

PATRICK J. KENNEDY
1ST DISTRICT, RHODE ISLAND

WASHINGTON OFFICE
407 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 225-4911
FAX: (202) 225-3290

DISTRICT OFFICE
249 ROOSEVELT AVENUE, SUITE 200
PAWTUCKET, RI 02860
(401) 729-5600
(800) 392-5772
FAX (401) 729-5608

www.patrickkennedy.house.gov



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
March 19, 2010

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Mr. Frank Lennon
President, RI Aviation Hall of Fame
P.O. Box 28581
Providence, RI 02908

Dear Mr. Lennon:

I write in great support and enthusiasm of your efforts to bring the retired aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy to Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

The USS JFK will be a premier educational and historical attraction in Rhode Island, and I am excited about the limitless possibilities the USS JFK can bring to our state. Undoubtedly the residents of Rhode Island and all of Southeastern New England will benefit from the many opportunities for touring the ship and learning about its great history. The tourism generated from the USS JFK will benefit Rhode Island's economy, and will lead to significant job creation through the workforce development and job training programs that can be housed on the ship. In addition, there is the possibility of using the carrier as a hub for disaster relief and utilizing its extensive emergency management capability. I understand that your plans also include philanthropic outreach, partnering with local schools and universities to enhance educational opportunities, and honoring veterans from our military through memorials and exhibits.

On a personal level, bringing the USS JFK to my home state and city will allow me to continue to honor the works of President Kennedy and teach new generations of Americans about my uncle's sacrifice for our great country, as well as continue President Kennedy's long association with Rhode Island.

In accordance with all applicable rules and regulations, I offer my highest support to the efforts to bring the USS John F. Kennedy to permanent berth in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. I share your vision that the USS JFK can become a world class tourism destination that will benefit Rhode Island for years to come.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick J. Kennedy".
Patrick J. Kennedy
Member of Congress