



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

February 28, 2022

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 251**

## **NORTH CAROLINA RESPONSE TO AND CONDEMNATION OF RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE**

**WHEREAS**, Russia has, without justification or provocation, attacked and invaded Ukraine, a sovereign democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, Russia's actions have inflicted and will continue to inflict significant harm and suffering on the people of Ukraine; and

**WHEREAS**, Russia's actions severely undermine global peace and stability; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is home to thousands of Ukrainian Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, Russia's dangerous actions have already led to a significant additional deployment of American troops, including thousands deployed from North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina stands with Ukraine and strongly condemns Russia's actions; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States government has strongly condemned Russia's actions and enacted significant economic sanctions against Russia and Russian-owned businesses in response to Russia's actions; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is a significant purchaser of goods and services; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina seeks to ensure that its actions do not aid Russia, whether directly or indirectly; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor is the state's chief executive and is responsible for the supervision of State agencies; *see* N.C. Const. art III, §§ 1, 5(4), (10); N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 143B-1 *et seq.*, 147-12.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of North Carolina, **IT IS ORDERED:**

### **Section 1. Definitions**

a. "Affected State Entity" means all state government agencies and departments over which the Governor has executive authority, as well as all other state entities for which the Governor appoints the chief executive or a majority of the board members.

b. "Russian Entity" means any corporation, company, or other entity that is headquartered in Russia or has its principal place of business in Russia, including any wholly-owned or majority-owned subsidiaries of such corporations, companies, or entities.

## **Section 2. Review of Existing Contracts and Operations**

All Affected State Entities shall, as soon as practicable, review all existing contracts and operations to determine whether they directly benefit any Russian Entities. To the extent that Affected State Entities identify contracts or operations that directly benefit Russian Entities, the Affected State Entity is directed to take all reasonable steps to terminate that contract or operation. This direction includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- **Alcohol Sales:** The North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission is directed to review its list of approved products for any produced by Russian Entities and to suspend the approval of such products as quickly as practicable.
- **Purchase & Contract:** The North Carolina Department of Administration, Division of Purchase & Contract, is directed to undertake an immediate review of all existing state contracts for goods and services to determine whether a Russian Entity is a party to the contract, and to work with Affected State Entities to terminate any such contracts as quickly as practicable if they are identified.

## **Section 3. Prohibition on Future Contracts with Russian Entities**

All Affected State Entities are directed to refrain from entering into new contracts with Russian Entities. Affected State Entities may enter into such contracts only if the head of the Affected State Entity determines in writing that the contract is necessary for the Affected State Entity to perform its work for the State and there are no suitable alternatives.

## **Section 4. Other State Entities and Local Governments**

All other state entities and local governments in North Carolina are strongly encouraged to adopt similar policies to ensure that public dollars and operations do not directly benefit Russian Entities.

## **Section 5. Miscellaneous**

This Executive Order is not intended to create, and does not create, any individual right, privilege, or benefit, whether substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the State of North Carolina, its agencies, departments, political subdivisions, or other entities, or any officers, employees, or agents thereof.

If any provision of this Executive Order or its application to any person, agency, or entity is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, this invalidity does not affect any other provision or application of this Executive Order that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Executive Order are declared to be severable.

## **Section 6. Effective Date**

This Executive Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or superseded by another applicable Executive Order.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in the City of Raleigh, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two.

  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
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Elaine F. Marshall  
Secretary of State

