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MARCY KAPTUR
9TH DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRWOMAN
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development and Related Agencies

Subcommittee on Defense

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment
and Related Agencies

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Subcommittee on Disability Assistance
and Memorial Affairs

February 24, 2023

Dear Friends:

“Then rise ye up, break your chains and water with the tyrant’s blood, the freedom they have won.” These words of 19th century Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko ring true today.

Vladimir Putin, in trying to capture all of Ukraine and hold it under his tyrannical claw, has gone too far. America has resumed its role as the vigorous and uncompromising defender of a free and prosperous people. Liberty must check tyranny. Today, Ukraine seeks Liberty for her 40 million people—and Liberty must win.

America’s democratic ally Ukraine is pleading for help as she staves off Putin’s vast military machine. President Biden has made his position clear: he will support Ukraine “as long as it takes.” He will not let Putin force Ukraine to negotiate away its territory. He takes these positions because he knows it would be in the best interest of Russia, Iran, and China for America look the other way—for us to do nothing. Long term that would be bad both for the United States and for a safer, more democratic world.

America is still a young land and, in some ways, largely sheltered from the lengths to which tyrants will go to wipe out free people. Putin is prepared to go to those lengths. This is the time to choose. This is the time to fight. This is the time to stand up and defend Liberty, at home and abroad. Each generation must make fateful choices.

When our great nation was founded, most of the world’s population were slaves, serfs, or subjugated. Even then, one of our Founding Fathers, Patrick Henry, grasped the concept of Liberty. He challenged our forbearers: “Give me Liberty or give me death.” He understood what was at stake then, just as the people of Ukraine do today. So must we. We must choose Liberty. Let us stand with our Allies and strengthen democracy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marcy Kaptur".

MARCY KAPTUR
U.S. Representative

