

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1247

By Jernigan

A RESOLUTION to recognize the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the people of Ukraine.

WHEREAS, formed in 1949 with the signing of the Washington Treaty, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is a security alliance of thirty countries from North America and Europe that has as its fundamental goal the safeguarding of the Allies' freedom and security by political and military means; and

WHEREAS, politically, NATO promotes democratic values and enables members to consult and cooperate on defense and security-related issues to solve problems, build trust, and, in the long run, prevent conflict; and

WHEREAS, militarily, NATO is committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes; if diplomatic efforts fail, NATO has the military power to undertake crises-management operations; and

WHEREAS, these crises-management operations are carried out under the collective defense clause of NATO's founding treaty in Article 5 of the Washington Treaty or under a United Nations mandate, alone or in cooperation with other countries and international organizations; and

WHEREAS, enshrined in Article 5 is NATO's commitment to the principle that an attack against one or several of its members is considered as an attack against all; in seventy-three years, Article 5 has been invoked only once: in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks against the United States in 2001; and

WHEREAS, NATO is on record as condemning in the strongest possible terms Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, which is an independent, peaceful, and democratic country and a close NATO partner; and

WHEREAS, the Alliance has called upon President Putin to stop this war immediately, withdraw all Russian forces from Ukraine without conditions, and engage in genuine diplomacy; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize NATO for its efforts to assist, in solidarity, the democratically elected government of Ukraine and salute the people of Ukraine for their courage in the face of such extreme adversity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.