

# *P*ROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS*, on August 24, 1991, the people of Ukraine, realizing their inviolable right to self-determination, continued the 1000-year history of state-building and declared Ukraine an independent, indivisible and democratic state; and

*WHEREAS*, Ukrainians first began to settle in the United States between 1899 and 1914, seeking liberty, peace and prosperity; and

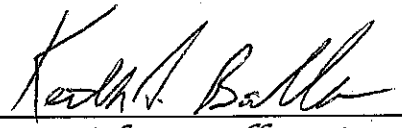
*WHEREAS*, the United States recognizes Ukraine's fight for independence and is the largest single-country donor of humanitarian assistance to Ukraine and shares a desire for a bright and prosperous future for all Ukrainians; and

*WHEREAS*, the Borough of Watchung and Somerset County in the State of New Jersey is home to Ukraine residents who are part of local chapters of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA), established in 1925, known as the longest-running and largest Ukrainian women's organization in the US; and

*WHEREAS*, the Borough of Watchung shares a desire for a bright and prosperous future for all Ukrainians and remains strongly committed to supporting Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity and to helping Ukraine advance its Euro-Atlantic aspirations.

*NOW THEREFORE*, I, Keith S. Balla, Mayor of Watchung, along with Members of the Council on this 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Ukraine Independence, do hereby invite all present to participate in the celebration of Ukraine's Independence Day on August 25<sup>th</sup> and urge all residents to become aware of the significance of this day in our borough.

DATED: AUGUST 18, 2022

  
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Keith S. Balla, Mayor

