

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT THE NATION'S SUBMARINE FORCE AND THE INDUSTRIAL BASE

“In an increased threat environment where China and Russia are rapidly expanding their naval capabilities, increasing the size of the Navy's fleet must be the top priority. The FSA clearly defines the need for 18 more Virginia-class attack submarines and 12 aircraft carriers to provide increased U.S. global presence....This vision is a critical first step, but there's a long road ahead. It's time for us to rebuild our Navy to ensure dominance of the seas deep into the 21st Century. I am committed to working with the incoming administration and my colleagues in Congress next year to shape the size and scope of the Navy to meet future threats, grow our industrial base and advance U.S. national security.”

Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA)

December 16, 2016

[Rob Wittman Press Release](#)

"I am pleased the Trump Administration recognizes the strategic importance of a strong submarine fleet. One of the ways to achieve future cost savings is by making smart investments in a skilled workforce and state-of-the-art facilities, which is something we've done here in Rhode Island over the last several years.”

Senator Jack Reed (D-R.I)

January 27, 2017

[Providence Journal](#)

“The Navy is committed to our submarine force for defense at sea, and we’re positioned better than ever to meet that demand. I’m proud of the work we’re doing at Electric Boat, and I’m committed to continuing my fight in the Senate Appropriations Committee for strong federal investments and robust support for the ramp-up of our submarine force and the local jobs it supports.”

Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT)

January 9, 2017

[Chris Murphy Press Release](#)

“This federal funding is a critical investment in our submarine force, and yet another example of the U.S. Navy’s commitment to the long-term future of America’s first and finest submarine base. We will continue working with both the leadership at the SUBASE in Groton and at the Department of Defense in Washington, D.C. to ensure that we continue making the necessary investments in our vital undersea capabilities, which are not only home-ported, but built in Connecticut.”

Senator Blumenthal (D-CT)

October 25, 2016

[Senator Blumenthal Press Release](#)

“Each year, I work across the aisle with my colleagues on the Armed Services Committee to craft an annual defense bill that supports our military and helps our country meet today’s complex national security challenges. I was proud to support final passage of the NDAA, which contains funding and provisions to support Virginia’s defense community, ship builders constructing our *Ford*-class carriers and *Virginia*-class submarines, and public and private shipyards doing the indispensable work that keeps our nation’s strategic assets the strongest in the world.”

Senator Kaine (D-VA)

December 8, 2016

[Senator Kaine Press Release](#)

“There is bipartisan consensus in support of the current nuclear modernization plan—replacing our ballistic missile submarines...The current nuclear modernization plan is vital and cannot be further delayed. It entails: Maintaining New START treaty force levels of 400 ICBMs, 240 submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLBM) on 12 nuclear submarines, and 60 strategic bombers; Replacing the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine...”

Senator John McCain (R-AZ)

January 16, 2017

[Restoring American Power](#)

"It's a good thing to have a new president who is on track with all the force assessments and strategic reviews that confirm the value of the undersea fleet.”

Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT)

January 27, 2017

[Providence Journal](#)

“The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, along with the civilian employees who work there, are integral to our national security. Today’s announcement [exempting shipyard employees from President Trump’s hiring freeze] allows the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard to continue local hiring to ensure that critical maintenance requirements are met so our submarine fleet can address security challenges around the world.”

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)

February 2, 2017

[Senator Shaheen Press Release](#)