

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the cooperative and strategic partnership between the Republic of Bulgaria and the State of Indiana.

BRAY

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



SENATE RESOLUTION _____

MR. PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the cooperative
2 and strategic partnership between the Republic of Bulgaria and
3 the State of Indiana.

4 *Whereas, The Republic of Bulgaria and the United States*
5 *of America are strategic allies within the North Atlantic Treaty*
6 *Organization, united by shared democratic values, mutual*
7 *security commitments, and enduring people-to-people ties;*

8 *Whereas, Bulgaria plays a growing role in Euro-Atlantic*
9 *security through defense modernization, enhanced military*
10 *interoperability, and close cooperation with United States and*
11 *allied forces;*

12 *Whereas, Indiana is a national leader in defense*
13 *manufacturing, aerospace, advanced logistics, cybersecurity,*
14 *and military research and development, positioning the State as*
15 *a natural partner for expanded cooperation with Bulgaria in*
16 *defense trade, joint ventures, technology transfer, sustainment*
17 *and repair capabilities, and applied research;*

18 *Whereas, March 3, 2026, marks the 148th anniversary of*
19 *the reestablishment of a free and independent Bulgarian state,*



1 *a defining moment of national liberation commemorated by*
2 *Bulgarian Americans in Indiana and throughout the United*
3 *States;*

4 *Whereas, Beginning in the early twentieth century, tens of*
5 *thousand of Bulgarians from the geographic region of*
6 *Macedonia immigrated to the United States, seeking freedom,*
7 *economic opportunity, and security, and established enduring*
8 *communities grounded in democratic participation and civic*
9 *responsibility;*

10 *Whereas, In 1922, Macedonian-Bulgarian immigrants*
11 *founded the Macedonian Patriotic Organization (MPO) in Fort*
12 *Wayne, Indiana, as an organization of Bulgarian refugees from*
13 *the geographic region of Macedonia, dedicated to the defense*
14 *of human, civil, and economic rights, and which today operates*
15 *as an inclusive organization welcoming all persons regardless*
16 *of ethnicity who support its democratic mission;*

17 *Whereas, In 1927, the MPO published the first issue of*
18 *"Macedonska Tribuna" (Macedonian Tribune) in Indiana,*
19 *which became one of the most influential Bulgarian-language*
20 *newspapers in North America and remains a vital historical*
21 *record of immigrant life, democratic advocacy, and*
22 *transatlantic engagement;*

23 *Whereas, U.S.-Bulgarian trade in 2022 was estimated to be*
24 *\$2 billion, a 33% jump from the prior year, exemplifying the*
25 *growing relationship between our countries,*

26 *Whereas, In 2024, Indiana exported \$5 million worth of*
27 *goods to Bulgaria, primarily computer and electronic parts,*
28 *while importing over \$14 million worth of goods, including*
29 *nonmetallic mineral products, computer and electronic parts,*
30 *and primary metal manufactures; and*

31 *Whereas, The recognition of the relationship between*
32 *Bulgaria and Indiana provides an opportunity to promote*



1 *continued cooperation in defense and security industries,*
2 *research and development, innovation ecosystems, workforce*
3 *development, higher education partnerships, and cultural*
4 *diplomacy: Therefore,*

5 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
6 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

7 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate recognizes the
8 cooperative and strategic partnership between the Republic of
9 Bulgaria and the State of Indiana.

10 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed
11 to transmit copies of this Resolution to Svetoslav Stankov,
12 Consul General of the Republic of Bulgaria in Chicago.

