

## UKRAINE INDEPENDENCE DAY

WHEREAS: Ukraine's proclamation of independence on August 24, 1991, led to the disintegration of the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS: Ukraine and the United States, proceeding from their shared commitment to democratic values, expressed their determination to build broad and durable relations in the 1994 Charter for Ukrainian-American Partnership, Friendship and Cooperation; and

WHEREAS: On June 28, 1996, Ukraine's Parliament voted to adopt a democratic Constitution, according to which Ukraine has conducted its presidential and parliamentary elections, moving further away from the former communist model of one-party totalitarian rule; and

WHEREAS: Ukraine, since its independence, has made a successful transition from a colony of the Soviet empire to a viable, peaceful state; has established exemplary relations with all neighboring countries; and consistently pursues a course of European integration, with a commitment to ensuring democracy and prosperity for its citizens; and

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 24, 2003, as UKRAINE INDEPENDENCE DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 18th day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand three.

