STATE OF INDIANA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR State House, Second Floor Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

To all Hoosiers,

As Governor, it gives me great pleasure to join Hoosiers throughout the state in supporting the work of the USS Indianapolis Commissioning Committee. The USS Indianapolis will be a terrific symbol of Indiana's spirit of service and we celebrate this enormous honor that the United States Navy has bestowed on our great state.

The Navy's newest Littoral Combat Ship will be the fourth ship to carry the name of USS Indianapolis. This new vessel follows a long line of distinguished ships, dating back to 1918 when USS Indianapolis (ID-3865) served as a cargo ship during World War I. A ship named USS Indianapolis has seen action in nearly every major conflict since WWI and should be a reminder of all the brave Hoosiers who lost their lives in service to our country.

The process of bringing this endeavor to life is substantial and dozens of Hoosiers have given selflessly to this cause as members of the USS Indianapolis Commissioning Committee. They continue to work hard to raise resources and engage citizens to support the ship's crew while construction is completed and beyond.

The USS Indianapolis Commissioning Committee's vision is to uphold the values of the United States Navy and that of the City of Indianapolis. The Commissioning Committee will provide the financial means to conduct the appropriate commissioning, work to develop a relationship between the crew and the City of Indianapolis, provide clear statements of visions and goals, be accountable to the donors' trust and expectations and provide recognition of their support.

As a veteran of the United States Navy, I am honored to be a member of the USS Indianapolis Commissioning Committee. I look forward to the opportunity to share my great respect for the men and women who will soon operate this ship that bears our capitol city's name. I look forward to many milestones ahead.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Holcomb

EMC Howard