



## United States Senator

November 1, 2017

Fellow Hoosiers:

The citizens of Indiana have long been eager to defend this country and the principles for which it stands. That is one of many reasons for which I am always proud that Indiana is my home state. I am also proud that one of the newest, most sophisticated and capable nuclear submarines in any navy will bear our state's name when the *USS Indiana SSN 789*, a Virginia-class submarine, is commissioned into service in the United States Navy in the near future.

Just as Hoosier men and women have so often bravely served their country, ships named for our great state have also heroically defended America. The *Indiana* submarine will be the third great ship to carry the name of Indiana across the ocean to places and ports around the world. The very first battleship in the U.S. Navy, BB-1, was named Indiana. She fought in the decisive battle of Santiago de Cuba where she contributed to America's winning the Spanish-American War. The second Indiana was also a battleship, BB-58. She earned nine battle stars for action in World War II.

The future *USS Indiana* reflects the hard work and dedication of Hoosiers throughout our state—from those who contributed toward her construction, to those who honor and support her crew and the men and women serving throughout our military, to those who embody her motto of "Silent Victors;" the same motto appearing on the Soldiers and Sailors Monument on the Indianapolis Circle in our state capital.

It is an honor for me to extend my support for the work of the Commissioning Committee and all who have contributed to this project. I applaud her crew and wish them great success in all their future missions. I am confident that the *USS Indiana* will represent the service and sacrifice of untold numbers who have gone before as this great vessel serves and defends with honor our great nation.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Evan Bayh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Evan Bayh