



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

February 16, 2011

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Defense
S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Defense
S-146A, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Inouye and Ranking Member Cochran:

As Congress prepares to consider FY2011 funding for the Department of Defense (DOD), I respectfully request your support for full funding of the Virginia Class Submarine Program.

The FY2011 DOD budget requested \$3.44 billion for procurement of two submarines, along with \$1.69 billion in advanced procurement to support future production. Those amounts were subsequently authorized by Congress. However, the current Continuing Resolution (CR) provides only the FY2010 appropriated level of \$1.97 billion for submarine production. This amount supports procurement of only one submarine.

The Virginia Class production schedule of two submarines per year beginning in FY2011 represents a policy decision carefully arrived at after substantial consideration within DOD and by the congressional oversight committees. This production rate is highly important for our national security interests, and for maintenance of the critical submarine industrial base in Connecticut and other states. I ask that the full amount requested in the DOD FY2011 budget for the Virginia Class program be included in either a regular defense appropriations act or a year-long CR.

Thank you for your continuing support in the production of two Virginia Class submarines annually in the years ahead. This level of investment will help stabilize our industrial base and provide for our national defense.

Sincerely,



Dannel P. Malloy

cc: Sen. Joseph Lieberman
Sen. Richard Blumenthal
Robert T. Ross, Executive Director, CT Office of Military Affairs