



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### 32<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE

- WHEREAS:** On August 24, 1991, the Parliament of Ukraine formally declared themselves as an independent, sovereign, and democratic state, which was further upheld by over 90% of Ukrainians in a national referendum in December of that same year; and
- WHEREAS:** For centuries, the people of Ukraine yearned and struggled to achieve an independent state all the while preserving their culture, language, and self-identity; and
- WHEREAS:** While the territorial integrity of Ukraine is sovereign and inviolable, portions of the territory are currently under foreign military occupation. The people of Ukraine, led by the Armed Forces and Territorial Defense Forces of Ukraine, heroically fight to defend their nation, as they seek to protect the independence they hold so dear; and
- WHEREAS:** Ukraine has shared a unique bond with the United States for decades, with Ukraine sending servicemen and women to serve alongside U.S. forces in theaters such as Afghanistan and Iraq throughout a three-decade relationship on NATO deployments; and
- WHEREAS:** When the invasion of Ukraine began in 2014, this relationship was further strengthened as the United States and its allies assisted and trained Ukraine's Armed Forces, and provided educational materials and expertise to further the professional development and increase the overall readiness of Ukraine's Armed Forces; and
- WHEREAS:** Ukrainian Americans continue to make significant contributions to the cultural fabric of the United States while never forgetting about their rich history and heritage, and the shared U.S.-Ukrainian values of freedom, democracy, and the rule of law; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 24, 2023, as the 32<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.



*B. P. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Melinda Kipertovich*

CHIEF OF STAFF