



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, USS BILLINGS (LCS 15), a U.S. Navy Freedom-variant littoral combat ship, will be commissioned in our fair city of Key West, Florida, on 3 August 2019, on the Mole Pier; and

WHEREAS, the ship's namesake, the city of Billings, is located in the state of Montana, which has a proud history of producing the defenders of our nation with one in every 10 residents having served in the military; and

WHEREAS, the ship's motto "Big Sky Over Troubled Waters" is a nod to Montana's nickname of "Big Sky Country" and the fact that Navy ships at sea have a lot of sky overhead and often operate in troubled waters; and

WHEREAS, the men and women of USS BILLINGS (LCS 15) proudly represent the core values of honor, courage, and commitment of the United States Navy, and will be forever welcome in Key West, the Southernmost City in the Continental United States and home of the Conch Republic,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Teri Johnston, Mayor of the City of Key West, do hereby salute and commend the officers and crew of USS BILLINGS (LCS 15) and congratulate them on the Commissioning of the Navy's newest and most advanced warship. I extend to them our wholehearted support and appreciation for all that they endeavor and do hereby
proclaim

July 29 through August 3, 2019 as

USS BILLINGS (LCS 15) Week

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States" I would like to urge all citizens, residents and visitors of our Southernmost City to participate fittingly in the observation.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 26th day of July 2019.

Teri Johnston, MAYOR