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SJR-3 Battleship USS Iowa Museum and National Museum of the Surface Navy. (2021-2022)

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Senate Joint Resolution No. 3

CHAPTER 129

Relative to the Battleship USS Iowa Museum and National Museum of the Surface Navy.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 10, 2021.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 3, Archuleta. Battleship USS Iowa Museum and National Museum of the Surface Navy.

This measure would urge the United States Congress to pass, and the President of the United States to sign, the Battleship USS Iowa National Museum of the Surface Navy Act of 2021.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, The Pacific Battleship Center, known as the Battleship USS Iowa Museum, is a nonprofit organization that was donated the Battleship USS Iowa by the United States Navy in 2012 to be a museum and educational institution at the largest port complex in the country, the Port of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is an iconic Surface Navy vessel that during a distinguished career served as home to hundreds of thousands of sailors from all 50 states; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is located in the City of Los Angeles and has welcomed millions of visitors from across the nation; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is home to LA Fleet Week, the new model for future fleet weeks with the highest public engagement of any fleet week, and raises awareness of the importance of the United States Navy to our defense, safe sea lanes, and humanitarian assistance; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is the host to numerous military activities, including enlistments, reenlistments, commissionings, promotions, chief selects, and community service days, with participants coming from states throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum continues to receive support from thousands of Americans throughout the nation to preserve the legacy of those who served; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is a leader in museum engagement, with one of the most utilized museum mobile applications in the industry, innovative exhibits, and unique programs; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is an organic hub and safe place for veteran engagement and reintegration, hosting numerous partner programs and activities that provide a sense of belonging to our service members; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is an inspirational science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education platform for thousands of students annually; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is a community economic development asset that is an instrumental partner in the redevelopment efforts along the Los Angeles waterfront, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors annually and contributing to improvements in the quality of life for area residents; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is an in situ training platform for local, state, and federal law enforcement to utilize for a variety of exercises ranging from urban search and rescue to maritime security; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum is a safe and comfortable platform for proud Americans to come together in common purpose to highlight the importance of service to community for the future of our country; and

WHEREAS, The Battleship USS Iowa Museum licensed the rights of the National Museum of the Surface Navy from the United States Navy in January 2019 to build a museum honoring the Surface Navy aboard Battleship USS Iowa at the Port of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, The Pacific Battleship Center was designated in January 2019 as the National Museum of the Surface Navy in a public-private affiliation with the United States Navy; and

WHEREAS, The Surface Navy represents millions of sailors and thousands of ships that have sailed upon the world's oceans to ensure safety and freedom since the Navy's founding on October 13, 1775; and

WHEREAS, The National Museum of the Surface Navy will be built aboard the already successful Battleship USS Iowa Museum at the Port of Los Angeles. Located at the largest port complex in the United States, there is no better location to educate the public on the important mission of the Surface Navy; and

WHEREAS, The National Museum of the Surface Navy will be the official museum to honor millions of Americans from all states across the country who have proudly served and continue to serve in the Surface Navy since the founding of the United States Navy in 1775; and

WHEREAS, The National Museum of the Surface Navy will be a community-based and future-oriented museum that will raise awareness and educate the public on the importance of the Surface Navy's role in international relations, maintaining safe sea transit for free trade, preventing piracy, providing humanitarian assistance, and innovating to further our country's role throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, The National Museum of the Surface Navy will continue to build on existing Battleship USS Iowa Museum successes by introducing new exhibits and programs with a continued focus on three core pillars: education, veterans, and community; and

WHEREAS, The National Museum of the Surface Navy will borrow and exhibit artifacts from the United States Navy, as well as other museums and individuals throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, The National Museum of the Surface Navy will work with personnel from the Surface Navy community and public to ensure that the story of the Surface Navy community is accurately interpreted and represented; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature urges the United States Congress to pass, and the President of the United States to sign, the Battleship USS Iowa National Museum of the Surface Navy Act of 2021; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.