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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 48

Offered January 20, 2026

Encouraging the United States Secretary of the Navy to name an active ship or submarine USS Yorktown by 2031.

Patron—Diggs

Referred to Committee on Rules

9 WHEREAS, the name USS *Yorktown* holds deep historical significance for the United States, paying
10 tribute to the Continental Army's decisive victory over the British at the Siege of Yorktown in 1781; and

WHEREAS, the name *USS Yorktown* represents courage, sacrifice, and triumph, and several ships have proudly borne this name, with each contributing to pivotal moments in American naval history; and

WHEREAS, the first USS *Yorktown* was a 16-gun sloop-of-war launched in 1839, which patrolled the Pacific Ocean to safeguard maritime commerce and subsequently patrolled the coasts of Africa in an effort to curtail the slave trade; and

16 WHEREAS, the USS *Yorktown* (PG-1), a steel-hulled twin screw gunboat commissioned in 1889, was
17 part of a program to modernize the United States Navy in the late 19th century and took part in actions during
18 the Philippine-American War and the Boxer Rebellion; and

19 WHEREAS, the USS *Yorktown* (CV-5), an aircraft carrier commissioned in 1937, played a vital role in
20 the early stages of World War II and its crew fought valiantly at the Battle of Midway before its loss in 1942;
21 and

21 and WHEREAS, its immediate successor, the *USS Yorktown* (CV-10), an Essex-class aircraft carrier
22 commissioned in 1943, continued that proud legacy in the Pacific Theater of World War II and later served as
23 a museum ship at Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum in South Carolina; and

25 a museum ship at Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum in South Carolina; and
26 WHEREAS, most recently, the USS *Yorktown* (DDG-48/CG-48), a Ticonderoga-class cruiser
27 commissioned in 1984, participated in a wide range of counter-terrorism, counter-narcotics, and freedom of
28 navigation missions; the ship served the nation through the end of the Cold War, Operation Desert Storm, and
the beginning of the Global War on Terror before it was decommissioned in 2004; and

29 WHEREAS, the various iterations of the USS *Yorktown* have each reflected the United States Navy's
30 enduring commitment to strength and innovation, and their crews have served the nation with valor and
31 distinction; and

32 WHEREAS, the year 2031 will mark the 250th anniversary of the Siege of Yorktown, the last major battle
33 of the Revolutionary War, which offers a singular opportunity to honor the military and maritime heritage of
34 the United States, as well as the generations of sailors who have safeguarded the nation; and

35 the United States, as well as the generations of sailors who have safeguarded the nation, and
36 WHEREAS, commissioning a new *USS Yorktown* would stand as a fitting tribute to the United States
37 Navy's proud traditions of service, including the achievements and history of previous ships bearing that
name, and symbolize the continued resolve of the United States to defend liberty at sea; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the United States Secretary of the Navy be encouraged to name an active ship or submarine *USS Yorktown* by 2031; and, be it

40 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the United
41 States Secretary of the Navy requesting that the Secretary further disseminate copies of this resolution to his
42 respective constituents so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this
43 matter.

43 matter.