

U.S. House of Representatives
Rep. Sharice Davids
Kansas Third District

March 8, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

When Russian president Vladimir Putin ordered the invasion of Ukraine, he assumed that the Ukrainian people and the world would not resist this act of aggression and violence toward an independent, democratic country. He was wrong. Congress, and the international community, stand firmly with Ukraine, imposing severe sanctions against Russia that I strongly support. We will not bankroll Putin's brutality.

Russian aggression has also jeopardized the stability of global energy markets. Here at home, folks are already feeling the effects of this uncertainty, mainly in the form of rising prices at the gas pump. This comes as hardworking Kansans are also dealing with increased prices on groceries and medicine, further squeezing already tightened budgets for many families.

I ask you to consider executive actions that would provide any immediate relief to these rising energy prices. Two immediate options include additional, and greater, releases from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and enacting a holiday on the federal fuel tax through the end of the year. We should also continue to negotiate with the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to mitigate barriers to meeting – and increasing – their production quotas, while we maintain our own significant domestic energy production. These and other short-term options would help blunt the impact of rising oil prices and help folks across the country make ends meet through these extraordinary circumstances.

In the long term, I ask that you continue to advocate for investment and advancement in renewable and alternative fuels. Energy price volatility – whether driven by global events like the current crisis in Ukraine or the increasing effects of climate change – is partially a result of fossil fuel dependence. To protect Kansans from being used for leverage by dictators like Putin, or suffering from future energy price-driven inflation, we must invest in domestic clean energy production. This will help promote American energy independence, establish global leadership, and create good, union jobs here at home, including those in the Kansas wind sector.

Sincerely,



Representative Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress