

Revolution, at Fells Point on September 7, 1797; and

WHEREAS, The Constellation put to sea with a Maryland Navy and Marine Corps crew to defeat and capture the French Frigate L'Insurgente on February 9, 1799 and to defeat the Frigate of 54 guns known as La Vengeance on February 1, 1800; and

WHEREAS, The Constellation under Stephen Decatur, a Maryland Son, did capture the Algerian Frigate Mashuda in 1815 and remained as an active ship of the Navy for 155 years in service until decommissioned on February 15, 1955 to be transferred to Maryland, her home state; and

WHEREAS, Franklin Buchanan, of Maryland, founded the United States Naval Academy on the banks of the Severn River at Annapolis and served as the first Superintendent of the Naval Academy; and

WHEREAS, Maryland has been the site of the building of some 500 famous ships of the U. S. Navy and many famous merchant ships including the Liberty Ship Patrick Henry, first of her class, in 1942; and

WHEREAS, Every famous commander of the Navy to include Admirals Farragut, D. Porter, Dewey, Simms, Nimitz, Halsey, Lahey, Anderson and Zumwalt were all residents of Maryland for their Midshipman years on the Severn; and

WHEREAS, Maryland as the home of the famous privateers, clipper ships, skipjacks, pungy schooners, bugeyes, schooner yacht America, and the Frigates Virginia, Constellation and Guerriere-II are world renowned; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Stoddert and Robert Smith of Maryland were the first Secretaries of the Navy and J. William Middendorf of Maryland is currently the Secretary of the Navy; and

WHEREAS, John Paul Jones, the Father of the U. S. Navy and Hero of the Revolutionary Navy, is buried at Annapolis in the Midshipman's Chapel; and

WHEREAS, Maryland, more than any other state, has a tradition of the Navy, ships and love of the sea unequalled in American history; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Sea Service Cadets, a Maryland youth activity, will be racing against British Cadets as a part of the Bicentennial's Operation Sail-76 in their famous schooner, Freedom, for the Bicentennial Cup; and

WHEREAS, Maryland will be in the forefront of naval and sailing activities and will be visited by tall sailing ships from all over the world who will be spectators in the race between Freedom and the cadet