



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, since 1900, there are 65 United States manned submarines representing more than 4,000 lost lives which never returned from duty and remain On Eternal Patrol; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960s, the U.S. Submariners Veterans Inc. (USSVI) formally asked Alabama to commemorate and honor one of these boats, the USS Herring (SS-223), which was lost on 1 June 1944, with the loss of all hands, 84 officers and crew; and

WHEREAS, the Herring will be included in the first ever undersea memorial, the "On Eternal Patrol Memorial Reef," to honor all 65 lost submarines in the environment in which they served; and

WHEREAS, the "On Eternal Patrol Memorial Reef" will be comprised of 65 individual reef balls, each one a significant contribution to the marine environment, standing 3 feet tall and weighing about 1,300 pounds; and

WHEREAS, the On Eternal Patrol Memorial Reef, including the Herring, will be dedicated in Sarasota, Florida on Memorial Day weekend, May 27, 2018; and

WHEREAS, this Memorial Day weekend is nearly 50 years to the day after the U.S. nuclear submarine USS Scorpion (SSN-589) was lost with all 99 officers and crew on May 22, 1968; and

WHEREAS, the state of Alabama and its citizens, and the entire United States of America and her citizens, are greatly indebted to the sacrifice of these brave submarine veterans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim May 28, 2018, as the

Dedication Day of the

On Eternal Patrol Memorial Reef

in the State of Alabama in honor of the USS Herring and the 64 other submarines and crews remaining forever On Eternal Patrol, and I urge all citizens to recognize this observance.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 5th day of March 2018.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor