



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

EXECUTIVE ORDER #12

WHEREAS, the Battleship USS WISCONSIN (BB-64) has proudly carried the name of this Great State for over 40 years, it being the second United States naval ship to do so; and

WHEREAS, the USS WISCONSIN has served its country in time of war and peace in an historic and distinguished manner, including participating in every naval operation in the Pacific from December, 1944 and later serving as flagship to the Commander of the Seventh Fleet during the Korean Conflict, earning five battle stars for her World War II service and one for Korea; and

WHEREAS, such service is symbolic of the dedication, industry, courage, and tenacity of the citizens of this Great State for which the ship is named; and

WHEREAS, the USS WISCONSIN was the last of the Iowa class battleships to be decommissioned, said decommissioning occurring on or about March, 1958; and

WHEREAS, USS WISCONSIN is scheduled to be recommissioned in late summer 1988 and rejoin her sister ships, Iowa, New Jersey, and Missouri in active service with the U.S. Navy; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to celebrate the return of this great ship with a special salute from the State of Wisconsin and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that state government create a framework within which such celebration may occur;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, pursuant to the authority vested in me by s. 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Establish the GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON THE USS WISCONSIN.
2. Provide that the Commission shall consist of members appointed by the Governor.
3. Provide that the Governor shall be a member of the Commission in the capacity of Honorary Chairman.
4. Appoint James W. McVey, President and Chief Executive Officer of Oscar Mayer Foods Corporation, as Chairman of the Commission.
5. Provide that the Chairman, upon consultation with the Governor's office, shall appoint an Executive Committee of the Commission to consist of no more than ten of the Commission's members. The Executive Committee shall be the principal working group of the Commission and take the lead for the Commission's activities. Consistent with provisions of law, it shall set the procedures for the operation of the Commission.

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE  
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The Chairman shall be a member of the Executive Committee. The U.S. Navy's Project Officer for the USS WISCONSIN shall also be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee, as shall the Secretary of the Department of Administration (or his designee).

The Executive Committee, through the Chairman or his designee, shall maintain close contact with the Governor through the Governor's liaison to the Commission.

6. Direct the Commission to:

- (a) Prepare and present to the Governor, by August 31, 1987, a plan for commemorating and celebrating the return of the USS WISCONSIN;
- (b) Plan, encourage, develop and coordinate observances and activities commemorating the ship's return in coordination with the U.S. Navy and the ship itself;
- (c) Make arrangements to maintain an ongoing relationship between the State of Wisconsin and the ship, its commanding officer, and its crew;
- (d) Upon consultation with the U.S. Navy and the Commanding Officer of the battleship, consider appropriate methods by which the USS WISCONSIN can carry the message and spirit of this Great State throughout the world as it travels on its assigned duties;
- (e) Maintain coordination and contact with the officials of the home port assigned to the USS WISCONSIN throughout its commissioned service;
- (f) Recommend a plan, in coordination with the State Historical Society, for a permanent USS WISCONSIN exhibit in this state;
- (g) Consider whether the Commission should be constituted as a permanent statutory body;
- (h) Perform other functions as may be appropriate and as directed by the Governor.

7. Appoint Donald Leo Bach (Commander, United States Naval Reserve), as a member of, and as the Governor's liaison to, the Commission.

8. Direct that the departments and agencies of state government cooperate with and assist the Commission and its Executive Committee in carrying out their functions.

# The State of Wisconsin

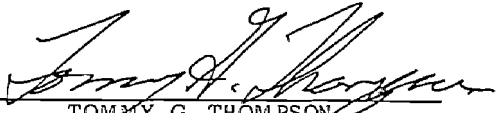


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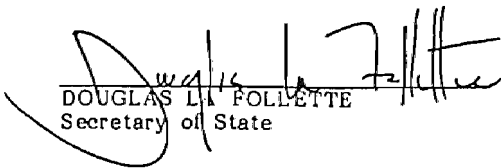
9. Direct the Secretary of the Department of Administration, pursuant to s. 20.505(3)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes, to provide the Commission and its Executive Committee with sums of money, if necessary, for legitimate operating expenses and for the travel expenses of the Executive Committee, if needed.
10. Direct the Secretary of the Department of Administration to provide staff support resources, if necessary, for the functioning of the Commission and its Executive Committee.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done in the City of Madison this fourteenth day of April in the year one thousand nine hundred eighty-seven.

  
TOMMY G. THOMPSON

By the Governor:

  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State