

State of New York

Legislature of Erie County

The Legislature of Erie County, in the State of New York does hereby recognize August 24, 2015, the Twenty-fourth Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence

Whereas, stemming from the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of communist rule in Eastern Europe, wanting to form a democratic future for its people who have suffered under a brutal regime for so long, the Parliament of Ukraine declared an independent Ukrainian State on August 24th, 1991; and

Whereas, still today, the great people of the Ukraine face hostilities being forced upon them from forces within their own borders as well as hostile entities from outside their own land. These forces are focused on destroying the independence that the Ukrainian Government and people have been working so hard to maintain; and

Whereas, while part of the Ukraine is being held by opposing forces and military actions have taken place by foreign forces, we stand in recognition of the Ukraine's right to self-govern and be wholly independent of any Russian influence and tactics meant to destroy its independence; and

Whereas, President Obama having signed into law the Ukraine Freedom Support Act, which expresses the will of the United States to help preserve the independence and borders which the Ukraine holds and to discourage the Russian government from acting to further destabilize the region with its military actions and to also cease actions which also may affect other independent nations in the region; and

Whereas, The United States of America shares many of the core values that the people of the Ukraine are fighting and dying for: the power to determine their own future, democracy and the right to rule themselves.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved;

That the Legislature of Erie County, in the State of New York does hereby recognize August 24, 2015, the Twenty-fourth Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence. We urge all citizens to acknowledge this historic event in the history of the Ukrainian nation. We stand with the people and the Government of the Ukraine in honoring all those who have fought for and for those who have lost their lives in the pursuit of a free and democratic Ukraine.

Patrick B. Burke

Erie County Legislator, 7th District

Karen McCarthy

Clerk of Legislature