



*Jim Justice*  
*Governor of West Virginia*

March 11, 2022

President Blair and Speaker Hanshaw:

The ongoing war on Ukraine is beyond tragic, with Russia bombing civilians and committing war crimes upon the heroic people of Ukraine. The killing of civilians is despicable and must not ever be tolerated. But the worst atrocity imaginable is the murder of innocent women and children.

We have all seen footage of the destruction and desecration of the maternity and children's hospital in Mariupol, Ukraine. This bombing campaign on the most vulnerable of humanity will surely go down in history as the horrendous action of a madman, and we must all pray for the health of all those who were harmed.

We must also do more. We in West Virginia should go on record saying, in one voice, that we condemn these horrific actions, and that we support the continuing existence and independence of Ukraine.

That is why today I write to call upon our Legislature to work with me to pledge our support of Ukraine. I believe that Ukraine will succeed in this conflict and I commit to helping rebuild the maternity and children's hospital in Mariupol. I ask the West Virginia Legislature to join with me to pledge \$5 million toward the rebuilding of this hospital, once the conflict has ended and the sovereign Ukraine is victorious, independent, and free.

Even though it's not a lot, it can be West Virginia's contribution toward rebuilding after the war. The entire free world will need to do their part to contribute to the rebuilding effort, but we must take action to show solidarity and support at any level we can.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

I believe this \$5 million pledge may spur others to contribute, to join together in support, and to show Putin that the free world stands together in support of Ukraine. The bombing of this hospital is a rallying cry, and West Virginia should help answer the call.

Thank you for your consideration, your support, and your prayers for the people of Ukraine.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Justice". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jim Justice  
Governor