



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MARTIN J. WALSH

February 26, 2021

The Honorable Thomas Harker
Secretary
United States Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350

Dear Secretary Harker,

In December of 2020, I had the distinct honor to join Governor Baker and the shipbuilders at Newport News Shipbuilding to provide the support of our city, along with that of the Commonwealth, to join in the Keel Laying Ceremony of the USS Massachusetts.

For our city and all the people of Massachusetts, it is a distinct honor to have a ship of the U.S. Navy bear the name, Massachusetts. We have been privileged to be beside the sea and the sea has become part of life and spirit as well. From our history of Naval Militia to the founding of our country, to today, the great city of Boston has been at the heart of that tradition.

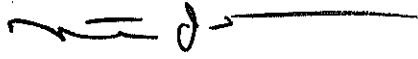
I am writing in full support of the Governor's work, and of the USS Massachusetts Commissioning Committee, to host the commissioning of USS Massachusetts here in the Commonwealth. Our cruise terminal in South Boston has served the U.S. Navy well even recently with the commissioning of the USS Thomas Hudner, a Medal of Honor recipient. This was a well-attended event and was magnificently supported by both the state and the city – we would be honored to do at least that again for USS Massachusetts.

Our people and our industries are committed to the building of the submarine Massachusetts. Over 80 suppliers from the Commonwealth are part of her construction, and our people work at General Dynamics sites in neighboring states building components and hull sections for the submarine that will “ply the oceans” into the 2060s in name of the Commonwealth.

With my support for your consideration of Boston as the commissioning site, I also look forward to the continued relationship with the families and crew of USS Massachusetts that a Boston commissioning will foster.

BOSTON CITY HALL • ONE CITY HALL SQUARE • BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS • 02201
617-635-4500 • www.boston.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin J. Walsh', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Martin J. Walsh
Mayor

cc: Robert Santiago, Commissioner, Veterans' Services, City of Boston