



## ***State & Commerce Committee – Board of Representatives***

Fred Pierre-Louis, Chair

Jonathan Jacobson, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023

**Time:** 7:00pm

**Place:** *This meeting was held remotely.*

The State & Commerce Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Pierre-Louis, Vice Chair Jacobson, and Committee Member Reps. Goldberg and Walston. Excused were Reps. Ley, Miller, and Sandford. Also in attendance were Reps. Cottrell and Pavia; Bridget Fox, Rachel Alonso-Mendoza, and Lauren Meyer, Mayor's Office; Brian Mayer, Ukraine Aid International; and two members of the public.

Chair Pierre-Louis called the meeting to order at 7:04pm

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. <a href="#">SC31.012</a>	RESOLUTION; Recognizing A Sister City Relationship Between the Town of Kramatorsk, Ukraine and Stamford, Connecticut 03/08/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons	<b>Approved 4-0-0</b>

The invited guests spoke on this item and there was a brief discussion.

The Mayor's office was approached by Brian Mayer to become a sister city with Kramatorsk. Due to the large Ukrainian population in Stamford, the Mayor's Office is happy to be involved.

The goal of a sister city is to foster community ties between cities in the United States and Ukraine. This is to show support and to facilitate that support in ways that can help the people of Ukraine in the short term and long term.

Kramatorsk and Stamford are similar types of cities such as in population size, transportation hubs, and regional economies.

Westport is currently a sister city with Leyman, Ukraine. The mayors have discussed issues, and money has been raised by private citizens to help rebuild Leyman in the form of food, supplies, municipal vehicles, and equipment for first responders. This is the type of short term goal that Stamford can work towards for Kramatorsk.

For the long term, hopefully there can be cultural exchanges, educational programs, training, and officials in each city learning from each other.

As a specific example of help needed, the MRI machine in the hospital in Kramatorsk was stolen, and Stamford could possibly find a source to donate a machine that is being discarded or retired.

Ukraine Aid International is a registered non-profit and can facilitate fundraising, but the funds do not have to go through this organization, as long as they get directly to Kramatorsk.

Mr. Mayer and Ms. Fox thanked the Representatives for their consideration.

A motion to approve Item #1 was made, seconded and approved by a voice vote of 4-0-0 (Reps. Pierre-Louis, Jacobson, Goldberg, and Walston in favor).

Chair Pierre-Louis adjourned the meeting at 7:17pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Fred Pierre-Louis, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).