

1           A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress and the  
2 Kentucky Congressional delegation not to send money generated from Kentucky to  
3 Ukraine.

4           WHEREAS, since the start of the conflict between Ukraine and Russia in February  
5 2022, Ukraine has become the top recipient of foreign aid from the United States; and

6           WHEREAS, according to the Kiel Institute for the World Economy, excluding war-  
7 related spending, Ukraine has received approximately \$75 billion in assistance from the  
8 United States; and

9           WHEREAS, the percentage of United States foreign aid to Ukraine as a percentage  
10 of gross domestic product is the highest since 1960; and

11           WHEREAS, Ukraine has received an unprecedented number of arms and materials  
12 from the United States and Europe; and

13           WHEREAS, a growing number of Americans believe that the United States is  
14 doing too much to support Ukraine at the expense of domestic priorities. A recent Gallup  
15 poll found that 41 percent Americans, a plurality, said that the United States is doing too  
16 much to support Ukraine; and

17           WHEREAS, 61 percent of Americans say that the financial aid Ukraine receives  
18 from the United States should have limits; and

19           WHEREAS, a majority of Americans who oppose continued aid to Ukraine believe  
20 that spending money on unmet domestic needs is better for the country. A poll conducted  
21 by the Reagan Institute found that over 57 percent of those who opposed continued aid to  
22 Ukraine cited the most compelling reason as unmet domestic needs; and

23           WHEREAS, both the United States and this Commonwealth have pressing needs  
24 and priorities that are being unmet. Examples of these unmet needs include combatting  
25 the opioid and fentanyl crisis, securing the southern border, and disaster relief; and

26           WHEREAS, fentanyl is the deadliest drug in the United States, and drug overdose  
27 deaths from fentanyl have increased more than sevenfold from 2015 to 2021. The

1 proportion of Kentucky resident overdose deaths involving fentanyl was 72.5 percent in  
2 2022; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2020, Kentucky had the third-highest age-adjusted drug overdose  
4 fatality rate in the United States, at 49.3 deaths per 100 thousand people. Approximately  
5 81 percent of overdose deaths in 2020 involved opioids; and

6 WHEREAS, the rise in opioid deaths have coincided with an unprecedented spike  
7 in illegal immigration at the United States-Mexico border in recent years; and

8 WHEREAS, in December 2023, United States Customs and Border Protection  
9 reported approximately 302,034 encounters along the southern border, a record setting  
10 number; and

11 WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2023, United States Customs and Border Protection  
12 reported more than 3.2 million migrant encounters nationwide, of which over 2.4 million  
13 were recorded at the southern border. The total number of encounters were almost equal  
14 to the number of births registered in the United States in 2022, at over 3.6 million; and

15 WHEREAS, recent flooding in eastern Kentucky resulted in a billion dollars in  
16 damage and tornadic activity in western Kentucky resulted in over \$300 million dollars in  
17 damage; and

18 WHEREAS, the issues of overdoses due to opioids and fentanyl, the border crisis,  
19 and recovery needs after natural disasters all point to a need to focus on this country's and  
20 state's own issues; and

21 WHEREAS, the growing chorus of Americans and Kentuckians are concerned  
22 about the health and safety of their communities which require resources from both state  
23 and federal government to be directed at home rather than abroad;

24 NOW, THEREFORE,

25 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***  
26 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:***

27 ➔Section 1. The United States Congress and the Kentucky Congressional

1 delegation is urged not to send money generated from Kentucky to Ukraine.

2       ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a  
3 copy of this Resolution to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Majority  
4 Leader of the United States Senate, and each member of the Kentucky Congressional  
5 delegation.