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HOUSE BILL 2137

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State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Representative Kraft

1 AN ACT Relating to directing state agencies and authorities to  
2 rescind all state-related public funds out of Russia; adding a new  
3 chapter to Title 39 RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW;  
4 creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

7 (1) Ukrainians are the largest group of European residents in  
8 Washington and that from 2000 to 2019 Washington's Ukrainian  
9 population grew 69 percent.

10 (2) Russia has engaged in an unjustified and unprovoked invasion  
11 of the sovereign nation of Ukraine.

12 (3) Washington stands firmly in support of Ukraine's sovereignty,  
13 independence, and territorial integrity and very strongly condemns  
14 Russia's military actions against Ukraine.

15 (4) Preventing Washington's investment activity, whether directly  
16 or indirectly, from giving any aid to Russia as it commits these  
17 egregious acts of violence and human rights violations against the  
18 Ukrainian people is a compelling state interest.

19 (5) Protecting Washington from financing any action against the  
20 Ukrainian people is a compelling state interest.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 2.**        (1) All state agencies, including  
2 institutions of higher education, shall review all agency contracts  
3 to determine if the agency has any contract with an entity described  
4 in subsection (2) (a) and (b) of this section.

5        (2) All state agencies, including institutions of higher  
6 education, shall immediately terminate any existing contract or  
7 pending contract, and refrain from entering into any new contracts,  
8 with an entity that is determined to be:

9        (a) Headquartered in Russia or has its principal place of  
10 business in Russia; or

11        (b) Providing any funds or assistance to the Russian government  
12 by direct or indirect means.

13        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 3.**        (1) No state agency, board, commission, or  
14 office, including institutions of higher education, may invest public  
15 funds with an entity described in section 2(2) (a) or (b) of this  
16 act.

17        (2) All state agencies, boards, commissions, and offices,  
18 including institutions of higher education, shall review all  
19 investments under their authority to determine whether the state has  
20 any investment under their authority with an entity described in  
21 section 2(2) (a) or (b) of this act.

22        (3) If the state agency, board, commission, office, or  
23 institution of higher education determines that it has investments  
24 under its authority with an entity described in section 2(2) (a) or  
25 (b) of this act, it shall divest its money and assets from any  
26 investment in such entity.

27        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 4.**        If any provision of this act or its  
28 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
29 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
30 persons or circumstances is not affected.

31        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 5.**        Section 2 of this act constitutes a new  
32 chapter in Title 39 RCW.

33        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 6.**        Section 3 of this act constitutes a new  
34 chapter in Title 43 RCW.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**    This act is necessary for the immediate  
2    preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of  
3    the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
4    effect immediately.

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