## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

AFFIRMING SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE FREE AND INDEPENDENT PEOPLE OF UKRAINE.

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2022, the military forces of Russia under the command of President Vladimir Putin attacked its peaceful neighboring country of Ukraine in an unprovoked invasion, with the aim of undermining the freedom of the Ukrainian people and subverting global movements for democracy; and

WHEREAS, people all over the world were deeply moved by the tragic loss of human life, intentional targeting of Ukrainian noncombatants, and massive destruction inflicted upon Ukraine as a result of Russia's aggression; and

WHEREAS, the invasion of Ukraine is a dangerous development that has far-reaching implications, especially in how aggressive regimes that are at odds with freedom or democracy treat weaker neighbors; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America's and the rest of the free world's diplomatic, ideological, and most importantly, moral response to the invasion of Ukraine sets a precedent, and countries like the People's Republic of China are closely observing that response as they express their territorial ambitions for the Republic of Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, this body is concerned about the possibility of new conflicts, escalations, and crises in the Indo-Pacific region that may result if weakness is perceived in the Western world's response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and therefore believes freedom-loving people everywhere must condemn aggression and land grabs; and

 WHEREAS, the people of the State of Hawaii stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine, as the military conflict there affects us all and represents a symbolic conflict between democracy and tyranny, in which we must all stand for the rights of our fellow human beings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that this body affirms support and solidarity with the free and independent people of Ukraine; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States of America; President of Ukraine; United States Representative to the United Nations; United States Secretary of State; Governor of Hawaii; and Executive Director of the Hawaii Government Employees Association.