

## IMPORTANT UPDATES *from* CONGRESSMAN SMUCKER

Dear [REDACTED]













The United States must stand with the Ukrainian people to help put an end to Russian President Putin's coldblooded and deadly invasion into Ukraine. I am writing to update you on the actions my colleagues and I have taken in Congress to support this goal.

I fully support the actions our nation has taken so far, including levying [sanctions](#) on Russia's banking and energy sectors while also outlawing the export of American technologies key to Russia's defense and aerospace industries. The United States has provided [hundreds of millions of dollars](#) worth of weapons to the Ukrainians and has ordered [12,000 troops](#) to Germany and Eastern Europe to protect our NATO allies against possible Russian aggression. Importantly, the United States will cut off [imports of Russian oil](#).

The U.S. government should continue to provide military assistance and build support among our allies to combat Russia's aggression through ratcheting up economic sanctions and imposing other consequences through every tool we have, including trade relations. That is why **I cosponsored the Suspending Normal Trade Relations with Russia and Belarus Act (H.R. 7014), legislation that would impose punitive measures on Russia as a consequence of their invasion of Ukraine.** It would block all imports of Russian oil, gas, coal, and other energy products, which President Biden [refrained from doing](#) for the first week of hostilities in Ukraine. H.R. 7014 would also revoke permanent normal trade relations with Russia and Belarus, a Kremlin ally which has [acted](#) as a co-conspirator in the Ukrainian invasion, relegating them to the same trade status as Cuba and North Korea. H.R. 7014 would also encourage other members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to suspend their trade concessions to Russia and Belarus and consider steps to suspend Russia's participation in the WTO. You can watch me speak more about this bill on the house floor [here](#).

**I also cosponsored the Putin Accountability Act (H.R. 6422),** legislation that would impose economic sanctions on the Russian Federation and Putin for the invasion of Ukraine. This bill would create new sanctions on Russian senior political figures who have assisted their government in any subversive activity against the United States. H.R. 6422 would also prohibit any arms control negotiations or strategic stability dialogue with Russia until the President can certify that Russian forces have completely ended aggression against Ukraine. Moreover, this legislation would designate Russia as a State Sponsor of Terrorism for its coordination with the Taliban, Hezbollah, and other terrorist groups.

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You may also be interested to know that **I cosponsored H.Res. 959, a resolution expressing that Congress does not recognize the Russian Federation as a permanent member of the United Nations (UN) Security Council.** Russia has repeatedly violated established principles in the UN Charter, particularly the provision in which all members agree to “refrain...from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence.” Russia has also purposefully used its seat on the Security Council to [veto](#) legislation that would demand that it cease hostilities in Ukraine. If Russia refuses to be a responsible international player, then it must be removed from a position of authority in the UN.

No country can participate in and share in the benefits of the international community like trade and alliances when it is taking steps to invade another country. Congress must make this absolutely clear to President Putin and stand firm. Rest assured, as the 117th Congress moves forward I will continue to monitor the situation and work to promote peace among nations.

As always, if you have any thoughts on these or other issues that are critical to your family, please do not hesitate to reach out. You can call (717) 393-0667 or send an email by visiting [smucker.house.gov/contact](https://smucker.house.gov/contact). You can connect on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) by searching Congressman Smucker and sign up for the [e-Newsletter](#) for the latest updates from. It is an honor and privilege to serve you in Congress.

Sincerely,



Lloyd Smucker  
Member of Congress

Please do not reply to this email. For further comments please click [here](#).

Paid for with official funds from the office of Congressman Smucker.