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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONDEMNING RUSSIA'S DEADLY PRESENCE IN UKRAINE AND STRONGLY  
URGING THE WITHDRAWAL OF RUSSIAN TROOPS FROM THAT SOVEREIGN  
NATION.

1           WHEREAS, Ukraine (formerly and less properly known as "The  
2 Ukraine") has been an independent republic and separate from  
3 Russia since the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991; and  
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5           WHEREAS, Ukraine is a unitary state composed of twenty-four  
6 provinces and the autonomous republic of Crimea; and  
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8           WHEREAS, Ukraine is home to two cities with special status:  
9 Kiev, its capital and largest city, and Sevastopol, a strategic  
10 naval point; and  
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12           WHEREAS, the port of Sevastopol is a major naval base and  
13 home to the Black Sea Russian Fleet, which was divided between  
14 Russia and Ukraine after the fall of the Soviet Union; and  
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16           WHEREAS, continued presence of the Russian Fleet in  
17 Sevastopol has highly intensified tensions between Ukraine and  
18 Russia, which have been ongoing since the division of the Black  
19 Sea Fleet; and  
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21           WHEREAS, in November 2013, crisis erupted when Ukraine's  
22 then-president Viktor Yanukovich rejected a far-reaching trade  
23 and association pact with the European Union, preferring instead  
24 a Russian loan bailout and closer ties with Moscow; and  
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26           WHEREAS, after Yanukovich's rejection of an European Union  
27 association agreement and aid to Ukraine, peaceful protests and  
28 the occupation of Kiev's Independence Square, dubbed  
29 "Euromaidan" by young pro-European Union Ukrainians ensued; and  
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1 WHEREAS, peaceful protests turned deadly in January 2014;  
2 and  
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4 WHEREAS, on February 22, 2014, members of Ukraine's  
5 Parliament found that Yanukovich was unable to fulfill his  
6 duties, and set an election for May 25, 2014, to determine his  
7 replacement; Yanukovich was later disowned by his own party; and  
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9 WHEREAS, Yanukovich had actually left Kiev the day before,  
10 on February 21, 2014, fleeing first to Crimea, then to southern  
11 Russia; warrant for his arrest was issued, accusing him of the  
12 mass murder of protesters; and  
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14 WHEREAS, on March 1, 2014, Russian troops seized control  
15 over most of the Crimean peninsula of Ukraine; and  
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17 WHEREAS, Russia's Parliament approved the use of the  
18 Russian military in Ukraine, while Russian officials continued  
19 to claim that the presence of their military forces in Crimea  
20 was not a breach of existing agreements between Russia and  
21 Ukraine; and  
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23 WHEREAS, Ukraine's new government has deemed the aggressive  
24 posture of Russia's military "an act of aggression" to Ukrainian  
25 sovereignty, and the United States has condemned Russia's clear  
26 violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity as  
27 "a breach of international law"; and  
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29 WHEREAS, since the conflict began, ninety persons have died  
30 and over seventy-nine have been hospitalized, including minors  
31 and police, according to Ukraine's Ministry of Healthcare; now,  
32 therefore,  
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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
35 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
36 Session of 2014, that this body condemns Russia's invasion of  
37 Ukraine and strongly urges the immediate withdrawal of Russian  
38 troops from that sovereign nation; and  
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the nations of Ukraine and  
41 Russia are urged to reach a peaceful resolution in order to



1 prevent a full-scale conflict and any more loss of innocent  
2 life; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, the United States Ambassador to Ukraine, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation.

OFFERED BY:

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