



SUBMARINE INDUSTRIAL BASE COUNCIL VIRGINIA CLASS ATTACK SUBMARINE PROGRAM Proven Shipbuilding and Mission Success

Virginia Class Attack Submarines (SSN) with the Virginia Payload Module (VPM) produced at a rate of at least two per year are essential for the Navy to maintain undersea dominance and strike capability. The Navy currently has 51 attack submarines, but has a requirement to build up to a force of 66 attack submarines to maintain U.S. undersea superiority.

Virginia Class submarines deliver what warfighters need today and can be adapted to meet future needs

- Recent PACOM Commander, Admiral Harris, testified to the House Armed Services Committee on February 14, 2018 that "...growth of regional submarine fleets, and increasing demand from other Combatant Commands for SSNs, will challenge the Joint Force to address our SSN requirements in the decade ahead."
- Virginia Class submarines operate with unmatched stealth, endurance and mobility in littoral and open ocean environments. They collect critical Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance information supporting U.S. national priorities and are able to deliver, support and recover clandestine Special Operating Forces.

The Block V Virginia Class submarines include the Virginia Payload Module, significantly increasing capability and payload capacity

- VPM-equipped submarines provide over three times the firepower of current Virginia Class submarines. VPM is the most cost effective way to restore the Navy's undersea strike capacity, which drops by 60 percent as the Guided Missile Submarine (SSGN) force retires.

- Further enhancements to VPM equipped submarines will enable the ships to deliver a large variety of future payloads including new weapons, unmanned systems including Large Displacement Unmanned Undersea Vehicles, seabed sensors and other undersea capabilities.
- The additional undersea payload capacity provided by VPM is critical to counter adversary advances in long range surveillance, targeting and precision munitions designed to destroy the Navy's surface ships and aircraft.

Submarine funding is critical to maintain program cost, schedule and design improvements while providing future capabilities to the fleet

- Advanced Procurement (AP) funding is required to purchase long lead time material. This optimizes ship construction spans resulting in lower costs and maintains timely deliveries of submarines to support the Navy's operational needs.
- RDT&E funding is needed to continue to develop the improvements for future Virginia Class submarines and maintain the Navy's undersea advantage—the initial concept design and engineering work supporting the Navy's capability requirements for Virginia Class Block VI has started and must be fully supported in FY20.
- The submarine industrial base has over 5,000 suppliers across nearly all 50 states providing thousands of high-skill, high-wage manufacturing jobs at shipyards, government furnished equipment factories and supplier companies across the country.

**REQUEST
FOR ACTION
IN FY 2020***

Navy SCN Advanced Procurement Funding of \$2.770B and Full Funding of \$4.381B for two Virginia Class submarines

Navy RDT&E funding of \$119M for future Virginia Class submarine upgrades

*Based on the FY20 funding plan contained in PB19