

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 265

Commending the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program on its 50th Anniversary and expressing the sense of the Senate regarding continuation of the program into the 21st century.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 1998

Mr. WARNER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Commending the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program on its 50th Anniversary and expressing the sense of the Senate regarding continuation of the program into the 21st century.

Whereas in 1948, Admiral (then Captain) Hyman G. Rickover first assembled his team of Navy professionals, other Government professionals, and contractor professionals that would adapt the relatively new technology of atomic energy to design and build the United States' fleet of nuclear-powered warships;

Whereas over the next seven years, Admiral Rickover and his team developed an industrial base in a new technology, pioneered new materials, designed and built a prototype reactor, established a training program, and took the

world's first nuclear-powered submarine, the U.S.S. Nautilus, to sea thus ensuring America's undersea superiority;

Whereas since 1955, when the U.S.S. Nautilus first sailed, the Navy has put to sea 209 nuclear-powered ships whose propulsion plants have given the Navy unparalleled mobility, flexibility, and, additionally for submarines, stealth, with an outstanding record of safety;

Whereas during its 50 years of existence, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program has developed, built, and managed the operation of 246 nuclear reactors of more than 30 different designs with a combined total of 4,900 reactor years of operation, thereby leading the world in reactor construction, servicing, and operational experience;

Whereas since its inception, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program has trained over 90,000 reactor operators and the Navy's nuclear-powered warships have achieved over 113,000,000 miles of safe steaming on nuclear power; and

Whereas nuclear energy now propels more than 40 percent of the Navy's major combatant vessels and these nuclear-powered warships are accepted without reservation by over 50 countries and territories into 150 ports: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) the Senate commends the past and present
3 personnel of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program
4 for the technical excellence, accomplishment, and
5 oversight demonstrated in the program and con-
6 gratulates those personnel for the 50 years of exem-

1 plary service that has been provided to the United
2 States through the program; and

3 (2) it is the sense of the Senate that the Naval
4 Nuclear Propulsion Program should be continued
5 into the next millennium to provide exemplary tech-
6 nical accomplishment in, and oversight of, Naval nu-
7 clear propulsion plants and to continue to be a
8 model of technical excellence in the United States
9 and the world.

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