



Ukrainian Cultural Association of Ohio

**Proponent Testimony HB 360
Designate Ukraine Independence Day
House Government Oversight Committee
Tuesday, April 9, 2024**

Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Humphrey, and members of the House Government Oversight Committee, on behalf of the Ukrainian Cultural Association of Ohio, I would like to express our support for House Bill 360.

The UCAO was founded in 1983 here in central Ohio with the mission of promoting Ukrainian cultural heritage and sponsoring Ukrainian cultural and civic events in Columbus and throughout central Ohio.

Thank you to the bill sponsors, Representative Brennan and Representative Seitz, for sponsoring HB 360, which designates the twenty-fourth day of August as “Ukraine Independence Day” in the state of Ohio.

The declaration of independence by the Ukrainian parliament on August 24, 1991, marked a pivotal moment in Ukrainian history. The Ukrainian people, who had endured many years of domination by the Soviet Union and the Russian Empire, declared their self-determination and their commitment to democracy. Today, as Ukraine continues its fight to preserve its sovereignty against increasing Russian aggression, this legislation is a strong signal that Ohio stands with Ukraine.

The UCAO urges a favorable vote on this bill. Thank you for your consideration.