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A MEMORIAL

SUPPORTING UKRAINE AGAINST RUSSIAN AGGRESSION.

WHEREAS, the post-war international security order, led by the North Atlantic treaty organization, relied upon diplomacy, peace and communication rather than armed conflict to ensure prosperity and stability for more than seventy years; and

WHEREAS, following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Ukrainian people voted overwhelmingly to form a nation independent from Russia and built a thriving democratic country grounded in the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, more than thirty years ago, Ukraine declared its independence, and in 1994, the United States, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom signed an agreement whereby each country pledged to respect the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine's borders in return for its nuclear disarmament; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the pro-western Euromaidan protest movement in Ukraine led to the resignation of authoritarian president Victor Yanukovich, a brutal ally of Russian president Vladimir Putin, and ushered in democratically elected leaders who have sought closer ties to the United States, the European Union and Great Britain; and

WHEREAS, Ukraine is recognized as a peaceful and

1 honorable democratic republic that is governed by
2 democratically elected President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and
3 Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal; and

4 WHEREAS, in order to manufacture a pretext to invade and
5 occupy Ukraine, Vladimir Putin and his surrogates lied to the
6 people of Russia and the global community, falsely claiming
7 that Ukraine posed a threat to Russians and that he was
8 launching a crusade against "Ukrainian Nazis"; and

9 WHEREAS, on February 24, 2022, Vladimir Putin launched
10 an unjust, unwarranted and unprovoked full-scale war of
11 choice and aggression upon the peaceful nation of Ukraine;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the Russian Federation violated international
14 peace and security agreements that provided peaceful
15 alternatives; and

16 WHEREAS, since February 24, 2022, Russian soldiers and
17 surrogates have brutally inflicted violence and terror upon
18 Ukrainian civilians of every age, including children and the
19 elderly, and committed atrocities throughout Ukraine; and

20 WHEREAS, since February 24, 2022, Russian soldiers and
21 surrogates have cruelly killed Ukrainian citizens' pets,
22 domestic animals and wildlife; and

23 WHEREAS, since February 24, 2022, Russian soldiers and
24 surrogates have attacked Ukrainian farms, environment,
25 cultural institutions, religious sites and heritage; and

1 WHEREAS, since February 24, 2022, Russia has used
2 targeted and indiscriminate aerial strikes to destroy
3 residential structures, hospitals, schools, businesses and
4 critical infrastructure that supports life, including water
5 systems and energy grids, plants and pipelines; and

6 WHEREAS, Russia has attacked and damaged nuclear power
7 facilities in Ukraine, captured and tortured workers from the
8 facilities and subjected Ukraine and its neighbors to risks
9 of radioactive releases; and

10 WHEREAS, as Russia's military struggled on the
11 battlefield, Putin resorted to relying on the brutal PMC
12 Wagner group to inflict his war of aggression and choice; and

13 WHEREAS, the PMC Wagner group is a Russian mercenary
14 organization that was founded and is led by a Russian
15 oligarch with close ties to Putin; and

16 WHEREAS, the PMC Wagner group has been designated as a
17 significant transnational criminal organization pursuant to
18 United States executive orders and by the United States
19 department of the treasury; and

20 WHEREAS, Russian soldiers and the PMC Wagner group are
21 credibly alleged to have committed violations of human rights
22 and international humanitarian law by targeting children, the
23 elderly, women and civilians through acts of cruel violence,
24 torture, rape, abduction and forced mass displacement of
25 Ukrainian children in Russian filtration camps to erase their

1 Ukrainian identity and place them with Russian citizens; and

2 WHEREAS, Russia's war on Ukraine has severely disrupted
3 Ukrainian and international economies, resources, food
4 supplies and environments; and

5 WHEREAS, the brutality of Russia's war on Ukraine is an
6 affront to international law, decency and humanity; and

7 WHEREAS, a threat to the sovereign borders of Ukraine is
8 a threat to all western democracies; and

9 WHEREAS, Ukraine has been a bulwark against Russian
10 military aggression in Europe and the world; and

11 WHEREAS, in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine,
12 the United States and the international community have
13 imposed sanctions on Russia and provided Ukraine with
14 equipment and resources it needs to defend its territory and
15 people; and

16 WHEREAS, the leaders, military and citizens of Ukraine
17 continue to valiantly stand up and fight against Russia's
18 unjust and heinous invasion of their country; and

19 WHEREAS, Ukraine deserves the continued support of every
20 American and the international community as Ukraine defends
21 itself from Russia's invasion, which is the largest attack in
22 Europe since World War II;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the members
25 of the house of representatives proudly stand in solidarity

1 with Ukraine, its people and its leaders, and commend them
2 for their resiliency, courage and relentless fight to protect
3 their right to self-determination and self-governance; and
4 condemn, in the strongest possible terms, Vladimir Putin's
5 attack on the people of Ukraine and endorse continued
6 economic sanctions and export controls on Russia and
7 continued provision of military and humanitarian resources to
8 Ukraine; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the house of
10 representatives wholeheartedly support the United States and
11 international efforts to swiftly aid Ukraine in defending
12 Ukrainian borders, end Russia's war on Ukraine and hold
13 Russia accountable for its actions; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 transmitted to the president of the United States, the senate
16 of the United States, the house of representatives of the
17 United States, members of New Mexico's congressional
18 delegation and the Ukrainian embassy in the United States. _____