

SENATE RESOLUTION

8662

By Senators Pedersen, Billig, Carlyle, Das, Dhingra, Fortunato, Frockt, Gildon, Hawkins, Holy, Honeyford, Hunt, King, Kuderer, Lias, Lovelett, Lovick, McCune, Mullet, Nobles, Rolfes, Salomon, Schoesler, Sefzik, Short, Stanford, Trudeau, Van De Wege, Wellman, C. Wilson, and J. Wilson

1 WHEREAS, The people of Washington State and the people of Ukraine
2 share a commitment to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Washington State is home to over 70,000 people with
5 Ukrainian heritage and one of the largest populations of Ukrainian
6 immigrants among the 50 states; and

7 WHEREAS, Many Ukrainians immigrated to Washington State fleeing
8 Soviet persecution for their beliefs and seeking personal and
9 religious freedoms in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, Ukrainians and Ukrainian Americans in Washington State
11 have enriched our communities through their leadership and
12 contributions in agriculture, business, academia, government, and the
13 arts; and

14 WHEREAS, Ukraine is a diverse nation, home to Ukrainians,
15 Russians, Crimean Tatars, Jews, Poles, and many other ethnic groups;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Ukraine is the second largest country in Europe; and

18 WHEREAS, Between 2014 and 2022, more than 14,000 Ukrainian
19 servicemembers and civilians have been killed in armed conflict; and

20 WHEREAS, On February 24, 2022, Russian President Vladimir Putin
21 abandoned diplomacy and international pleas for peace and launched an
22 unprovoked military invasion of Ukraine; and

1 WHEREAS, This attack on Ukraine has already killed hundreds of
2 Ukrainian servicemembers and civilians and caused an urgent
3 international humanitarian crisis; and

4 WHEREAS, President Putin has denied the existence of Ukraine and
5 apparently seeks to overthrow the democratically elected government
6 of Ukraine; and

7 WHEREAS, The people of Ukraine are now engaged in an armed
8 conflict to defend their independence and democratic way of life;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
10 recognize the democratic values shared by the people of Washington
11 State and the people of Ukraine; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate express
13 its deepest sympathies for all Ukrainian Americans, especially those
14 with loved ones in harm's way; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate condemn
16 the unprovoked Russian invasion of Ukraine and reiterate its support
17 for peace, diplomacy, and an immediate end to the invasion; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
19 encourage the people of Washington State to support Ukrainian
20 Americans and the people of Ukraine in their urgent time of need.

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