

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Digest: Pledges that the State of Oregon wants to work together with a province in Ukraine. (Flesch Readability Score: 67.5).

Creates a ceremonial relationship between the State of Oregon and Cherkasy Oblast, Ukraine.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas Ukraine gained independence in 1991 and is a sovereign, democratic and law-based state that protects basic human rights and liberties; and

Whereas Article 15 of Ukraine’s constitution states that Ukrainian social life shall be “based on the principles of political, economic and ideological diversity”; and

Whereas Article 15 further states that no ideology is recognized as mandatory by the state; censorship is prohibited; and the state guarantees freedom of political activities not prohibited by the constitution and laws of Ukraine; and

Whereas in July 2014, Ukraine was officially recognized as an ally of the United States by the U.S. Senate; and

Whereas in December 2022, speaking before a joint session of the United States Congress, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy thanked the American people for their support of Ukraine and for their resolve for Ukrainian independence and victory; and

Whereas there are more than 22,000 Ukrainian Americans in Oregon, and Oregon has been a home and refuge for Ukrainian immigrants for decades; and

Whereas the State of Oregon acknowledges the significant contributions

1 of the Ukrainian community residing within its borders, which has brought
2 forth an array of talents, entrepreneurial spirit and traditions that have
3 deeply enriched Oregon's economy, culture and civic life; and

4 Whereas Oregon was among the first U.S. states to officially recognize
5 the tragedy of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, including the passage
6 of Senate Bill 583 (2023), which established Holodomor Remembrance Day;
7 and

8 Whereas approximately 4,500 Ukrainians have arrived in Oregon since
9 Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, upending their lives and forcing
10 them to flee the danger and destruction inflicted on their homeland; and

11 Whereas Oregon's Department of Human Services plans to distribute \$2.25
12 million in federal grants to help refugees from war-torn Ukraine gain access
13 to housing assistance, employment services, health and mental health pro-
14 grams, legal services and aid for senior citizens; and

15 Whereas within Oregon, the City of Corvallis shares a sister city re-
16 lationship with the Ukrainian community of Uzhhorod, and the City of
17 Portland shares a friendship city relationship with the City of Lviv in
18 Ukraine; and

19 Whereas more than 30 communities in Ukraine maintain a sister city or
20 similar relationship with communities in the United States; and

21 Whereas in 2024, Ihor Taburets, the Governor of Cherkasy Oblast, met
22 virtually with Oregon's Senate Interim Committee on Veterans, Emergency
23 Management, Federal and World Affairs and requested a formalized sister
24 state relationship between the State of Oregon and Cherkasy Oblast; and

25 Whereas Oregon and the Cherkasy region of Ukraine share many mutual
26 values, aspirations and interests, including economic cooperation, education,
27 arts and culture, agriculture, energy, governance, health, biotechnology,
28 humanitarian assistance, environmental sustainability, science and technol-
29 ogy; and

30 Whereas Russian military forces committed an unprovoked and unjusti-
31 fied attack on the people of Ukraine, inflicting catastrophic loss of life and

1 destruction; and

2 Whereas on February 24, 2025, a peaceful solidarity gathering was held
3 at Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland to mark the third anniversary of
4 Russia's invasion of Ukraine; and

5 Whereas the Legislative Assembly recognizes and thanks the many or-
6 ganizations and groups in Oregon, such as the nonprofit entity DAWN,
7 which have provided vital humanitarian aid and support to the Ukrainian
8 community; now, therefore,

9 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

10 That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, support
11 the establishment of a sister state ceremonial relationship between the State
12 of Oregon and Cherkasy Oblast, Ukraine; and be it further

13 Resolved, That the State of Oregon stands in unwavering solidarity with
14 the people of Ukraine, and we condemn in the strongest terms Russia's pre-
15 meditated and unjust war against a peaceful, sovereign nation; and be it
16 further

17 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the Gover-
18 nor of Cherkasy Oblast as an expression of our solidarity and commitment
19 to this partnership.