

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 2023

The Honorable Carlos Del Toro
Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Dear Secretary Del Toro:

Massachusetts has long contributed its best and brightest to defend our rights and freedoms. Now, our Commonwealth has the honor of being the namesake for a Virginia-class submarine, the eighth vessel to bear the name USS Massachusetts in fleet service to the United States.¹

From our state's nearly 250-year maritime and naval tradition² to its contributions to advanced defense systems and technologies, we in Massachusetts are very proud of our role in the birth of our nation and maintenance of national security. We are equally proud to support the men and women who have dedicated themselves to the defense of our nation.

We, as members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation, urge the Navy to conduct the commissioning of submarine Massachusetts in the Commonwealth at our Flynn Cruise Terminal in Boston. The State Legislature seeks to help defray costs to the Sailors' immediate families for travel and lodging while in Boston for the commissioning³ and the Commissioning is fully supported by the city.⁴

We join Governor Healey, Mayor Wu, the Commissioning Committee, and a host of corporations, universities, and the people of the Commonwealth to support the events and the ceremony of commissioning this great submarine. We enthusiastically look forward to this undertaking and are unwavering in our support.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.


¹ USS Massachusetts Commissioning Committee, "The Boat," <https://www.ussmassachusetts.org/the-boat>.

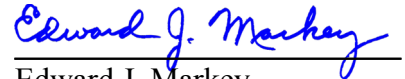
² National Park Service, "U.S. Navy," <https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/maritime/navy.htm>.


³ Letter to Secretary Carlos Del Toro from State Senators Mike Rush and Nick Collins, January 19, 2023. [Letter on file with the Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren].


⁴ Letter to Secretary Carlos Del Toro from Mayor Michelle Wu, March 23, 2022, https://www.ussmassachusetts.org/_files/ugd/1c5aab_0faa3095e1124867a52b737126647cd5.pdf.


Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

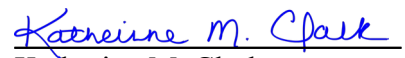

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress


Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress


Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress


Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress


Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress


Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress

William R. Keating

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Member of Congress