

RANCHO SANTIAGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Resolution No. 22-11 in Support of an Independent and Democratic Ukraine and
Against further Russian Military Invasion**

Resolution No. 22-11

WHEREAS, on January 21, 1990, more than 300,000 Ukrainians called for unity and independence from the Soviet Union by forming a human chain between the cities of Kyiv and Ivano-Frankivsk; and

WHEREAS, on August 24, 1991, the elected Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine declared the independence of Ukraine from the Soviet Union with an overwhelming majority vote; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 1991, more than 90 percent of Ukrainian citizens voted in a national referendum in support of independence, with majorities in every region; and

WHEREAS, on February 8, 1994, Ukraine was the first member state of the Commonwealth of Independent States to join the Partnership for Peace program of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and has since deepened its relationship with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, recognized as an Enhanced Opportunities Partner; and

WHEREAS, on December 5, 1994, in an effort to solidify security commitments to Ukraine in return for its nuclear disarmament, the United States, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom signed the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances, whereby each country pledged to respect the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine's borders while refraining from the threat or use of force against Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, on November 22, 2004, Ukrainians peacefully took to the streets in protest of a fraudulent presidential election, beginning the Orange Revolution and resulting in new elections under free and fair conditions; and

WHEREAS, on February 20, 2014, the Russian Federation invaded the independent state of Ukraine, which continues to confront malign Russian activity, including the ongoing attempted annexation of Crimea, conflict in the Donbas region, and threats to freedom of navigation in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2015, a new package of measures to end the conflict in Ukraine, known as "Minsk II", was signed, provisions of which have still not yet been fully implemented; and

WHEREAS, at least 14,000 Ukrainians have been killed defending their homeland and millions more displaced since the conflict with Russia began; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2017, the European Union Ukraine Association Agreement came into effect; and Whereas, in March and November 2021, the Russian Federation deployed a massive troop and weapons buildup on the border with Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2022, President Joseph R. Biden warned Russian President Vladimir Putin that the West "will respond decisively and impose swift and severe costs" if Russia further invades Ukraine.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rancho Santiago Community College District Board of Trustees commends the courage, resolve, and restraint shown by the Ukrainian people in their pursuit of sovereignty and democracy, and pays tribute to the many men and women who gave their lives in pursuit of a free and democratic Ukraine.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rancho Santiago Community College District Board of Trustees stands in solidarity with individuals and organizations working to support peace in Ukraine and stand firmly with those that strongly oppose the unlawful invasion on the people and communities of Ukraine.

Dated this 14th of March 2022.

Ayes: 6 Trustees: Arias Miller, Crockett, Hanna, Labrado, Tinajero, Yarbrough
Noes:
Absent: 1 Trustee: Hernandez
Abstain:



Marvin Martinez
Secretary, Board of Trustees