

# House Resolution 108 - Introduced

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 108

BY KAUFMANN, BAUDLER, PETTENGILL, ALONS, HAGENOW,  
BYRNES, HEIN, SWEENEY, JORGENSEN, WORTHAN, ROGERS,  
HAGER, LOFGREN, UPMEYER, J. TAYLOR, HANUSA,  
KEARNS, COHOON, RUNNING-MARQUARDT, WILLEMS,  
MUHLBAUER, BERRY, HEDDENS, THOMAS, WITTNEBEN,  
T. TAYLOR, ISENHART, LYKAM, MURPHY, LENSING,  
WESSEL-KROESCHELL, ABDUL-SAMAD, GAINES, HALL,  
JACOBY, STECKMAN, HUNTER, WINCKLER, M. SMITH,  
MASCHER, GASKILL, KRESSIG, KAJTAZOVIC, HANSON,  
H. MILLER, OLDSOON, PETERSEN, WOLFE, R. OLSON,  
KELLEY, THEDE, T. OLSON, McCARTHY, VANDER LINDEN,  
SCHULTZ, J. SMITH, SHAW, PEARSON, FRY, PAULSEN,  
DEYOE, ANDERSON, DE BOEF, HUSEMAN, CHAMBERS,  
DRAKE, WATTS, RAYHONS, L. MILLER, FORRISTALL,  
GARRETT, BRANDENBURG, HEATON, HELLAND, WAGNER,  
SANDS, SODERBERG, GRASSLEY, COWNIE, MOORE, KLEIN,  
S. OLSON, PAUSTIAN, and MASSIE

1 A Resolution honoring the Iowans who were killed in or  
2 survived the attack on the USS Indianapolis on July  
3 30, 1945.

4 WHEREAS, on November 15, 1932, the USS Indianapolis  
5 was accepted and commissioned in the United States  
6 Navy; and

7 WHEREAS, the USS Indianapolis served as the flagship  
8 of the Fifth Fleet through much of World War II, under  
9 the command of Admiral Raymond A. Spruance; and

10 WHEREAS, all who served aboard the USS Indianapolis  
11 distinguished themselves and their ship in the Pacific  
12 during World War II, with the ship earning a total

1 of 10 battle stars in the Pacific between 1942 and  
2 1945; and

3 WHEREAS, the USS Indianapolis was struck by a  
4 kamikaze plane in March 1945 at Okinawa, during  
5 the Okinawa Gunto Operation, resulting in 38  
6 casualties; and

7 WHEREAS, on July 26, 1945, the USS Indianapolis  
8 delivered the first operational atomic bomb to the  
9 island of Tinian, which less than two weeks later was  
10 flown by a B-29 bomber, the Enola Gay, and dropped  
11 on Hiroshima to bring an early end to the war with  
12 Imperial Japan; and

13 WHEREAS, on July 30, 1945, the USS Indianapolis,  
14 while transiting unescorted from Guam to the Leyte  
15 Gulf, was struck by two torpedoes fired by a Japanese  
16 submarine, the first torpedo striking the bow and the  
17 second striking near midship on the starboard side; and

18 WHEREAS, the resulting explosion split the ship to  
19 the keel and knocked out electrical power, causing the  
20 USS Indianapolis to sink rapidly; and

21 WHEREAS, of the 1,196 aboard, some 900 made it to  
22 the water in the 12 minutes before the ship sank; and

23 WHEREAS, few life rafts were released and most  
24 survivors wore standard life jackets as shark attacks  
25 began at sunrise that day and continued until nearly  
26 five days later when 317 survivors were removed from  
27 the water, after their accidental discovery during a  
28 routine antisubmarine patrol; and

29 WHEREAS, there were 30 Iowans on board the USS  
30 Indianapolis in the early morning of July 30, 1945; and

H.R. 108

1 WHEREAS, only three of the Iowans on board that  
2 morning, Seaman First Class Charles O. Wells of  
3 Camanche, Seaman Second Class Glen Laverne Milbrodt  
4 of Akron, and Electrician's Mate Second Class Edward  
5 Chris Koche of Denison, survived the attack on the USS  
6 Indianapolis; NOW THEREFORE,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
8 That the House of Representatives honors the lives and  
9 service of each of the Iowans who were killed in or  
10 survived the attack on the USS Indianapolis on July 30,  
11 1945.