

Congressman Michaud Praises Agreement on DDG-1000/DDG-51

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WASHINGTON, DC - Today, Congressman Mike Michaud praised the recent agreement by defense contractors that clears the way for all three DDG-1000s to be built at Bath Iron Works in Maine. Earlier this week, Secretary Gates announced DoD's recommendation to allow the Navy to build three DDG-1000s at Bath Iron Works and to restart the DDG-51 program at Northrop Grumman's Ingalls shipyard. The Secretary of Defense clarified that the DDG-1000 program would end with the third ship and the DDG-51 would continue to be built at both yards. The DoD's proposal, however, was contingent upon the agreement of Northrop Grumman and General Dynamics for all three DDG-1000s to be built in Maine. Today, military officials announced that the two contractors had agreed to the proposal.

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"Support for the DDG-1000 program will allow the Navy to leverage \$11 billion in already invested research and funding. I am pleased that the DoD has recognized that the delivery of several DDG-1000 class destroyers is essential to the long-term stability of the nation's shipbuilding program and the developmental combat capabilities of the Navy," said Michaud.

"I am very pleased that the work contracts for building the DDG-1000s and the DDG-51s have been successfully enabled to reflect the most efficient and cost effective methods of construction. This arrangement will benefit shipyard workers in both Maine and Mississippi."

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