

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

S. C. R. No. 21

Senators Patton, Smith

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To condemn the Russian Federation for the wrongful and
illegal abduction, forcible transfer, and subsequent
illegal adoption and indoctrination of children from
Ukraine.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING:

WHEREAS, On January 12, 1951, the Convention on the
Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (commonly
known as the "Genocide Convention"), of which the Russian
Federation is a party, came into effect; and

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WHEREAS, On February 24, 2022, according to the Council on
Foreign Relations, the Russian Federation escalated its eight-
year-long occupation of the Ukrainian Crimean peninsula by
launching an unprovoked large-scale invasion of Ukraine; and

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WHEREAS, on March 9, 2022, Russia attacked a maternity
hospital in Mariupol, Ukraine, resulting in the deaths of five
individuals and injuries to 17 other individuals; and

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WHEREAS, Forcibly transferring children of one national,
ethnic, racial, or religious group to another group with
intent to destroy the group, in whole or in part, is a violation
of Article II of the Genocide Convention; and

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WHEREAS, Ukrainian authorities have stated that thousands

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of Ukrainian children have been abducted and forcibly 21
transferred to Russia despite having families that remain in 22
Ukraine; and 23

WHEREAS, On June 16, 2022, Russian authorities announced 24
that children born in occupied Ukrainian territories after the 25
February 24, 2022, invasion will be deemed Russian citizens; and 26

WHEREAS, On July 11, 2022, United Nations Secretary-General 27
Antonio Guterres ordered an investigation into the deaths and 28
injuries of Ukrainian children; and 29

WHEREAS, On July 13, 2022, then Secretary of State Antony 30
J. Blinken issued a statement calling upon Russia to immediately 31
halt its systematic filtration operations in Ukraine that have 32
caused the disappearance, detention, or forcible deportation of 33
between 900,000 and 1.6 million Ukrainian citizens; and 34

WHEREAS, On February 14, 2023, a report by the Yale 35
Humanitarian Research Lab identified at least 32 facilities in 36
Russia-occupied Crimea and Russia involved in the systematic 37
academic, cultural, patriotic, and military re-education of 38
Ukrainian children; and 39

WHEREAS, Maria Lvova-Belova, Commissioner for Children's 40
Rights for the President of Russia, has admitted to transferring 41
Ukrainian children to Russia and facilitating their adoptions by 42
Russian families, actions for which she was charged by the 43
International Criminal Court on March 17, 2023, with the war 44
crimes of unlawful deportation of population (children) and 45
unlawful transfer of population (children) from occupied areas 46
of Ukraine to the Russian Federation; and 47

WHEREAS, On January 25, 2025, then Chairman of the House 48
Foreign Affairs Committee Michael T. McCaul stated that more 49
than 260,000 Ukrainian children have been abducted by Russia, 50
citing U.S. intelligence estimates; now therefore be it 51

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 52
Assembly of the State of Ohio, declare that the abduction and 53
forcible transfer of children and facilitation of illegal 54
adoptions is contrary to Russia's obligations under the Genocide 55
convention and amounts to genocide; and be it further 56

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 57
Assembly of the State of Ohio, declare that the Russian 58
Federation is attempting to wipe out a generation of Ukrainian 59
children, thereby crippling Ukraine's ability to nurture the 60
next generation of Ukrainian citizens and leaders and to rebuild 61
their country after Russia's unprovoked war, with the purpose of 62
demolishing Ukraine's unique language, culture, history, and 63
identity; and be it further 64

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 65
Assembly of the State of Ohio, note with concern that the 66
invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation has significantly 67
increased the risks of children being exposed to human 68
trafficking and exploitation, child labor, gender-based 69
violence, hunger, injury, trauma, deprivation of education and 70
shelter, and death; and be it further 71

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 72
Assembly of the State of Ohio, hold the Russian Federation, 73
under the leadership of Vladimir Putin, responsible for the 74
wrongful and illegal abduction, forcible transfer, and 75
subsequent illegal adoption and indoctrination of children from 76
Ukraine and officially condemn these actions in the strongest 77
terms; and be it further 78

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 79
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President Pro 80
Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, Speaker and 81
Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, members of 82
the Ohio Congressional delegation, the United States Secretary 83

of State, the United States Ambassador to the United Nations,	84
and the news media of Ohio.	85