



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

Open Letter to the People of Ukraine

To the heroic people of Ukraine,

Wisconsin stands with you as you face one of the most unnecessary and shameful acts of military aggression in modern history. Without provocation, Vladimir Putin has chosen to engage in a premeditated war based on revisionist grievances and his own twisted quest for power at all costs. Today, we see those costs plainly - thousands of lives have already been lost, hundreds of thousands of civilians have been displaced from their homes, and the shadow of war is cast over every corner of Ukraine. Unfortunately, we know that President Putin is ready and willing to escalate this war, no matter how many Ukrainian or Russian lives will be lost.

Ukraine has been proudly and fiercely independent since 1991. For over thirty years, the Ukrainian people have worked hard to develop their sovereign nation and have fought to address corruption with the hope of pursuing a life of freedom and peace.

Eight years ago, Ukrainians came together to chart a new path forward - a path of democracy, free from President Putin's machinations and Russian meddling. Instead of accepting that reality, Putin and his allies responded by illegally annexing Crimea and provoking war in the Donbas. When President Putin provided his muddled and fabricated rationale late last month for expanding the war and invading Ukraine, it became even clearer that he was unwilling to consider either reason or facts. People of Ukraine, people of Wisconsin, and people of the world know: this war is Vladimir Putin's, and Putin's alone.

We know that the people of Ukraine want only to live in peace, and we are horrified at President Putin's decision to break that peace with this unprovoked and illegal invasion. Ukrainian cities and lives are being destroyed, from Kyiv to Zaporizhzhia, from churches to schools, and the world is watching. We condemn these actions in no uncertain terms, and unequivocally denounce any further military actions carried out by Russia in Ukraine. We call on the international community to continue to sanction and isolate Putin and his regime and to continue providing much-needed aid and support to the people of Ukraine. This war *must* end, and Russia must lay down arms and leave Ukraine's borders immediately. We will accept nothing less than an unconditional ceasefire and a complete end to the Russian occupation of Ukraine.

To the people of Ukraine and to Ukrainians around the world, you have the right to protect your land, your history, your culture. And we have a moral obligation to support and affirm your right to live freely. We recognize that this is an especially heart-wrenching time for those in our own Ukrainian-American communities, seeing the country of their birth or heritage torn apart and their family members and friends under the unimaginable threat of violence and dislocation. **You are not alone.** We are united against aggression and war, and we stand ready to listen and to speak out against these horrors during this difficult time, and for years to come.

Слава Україні! Героям слава!

In Solidarity,

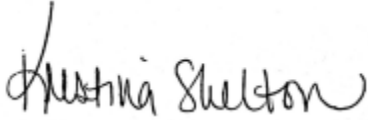


Jonathan Brostoff
State Representative
19th Assembly District



Francesca Hong
State Representative
76th Assembly District

Sue Conley
State Representative
44th Assembly District



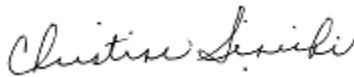
Kristina Shelton
State Representative
90th Assembly District



Lee Snodgrass
State Representative
57th Assembly District



Dianne Hesselbein
State Representative
79th Assembly District



Christine Sinicki
State Representative
20th Assembly District

Jill Billings
State Representative
95th Assembly District



David Bowen
State Representative
10th Assembly District



Mark Spreitzer
State Representative
45th Assembly District



Evan Goyke
State Representative
18th Assembly District



Jodi Emerson
State Representative
91st Assembly District

Dora Drake
State Representative
11th Assembly District



Dave Considine
State Representative
81st Assembly District

Robyn Vining
State Representative
14th Assembly District

Gary Hebl
State Representative
46th Assembly District



Jimmy Anderson
State Representative
47th Assembly District

Sylvia Ortiz-Velez
State Representative
8th Assembly District



Deb Andraca
State Representative
23rd Assembly District



Chris Larson
State Senator
7th Senate District

Samba Baldeh
State Representative
48th Assembly District

Kelda Roys
State Senator
26th Senate District



André Jacque
State Senator
1st Senate District

LaTonya Johnson
State Senator
6th Senate District



Melissa Agard
State Senator
16th Senate District