

Senate Joint Resolution 2007 - Introduced

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2007
BY COMMITTEE ON VETERANS
AFFAIRS

(SUCCESSOR TO LSB 6220SC)

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution supporting the preservation efforts for the
2 Battleship Iowa, BB-61.
3 WHEREAS, BB-61, the USS Iowa, is the namesake for the most
4 powerful class of warships ever made; and
5 WHEREAS, navy members recruited from Iowa have received
6 preference for assignment to service on board the USS Iowa
7 through most of its service life; and
8 WHEREAS, the USS Iowa would remain a continuing marketing
9 display for the talented and well-educated workforce in the
10 State of Iowa throughout a period of museum duty; and
11 WHEREAS, there is now a proposal to assign the USS Iowa to
12 museum duty in the San Francisco Bay area of California; and
13 WHEREAS, former Governors Robert D. Ray and Terry E.
14 Branstad and former Governor and current United States
15 Secretary of Agriculture Thomas J. Vilsack serve as honorary
16 chairpersons of efforts to preserve the USS Iowa as a
17 national museum and memorial, truly a source of pride for all
18 Iowans; and
19 WHEREAS, those efforts include restoration of the USS
20 Iowa and future service as an educational museum and tourist
21 attraction, and perhaps, with her many facilities still intact,
22 service as an emergency response center; and
23 WHEREAS, the restoration and preservation of the USS Iowa
24 will honor all veterans of the State of Iowa, inspire youth,
25 and educate the public; NOW THEREFORE,
26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. STATE OF IOWA SUPPORT. The state of Iowa hereby
2 supports the assignment of the USS Iowa as a museum to an
3 appropriate location in the Bay area of California.

4 Sec. 2. COMMITTEE CREATED. A committee of ten is created,
5 to be appointed by the governor and to serve at the pleasure
6 of the governor, to support efforts for the preservation and
7 relocation of the Battleship Iowa.

8 a. The committee shall annually select its own chairperson
9 and establish its rules of procedure. The committee shall meet
10 as may be deemed necessary by the chairperson. A majority of
11 the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

12 b. Members shall serve without compensation or
13 reimbursement for actual expenses.

14 c. The committee shall raise all of the funds necessary for
15 the operation of the committee; and shall solicit donations to
16 be used for the preservation and relocation of the Battleship
17 Iowa.

18 Sec. 3. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. The department of cultural
19 affairs shall provide all necessary administrative support for
20 the committee and shall administer the BB-61 fund.

21 Sec. 4. BB-61 FUND. A BB-61 fund is created in the
22 state treasury, to be administered by the department of
23 cultural affairs. The proceeds of the fund shall be used
24 for the purposes specified in section 2 of this resolution.
25 The department may accept gifts, grants, bequests, and
26 other moneys, including but not limited to state or federal
27 moneys, and in-kind contributions for deposit in the fund.
28 Notwithstanding section 12C.7, interest or earnings on moneys
29 in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Notwithstanding
30 section 8.33, any unexpended or unencumbered moneys remaining
31 in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to
32 the general fund of the state, but shall remain available
33 from the fund for expenditure by the department in succeeding
34 fiscal years for the purposes specified in section 2 of this
35 resolution.

1

EXPLANATION

2 This joint resolution creates a 10-member committee to
3 raise funds to support efforts to relocate and preserve the
4 Battleship Iowa. The committee members will not receive any
5 compensation or reimbursement. Staff support is to be provided
6 by the department of cultural affairs.

7 The joint resolution creates a BB-61 fund in the state
8 treasury, administered by the department of cultural affairs.
9 The fund can be used to finance committee operations, and
10 finance the relocation and preservation of the Battleship Iowa.

11 BB-61, the Battleship Iowa, was decommissioned in 1990 and
12 is currently berthed with the National Defense Reserve Fleet
13 at Suisun Bay, near San Francisco, California. The State of
14 Iowa has formally expressed its support for the preservation of
15 the USS Iowa, and the U.S. Department of the Navy has declared
16 its desire to turn the vessel over to a nonprofit corporation,
17 to berth the USS Iowa in the San Francisco Bay area and to
18 preserve the USS Iowa as a museum and memorial.