

**WASHINGTON, DC** –“ Congressman Joe Courtney welcomed President Obama’s support for the Virginia-class submarine program and a significant increase in investment in development of the SSBN(x) submarine. The President’s budget includes more than \$4.7 billion for Virginia-class submarines and another \$1 billion for the OHIO-class replacement.

"The President’s budget demonstrates his Administration’s continued support for shipbuilding and a long-term dedication to designing and building submarines in southeastern Connecticut," said Courtney. "The talented workforce at Electric Boat has repeatedly demonstrated its unique skills in completing submarines ahead of schedule and under budget. That impressive track record resulted in submarine funding clearing yet another procedural hurdle when it was included in the President’s budget."

The President’s budget also proposes allocating \$4.7 billion for Virginia-class procurement, including \$3.2 billion to build two submarines in 2012 – the second year of increased submarine production as outlined in the multiyear contract signed in December 2008. The budget request also includes \$1.5 billion for advanced procurement for the next boats in 2013 and 2014, as well as \$98 million for research and design focused on cost reduction.

Also in the budget, President Obama requested an unprecedented \$1.067 billion for the OHIO-class replacement submarine. That total includes \$781.6 million for advanced development of the submarine and \$285.4 million for development of the submarine’s advanced nuclear power systems. According to the Navy, research and development efforts will focus on the propulsion plant, missile compartment development, and platform development technologies like the propulsor, electric actuation, maneuvering/ship control, and signatures. These funds provide for joint development of missile launch technologies in support of longstanding bilateral agreements with the United Kingdom.

In his first term, Congressman Courtney secured \$8.2 million to provide the initial seed money necessary to being the concept and development work on the SSBN replacement. In 2009, Courtney helped to support and pass the Administration’s FY10 budget request of \$495 million for expanded research, development and conceptual studies for the program. This funding was used to develop the new missile compartment and nuclear propulsion system, and as a result Electric Boat began hiring hundreds of engineers and designers to support the program. Additional design and engineering work at EB also directly led to the company’s expansion into Pfizer’s New London complex in June of 2010.