68th Legislature 2023 HJ 3.1

1	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3
2	INTRODUCED BY T. FRANCE, D. BEDEY, J. HAMILTON, J. COHENOUR, M. STROMSWOLD, G.
3	NIKOLAKAKOS, A. BUCKLEY, M. MARLER, D. FERN, E. STAFMAN, B. MERCER, G. FRAZER, E.
4	BUTTREY, R. FITZGERALD, M. HOPKINS, M. YAKAWICH, W. CURDY, J. SMALL, S. O'BRIEN, C. FRIEDEL
5	P. GREEN, B. BARKER, K. ABBOTT, W. RUSK, J. KARLEN
6	
7	A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
8	MONTANA SUPPORTING UKRAINE AND THE UNITED STATES' POLICY AIDING UKRAINE.
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10	WHEREAS, Ukraine has been a distinct and key center of eastern European cultures for centuries; and
11	WHEREAS, in 1917 the independent state of Ukraine was established but was crushed by Communist
12	Russia and incorporated into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in 1922; and
13	WHEREAS, on January 21, 1990, more than 300,000 Ukrainians called for unity and independence
14	from the Soviet Union by forming a human chain between the cities of Kyiv and Ivano-Frankivsk; and
15	WHEREAS, on December 1, 1991, more than 90% of Ukrainian citizens voted in a national referendum
16	in support of independence, with majorities in every region, establishing the nation of Ukraine; and
17	WHEREAS, in February and March 2014, the Russian Federation invaded the peninsula of Crimea,
18	illegally annexing the region from Ukraine, held a sham referendum, and claimed the territory to be a part of
19	Russia; and
20	WHEREAS, beginning in April 2014, the Russian Federation invaded the Donetsk and Luhansk regions
21	of eastern Ukraine instigating violence, stoking conflict, arming separatists, and spreading disinformation on
22	Ukrainian soil; and
23	WHEREAS, since February 2015, Russia has continued to fail to live up to its agreements under the
24	Minsk agreements and the Russian-backed war in the Donbas has claimed approximately 14,000 lives; and
25	WHEREAS, on February 24, 2022, Russian forces, enabled by Belarus, launched its unprovoked full-
26	scale invasion of the peaceful, independent country Ukraine; and
27	WHEREAS, it is the right of all countries to decide their own future, foreign policy, and security
28	arrangements free from outside interference or coercion; and



68th Legislature 2023 HJ 3.1

1 WHEREAS, on February 25, 2022, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization condemned "in the strongest 2 possible terms Russia's horrifying attack on Ukraine", called on Russia "to turn back from the path of violence 3 and aggression", and reaffirmed an "iron-clad" commitment to mutual defense; and 4 WHEREAS, the European Commission, France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Canada 5 joined with the United States and committed to coordinated economic sanctions, including severe restrictions, 6 against Russia's Central Bank and full-blocking sanctions against Vladimir Putin; and 7 WHEREAS, United States leadership is integral to nations around the world in condemning and 8 imposing costs on the Russian Federation for its illegal, full-scale, renewed invasion; and 9 WHEREAS, since the invasion began, Russian forces have targeted and bombed nonmilitary targets, 10 murdered noncombatant civilians, kidnapped, tortured, and imprisoned Ukrainian citizens, and continue to 11 commit war crimes and crimes against humanity; and 12 WHEREAS, the United States, along with allies in Europe, the Indo-Pacific, and others around the 13 world, has been actively responding to Russia's unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine with critical 14 military, humanitarian, and financial support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. 15 16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF 17 THE STATE OF MONTANA: 18 That the 68th Legislature of the State of Montana: 19 (1) supports the Ukrainian people and their government in their war against Russian aggression; 20 (2) supports Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity; 21 (3) backs the continued use of sanctions, in coordination with United States allies and partners, to 22 fully isolate the Putin regime economically for its unprovoked aggression against Ukraine; 23 (4) urges the United States and its allies and partners to continue delivering defensive security 24 assistance and weapons to help defeat armored, airborne, and other threats to Ukraine; 25 (5) reaffirms Montana's support for the security of United States allies and the ironclad 26 commitment to Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; 27 (6) supports working with Europe and international partners to bolster Europe's energy security 28 and reduce its dependence on Russian energy imports;



68th Legislature 2023 HJ 3.1

(7) recognizes the critical importance of maintaining United States energy independence for the benefit of the American people and United States allies;

- declares that the war in Ukraine, a democratic country, is the frontline of democracy and freedom versus authoritarianism represented by Putin's Russia;
- (9)comprehends that dictators and authoritarians are watching the world's response to Putin's war against Ukraine and learning lessons for their own aggressive actions domestically and abroad, thereby making a strong and united response important to deter the expansion of territory by the use of military force beyond this crisis; and
- (10)stands steadfastly, staunchly, and proudly behind the Ukrainian people in their fight against the 10 authoritarian Putin regime.

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