

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 288

Reps. Witwer, Tate, Lasinski, Haadsma, Kennedy, Sabo, Garza, Shannon, Mueller, Tyrone Carter, Brenda Carter, Bolden, Hood, Cherry, Crawford, Hope, Koleszar, Sneller, Sowerby, Stone and Warren offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the
2 sinking of the USS *Indianapolis*.

3 Whereas, July 30, 2020, commemorates the 75th anniversary of
4 the sinking of the U.S.S. *Indianapolis*; and

5 Whereas, On this day, we honor the ship's survivors for their
6 perseverance, bravery, and service to the United States of America;
7 and

8 Whereas, During the Second World War, the U.S.S. *Indianapolis*
9 completed a top-secret high-speed trip to the island of Tinian to



1 deliver uranium to be used in the first nuclear weapon to be
2 dropped on Japan to end the war swiftly and prevent a costly
3 invasion of its mainland; and

4 Whereas, After delivering its cargo, the U.S.S. *Indianapolis*
5 departed the island of Tinian to the Philippines, expecting no
6 Japanese resistance; and

7 Whereas, In July 1945, on the 30th day, at 0015 hours, the
8 USS *Indianapolis* was torpedoed by an Imperial Japanese Navy
9 submarine; and

10 Whereas, The USS *Indianapolis* sank in 12 short minutes and
11 descended to the bottom of the ocean; and

12 Whereas, Of the 1,195 crewmen aboard the U.S.S. *Indianapolis*,
13 approximately 300 went down with the ship while the remaining 890
14 were adrift at sea; and

15 Whereas, For four days, in the oil covered and salty open sea,
16 with blistering sunny days and subzero nights, the sailors who were
17 adrift at sea braved dehydration, exposure, hypothermia,
18 hallucinations, saltwater poisoning, and shark attacks; and

19 Whereas, On Thursday, August 2, 1945, while on a routine
20 patrol, a Navy patrol plane miraculously spotted the remaining
21 survivors; and

22 Whereas, All air and surface units capable of rescue
23 operations were dispatched to the scene at once; and

24 Whereas, Of the 890 men adrift at sea, only 316 survived; now,
25 therefore, be it

26 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
27 this legislative body commemorate the 75th anniversary of the
28 sinking of the USS *Indianapolis*. We especially recognize the
29 service and sacrifice of our brave Michiganders who served on board

1 the USS *Indianapolis* during this fateful mission, selflessly
2 heeding the call by serving admirably in the United States Navy
3 during at time of war.