

#21429
STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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Joseph L. Johnson
Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, fifty-two years ago, on January 22, 1918, a free and independent Ukrainian National Republic was proclaimed by the will of the Ukrainian people represented by the legally elected Ukrainian Parliament in Kiev, ancient capital of Ukraine, which Republic was recognized by a score of foreign nations; and
- WHEREAS, after such Declaration of Independence and recognition, Ukraine was occupied by the aggression of Russian military forces and since that time the former citizens of the Ukrainian National Republic have been living under the oppressive rule of Communist Russia, being denied the basic freedoms which linger in their hearts; and
- WHEREAS, their continuing struggle for freedom and independence is typical of the struggle of all freedom-loving peoples everywhere, and strongly emphasizes for us -- free Americans -- that the price of freedom is eternal vigilance against continuous encroachments against it both at home and abroad, and especially against communist aggression which seriously threatens the peace and security of the peoples of the world; and
- WHEREAS, Americans have a traditional interest in the defense of freedom and human rights and sympathize with the aspirations of freedom-loving people wherever freedom is denied; and
- WHEREAS, Minnesotans of Ukrainian descent annually observe the anniversary of the Ukrainian Declaration of Independence, and are observing the fifty-second anniversary of it on January 22, 1970,
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harold Levander, Governor of the State of Minnesota do hereby proclaim Thursday, January 22, 1970, as

UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

in Minnesota, and urge all citizens of our State to join with me in supporting the struggle of the Ukrainian people to regain their national freedom and a democratic system of government.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this twenty-third day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy, and of the State, the one hundred twelfth.

Harold Levander
GOVERNOR

Joseph L. Johnson
SECRETARY OF STATE