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STATE OF ALABAMA

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mac Gipson, Administrator
Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

FROM: Governor Kay Ivey *KI*

DATE: February 28, 2022

SUBJECT: Removal of Russian Liquor from ABC Stores

I know that you watched in dismay last week—with me, with the people of Alabama, and indeed with the entire Nation—as Russian President Vladimir Putin initiated an unprovoked and dangerous war against Ukraine, our democratic ally.

As a show of solidarity with the people of Ukraine, I am asking you, as ABC Board Administrator, to immediately remove all Russian-sourced liquor products from the shelves of ABC stores throughout the State of Alabama. Please note that this request applies only to liquor products actually sourced in Russia and does not extend to Russian-*themed* liquor products that are sourced in some other nation. The removal should be in effect until further notice.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine puts millions of innocent lives at risk and represents an all-out assault on democracy. It is my hope that, by taking this action, the State of Alabama may contribute to Russia's justly deserved—and increasing—economic isolation. Through this action, we strive to express our solidarity with the people of Ukraine as they oppose this senseless attack not just on their homeland but also on the democratic principles that we, too, hold so dear.