

Fellow Hoosiers:

As I traveled the state during my eight years as Lt. Governor, it was obvious that Indiana is a state of patriots. We have a strong tradition of military service, and all Hoosiers support our men and women in uniform.

I was born and raised close to Naval Support Activity Crane, and the greater community has always supported the work of the warfighter. Today, I serve as Chairman of the Board of Radius Indiana, the eight-county economic development corporation in the Crane region. We work every day to help strengthen and grow the installation.

For these reasons and many more, I commend the hard work of numerous Hoosiers serving on the USS Indiana Commissioning Committee. We are very proud to support the commissioning this year of the USS Indiana, the first Navy vessel named for our state since 1947. The Commissioning Committee has worked diligently to raise resources and ensure the "Hoosier thumbprint" is evident throughout the submarine.

We are also proud of the contribution of parts and machinery from more than 100 manufacturers throughout our state, clearly demonstrating the enthusiasm for the commissioning.

My home, Lawrence County, celebrates its Bicentennial in 2018, and honors the USS Indiana and Commissioning Committee as an official Bicentennial Legacy Project.

Thanks to all who are dedicated to this cause.

Sincerely,

Becky \killman