

November 2017

Fellow Hoosiers,

In my eight years as Governor of the state of Indiana and now as President of Purdue University, I have had the great privilege of working with many people who give of their time, talent and treasure for the betterment of the state of Indiana. I can think of no better example such dedication and service than the USS Indiana Commissioning Committee.

I am extremely proud of the Commissioning Committee's efforts. With the USS Indiana now 95 percent complete, the ship will soon become the first Navy vessel to carry our state's name since 1947. It is a great honor to be a part of this proud Naval tradition and this vessel represents the Hoosier spirit of resiliency, strength, bravery, and perseverance. It is these characteristics that have fueled the committee's desire to seek resources to bring this vessel to life and support its crew.

Our great state has a distinguished record of military service, and it is fitting that members of this committee embrace and exude such patriotism. Although I am sure many of the crew members are not native to Indiana, I imagine many of them consider themselves honorary Hoosiers because of the support that the Commissioning Committee provides.

I am very proud to stand alongside the USS Indiana Commissioning Committee and all of the crew of the USS Indiana. I am looking forward to 2018 when the USS Indiana will be commissioned and begin her journey of serving our great nation.

Sincerely,



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
President