

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 640 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY MIHALEK, DONATUCCI, STAATS, MURT, BOBACK,  
 BIZZARRO, KORTZ, COX, PICKETT, SONNEY, SAINATO, LONGIETTI,  
 PYLE, HILL-EVANS, INNAMORATO, OBERLANDER, MOUL, JAMES,  
 OWLETT, SCHLEGEL CULVER, REESE, MARSHALL, KINSEY, GROVE,  
 CAUSER, HEFFLEY, SCHMITT, HOWARD, JOZWIAK, NEILSON, BURNS AND  
 WARNER, DECEMBER 16, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
 PREPAREDNESS, DECEMBER 16, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the legacy of the United States Navy submarine USS  
 2 *Pittsburgh* after decades of commissioned service and marking  
 3 her decommissioning.

4 WHEREAS, The USS *Pittsburgh* has attained distinction as an  
 5 asset of the silent service, the United States Navy submarine  
 6 force; and

7 WHEREAS, *Pittsburgh* is the fourth United States Navy vessel  
 8 named in honor of the City of Pittsburgh; and

9 WHEREAS, For 35 years, *Pittsburgh* has conducted warfare  
 10 operations and made port calls around the world; and

11 WHEREAS, *Pittsburgh's* keel laying was observed April 15,  
 12 1983; and

13 WHEREAS, *Pittsburgh's* sponsor, Dr. Carol Sawyer, joined the  
 14 commanding officer and crew for the submarine's launch, December  
 15 8, 1984; and

16 WHEREAS, *Pittsburgh's* commissioning ceremony was held

1 November 23, 1985, at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton,  
2 Connecticut; and

3 WHEREAS, *Pittsburgh* was deployed to theaters in Europe, the  
4 Middle East, Africa and the Mediterranean; and

5 WHEREAS, *Pittsburgh's* combat history includes coordinating  
6 with USS *Louisville* to carry out Tomahawk missile strikes  
7 against Iraq on April 2, 1991, as part of Operation Desert  
8 Storm; and

9 WHEREAS, During a Mediterranean Sea deployment from October  
10 2002 through April 2003, *Pittsburgh* launched Tomahawk missiles  
11 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2017, *Pittsburgh* completed her 1,000th dive, an  
13 achievement few vessels carry; and

14 WHEREAS, In 2019, *Pittsburgh* attained further distinction as  
15 the first submarine of her type to complete an Arctic transit;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, *Pittsburgh* native Cmdr. Jason Deichler and crew  
18 members made the Arctic transit, *Pittsburgh's* final journey,  
19 leaving Naval Submarine Base New London and arriving at Naval  
20 Base Kitsap-Bremerton; and

21 WHEREAS, The United States Navy has formally decommissioned  
22 *Pittsburgh*, ending her unique role within the silent service;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, All personnel have proudly executed their duties and  
25 fully accepted the dangers and demands of submarine warfare in  
26 maritime regions across the globe; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives commemorate the  
28 legacy of the United States Navy submarine USS *Pittsburgh* after  
29 decades of commissioned service and mark her decommissioning.