



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

August 1, 2025

The Honorable Sam T. Liccardo
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Liccardo:

Thank you for your letter to the Honorable Pete Hegseth, Secretary of Defense (SECDEF), addressing your concerns regarding the potential renaming of USNS Cesar Chavez (T-AKE 14). I am responding on his behalf.

The Navy does not have plans to rename USNS Cesar Chavez (T-AKE 14). The names of all future vessels and all pre-commissioning units in the ship building pipeline will reflect the Commander-in-Chief's and SECDEF's priorities, our Nation's history and the warrior ethos.

If you need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


John C. Phelan