

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

July 16, 2020

The Honorable Kenneth Braithwaite
Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Dear Secretary Braithwaite,


I respectfully request your consideration in naming one of the next available Virginia (SSN-774) class submarines, SSN-804 or 805, the U.S.S. Wisconsin, in honor of the Badger State. Wisconsin is home to 40 companies that supply key components for the Virginia class program. Naming the next Virginia class submarine would be an important recognition of the small and medium-sized business that supply this important program.

The State of Wisconsin is known for producing key naval capabilities. Wisconsin contributed to the effort in WWII by producing two wooden barges in 1942 out of Marinette. The city of Manitowoc also produced 28 diesel powered submarines—25 of which deployed during WWII. Most recently, workers in Marinette have completed 10 Littoral Combat Ships for the U.S. Navy, with another 6 ships under construction, and the Marinette shipyard was recently awarded the contract for the Navy's new frigate program. This legacy of shipbuilding in Wisconsin is a testament to the strong ties between our great state and the United States Navy.

The last Navy vessel to bear the name the U.S.S. Wisconsin (BB 64) served in every major U.S. conflict after it was launched in 1944 until it was decommissioned in 1991. Since then, no U.S. Naval vessel has carried the storied Wisconsin name.


A Virginia class submarine bearing the name U.S.S. Wisconsin would honor not only those Wisconsinites who have served and continue to serve in the U.S. military, but also the hard working men and women of the State of Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin

United States Senator



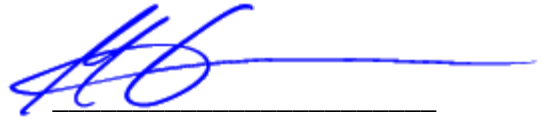
Ron Johnson

United States Senator

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



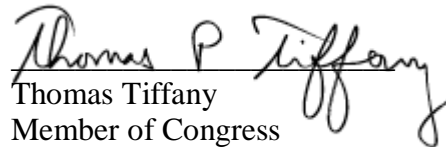
Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



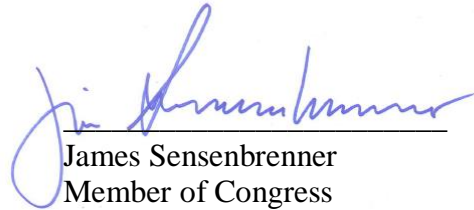
Thomas Tiffany
Member of Congress



Bryan Steil
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



James Sensenbrenner
Member of Congress