

SENATE RESOLUTION

8620

By Senators Salomon, Padden, Pedersen, Braun, Lovick, King, Lias, Rivers, Warnick, L. Wilson, Billig, Dhingra, Shewmake, Kuderer, Conway, Nobles, Hasegawa, Hunt, Gildon, Boehnke, Wagoner, Valdez, Van De Wege, Stanford, C. Wilson, Cleveland, Wellman, Mullet, Trudeau, Randall, Saldaña, Lovelett, Kauffman, Torres, and Hawkins

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 80,000 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, In 2022, Washington residents submitted the fourth
11 highest number of applications to support temporarily displaced
12 Ukrainian people, with Seattle being the 3rd ranking metropolitan
13 area; and

14 WHEREAS, The state of Washington has welcomed over 12,000
15 Ukrainians since February of 2022 and continues to be a welcoming
16 state; and

17 WHEREAS, Ukrainians and Ukrainian Americans in Washington State
18 have enriched our communities through their leadership and
19 contributions in agriculture, business, academia, government, and the
20 arts; and

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

1 WHEREAS, This attack on Ukraine has already killed tens of
2 thousands of Ukrainian servicemembers and civilians, displaced
3 millions of Ukrainians, and has caused an urgent international
4 humanitarian crisis; and

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

8 WHEREAS, The people of Ukraine are now engaged in war to
9 defend their independence and democratic path of development and
10 lives;

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

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

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

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
22 encourage the people of Washington State to support Ukrainian
23 Americans and the people of Ukraine in their urgent time of
24 need.

25 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,
26 do hereby certify that this is a true and
27 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8620,
28 adopted by the Senate
29 February 24, 2023

30 SARAH BANNISTER
31 Secretary of the Senate