

## House Resolution 114 - Introduced

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 114

BY BARKER, THOMPSON, VONDRAN, MOORE, GOSA, BRADLEY,  
DETERMANN, RINKER, SITZMANN, GERHOLD, KURTH, HOLT,  
JENEARY, WILLS, BLOOMINGDALE, BLOM, SMITH, BEHN,  
SORENSEN, GUSTOFF, HAYES, WILLIAMS, FISHER, WOOD,  
A. MEYER, WELDON, LATHAM, JONES, INGELS, LARSON,  
THOMSON, R. JOHNSON, and DUNWELL

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  
13 of 10 battle stars in the Pacific between 1942 and  
14 1945; and

15 WHEREAS, the USS Indianapolis was struck by a  
16 kamikaze plane in March 1945 at Okinawa, during  
17 the Okinawa Gunto Operation, resulting in 38  
18 casualties; and

19 WHEREAS, on July 26, 1945, the USS Indianapolis  
20 delivered parts for the first operational atomic bomb  
21 to the island of Tinian, which less than two weeks  
22 later was flown by a B-29 bomber, the Enola Gay, and  
23 dropped on Hiroshima to bring an early end to the war

1 with Imperial Japan; and

2 WHEREAS, on July 30, 1945, the USS Indianapolis,  
3 while transiting unescorted from Guam to the Leyte  
4 Gulf, was struck by two torpedoes fired by a Japanese  
5 submarine, the first torpedo striking the bow and the  
6 second striking near midship on the starboard side; and

7 WHEREAS, the resulting explosion split the ship to  
8 the keel and knocked out electrical power, causing the  
9 USS Indianapolis to sink rapidly; and

10 WHEREAS, of the 1,195 men aboard, some 900 made  
11 it to the water in the 12 minutes before the ship  
12 sank; and

13 WHEREAS, few life rafts were released and most  
14 survivors wore standard life jackets as shark attacks  
15 began at sunrise that day and continued until nearly  
16 five days later when 316 survivors were removed from  
17 the water, after their accidental discovery during a  
18 routine antisubmarine patrol; and

19 WHEREAS, there were 34 Iowans on board the USS  
20 Indianapolis in the early morning of July 30, 1945; and

21 WHEREAS, 30 soldiers from Iowa, Seaman Second  
22 Class Frederick H. Baker, Seaman First Class Robert E.  
23 Batten, Seaman Second Class Raynard R. Boege, Mailman  
24 Third Class Harold V. Briley, Water Tender Second Class  
25 Harley D. Figgins, Ensign Cecil D. Foell, Machinist's  
26 Mate Third Class Leonard A. Fritz, Fireman Second Class  
27 Richard C. Gries, Fireman First Class Donald R. Griggs,  
28 Seaman Second Class Lester B. Hodgins, Private First  
29 Class Leland R. Hubbard, Seaman First Class Harry H.  
30 Huebner, Seaman Second Class Merle B. Hutchison, Seaman

1 Second Class Chris A. Jensen, Seaman First Class Harold  
2 B. Johnson, Ensign David A. Jump, Seaman Second Class  
3 Robert H. King, Seaman First Class Elbern L. Knott,  
4 Seaman Second Class Darwin G. Kruse, Seaman First Class  
5 Leo W. Lohr, Seaman Second Class Raymond A. Nutt,  
6 Yeoman First Class Theodore G. Ott, Fireman Second  
7 Class Welburn M. Pender, Fireman First Class Leroy  
8 Reinert, Fireman Second Class Roy E. Rhoten, Radarman  
9 Third Class James R. Schlotter, First Lieutenant Edward  
10 H. Stauffer, Gunner's Mate Third Class Charles B.  
11 Stickley, Seaman Second Class Joseph M. Strain, and  
12 Private First Class Arthur A. Thomsen, perished at  
13 sea; and

14 WHEREAS, only four of the Iowans on board that  
15 morning, Seaman First Class Charles O. Wells of  
16 Camanche, Seaman Second Class Glen Laverne Milbrodt of  
17 Akron, Electrician's Mate Second Class Edward Chris  
18 Koch of Denison, and Seaman First Class Robert H.  
19 Brundige of Des Moines, survived the attack on the USS  
20 Indianapolis; NOW THEREFORE,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
22 That the House of Representatives honors the lives and  
23 service of each of the Iowans who were killed in or  
24 survived the attack on the USS Indianapolis on July 30,  
25 1945.