

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 683

WHEREAS, The United States Navy christened its newest Independence-variant Littoral Combat Ship, the future USS *Kingsville* (LCS 36), in Mobile, Alabama, on April 22, 2023; and

WHEREAS, The ship was named in honor of both the city of Kingsville and Naval Air Station Kingsville, highlighting the cooperative efforts of the two communities in behalf of the nation; its sponsor, Katherine Kline, performed the traditional breaking of a bottle of sparkling wine on the deck of the *Kingsville* at the Austal USA shipyard; she represents the sixth generation of the King Ranch family, descended from steamboat Captain Richard King, who founded the ranch in Kingsville in 1853; nearly nine decades later, the Naval Air Station Kingsville was established, and it has enjoyed a special relationship with the ranch ever since; Ms. Kline's father, Dr. Richard Sugden, was a Navy flight surgeon who held the rank of lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy; and

WHEREAS, Armed with guns, missiles, and helicopters, the ship is 418 feet long and can reach speeds of over 40 knots; the 18th Independence-variant Littoral Combat Ship belongs to a class of fast, optimally manned, mission-tailored surface combatants; they operate in near-shore and open-ocean environments to address 21st-century coastal threats, and they integrate with joint, combined, manned, and unmanned teams to support forward presence, maritime security, sea control, and deterrence missions all over the world; like the other littoral ships of the trimaran variant, it will be stationed at Naval Base San Diego after its scheduled commissioning in the summer of 2024; and

WHEREAS, The naming of this combat ship in honor of the city of Kingsville and Naval Air Station Kingsville is a reflection of the role these communities have played in our nation's security, and it is a source of great pride to area residents as well as to citizens throughout the great State of Texas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 88th Legislature, hereby commemorate the christening of the future USS *Kingsville* (LCS 36).

LaMantia

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 26, 2023.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate