USS Iowa.
1 8 WHEREAS, in the late 1930s grave threats emerged to
1 9 America's seapower, as the Nazis began construction of
1 10 the 50,000-ton Bismarck and the Empire of Japan began
1 11 construction of a 71,000-ton leviathan, the Yamato;
1 12 and
1 13 WHEREAS, America countered those threats with the
1 14 45,000-ton "Iowa" class of fast battleships, the
1 15 ultimate in the evolution of the capital ship and also
1 16 its last hurrah; and
1 17 WHEREAS, BB=61, the USS Iowa, was commissioned in
1 18 1943 and was tasked to transport President Franklin D.
1 19 Roosevelt across the Atlantic to Casablanca, a mission
1 20 that resulted in the USS Iowa being the only American
1 21 warship to be equipped with a bathtub; and
1 22 WHEREAS, the USS Iowa completed her World War II
1 23 service in the Pacific theater anchored in Tokyo Bay
1 24 as part of the Japanese surrender ceremonies in 1945,
1 25 and later served in the Korean War; and
1 26 WHEREAS, the USS Iowa earned nine battle stars for
1 27 World War II service and two for Korean War service;
1 28 and
1 29 WHEREAS, the venerable ship was decommissioned for
1 30 the last time in 1990 and is currently berthed with
2 1 the National Defense Reserve Fleet at Suisun Bay, near
2 2 San Francisco, California; and
2 3 WHEREAS, former Governors Robert D. Ray and Terry
2 4 E. Branstad and former Governor and current United
2 5 States Secretary of Agriculture Thomas J. Vilsack
2 6 serve as honorary chairpersons of efforts to preserve
2 7 the USS Iowa as a national museum and memorial, truly
2 8 a source of pride for all Iowans; and
2 9 WHEREAS, those efforts include restoration of the
2 10 USS Iowa and future service as an educational museum
2 11 and tourist attraction, and perhaps, with her many
2 12 facilities still intact, service as an emergency
2 13 response center; NOW THEREFORE
2 14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
2 15 That the House of Representatives supports current
2 16 efforts to restore and preserve the USS Iowa as a
2 17 museum ship and a living memorial to all those who
2 18 served on her, and urges all Iowans to join in these
2 19 efforts.
2 20 LSB 2697HH 83
2 21 jr/rj/5