

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2022

Source
SJR 25 am

Legislative
Resolve No.
13



Standing in solidarity with the people of Ukraine; condemning the illegal invasion of Ukraine; endorsing the sanctions and export controls directed at the Russian Federation by the United States government; urging the United States Congress and the President to consider measured and appropriate sanctions and actions; demanding the Russian Federation immediately stop all hostilities against Ukraine and withdraw from Ukrainian territory; and supporting the United States in urging the Russian Federation to immediately stop its assault on Ukraine.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the post-war international security order, led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), has relied on diplomacy, peace, and open communication over armed conflict to ensure prosperity and stability for over 1,000,000,000 people for more than 70 years; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 1991, the Ukrainian people voted overwhelmingly to form a State independent from the Soviet Union, building a democracy and a thriving country

grounded in the rule of law; and

WHEREAS the borders of Ukraine were subsequently universally recognized by the international community, including by the Russian Federation; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, pro-Western protests in Ukraine led to the resignation of authoritarian president Viktor Yanukovich, an ally of Vladimir Putin, and ushered in democratically elected leaders who have sought closer ties to the European Union and the United States; and

WHEREAS, contrary to the free will of the Ukrainian people in their pursuit of security, peace, and prosperity through closer ties to the European Union and the United States, the Russian Federation annexed territory from Ukraine in 2014 and instigated, supported, and supplied a deadly separatist war in Eastern Ukraine, particularly in the Donetsk and Luhansk provinces of Ukraine, destabilizing the region; and

WHEREAS the Russian Federation violated international peace and security agreements that sought a peaceful solution in Eastern Ukraine and instead amassed hundreds of thousands of troops on Ukraine's border; and

WHEREAS Vladimir Putin has now launched an unjust and illegal invasion of the peaceful nation of Ukraine; and

WHEREAS Russian soldiers are currently sweeping through the country, inflicting violence and terror on millions of civilians and destroying homes, businesses, and economic infrastructure; and

WHEREAS reports of civilian casualties call for ensuring humanitarian access and respect for human rights and the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS Ukraine has been a bulwark against Russian military aggression in Europe, and Vladimir Putin has said that Russia's territory should extend to the historical boundaries of Imperial Russia, with possible intentions of threatening NATO allies with military force; and

WHEREAS Russia's aggression against Ukraine is a violation of Article 2, paragraph 4, of the United Nations Charter, which states that all member states shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations; and

WHEREAS Ukraine is a nation under siege, and the brutality of this unnecessary and

violent war is an affront to both international law and common decency; and

WHEREAS the United States has galvanized the international community and our allies to impose the strongest possible sanctions on Russia and its financial institutions as a means to inhibit Russia's ability to finance and replenish arms for its war against Ukraine; and

WHEREAS the patriotism, perseverance, and tenacity the Ukrainian people have shown in defending their country is an inspiration to the entire world; and

WHEREAS Ukraine deserves the support of every American and the entire international community as it defends itself from this unprovoked Russian invasion, which is the largest attack by one state against another in Europe since World War II;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature proudly stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine during this horrific and unnecessary war; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature condemns, in the strongest possible terms, Vladimir Putin's violent attack on the people of Ukraine; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature strongly endorses the swift and severe economic sanctions and stringent export controls that the United States has imposed on Russia and urges the United States Congress and the President to consider measured and appropriate sanctions and actions; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature supports the United States in urging Russia to immediately stop its violent, illegal, and immoral assault on Ukraine, end the needless bloodshed, completely withdraw its military forces from within Ukraine's internationally recognized borders, and return to diplomacy and the rules-based international order that has ensured peace and prosperity for so many, for so long.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States; the Honorable Volodymyr Oleksandrovysh Zelenskyy, President of Ukraine; Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation; the Honorable Kamala D. Harris, Vice President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Charles Schumer, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Oksana Markarova, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the United States; the Honorable Anatoly I. Antonov,

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the United States; members of the United Nations Security Council; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the U.S. Representative for Alaska, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.