

Shortly, the Senate will vote on two Russia sanctions amendments to NDAA. Only one -- **Risch amendment #4859 (attached)** -- imposes immediate sanctions against Russia by fully applying two existing rounds of mandatory Congressional sanctions against the Kremlin's Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline that were passed on an overwhelmingly bipartisan basis in PEESA (2019) and PEESCA (2020).

Risch amendment #4859 -- a continuation of the bipartisan sanctions adopted by Congress in 2019 and 2020 -- will put a final stop to Putin's pipeline, which, if made operational, would leave Ukraine entirely vulnerable to escalated Russian aggression and drastically increase Europe's dependence on Russia for the next 50 years. This is not in the U.S. national interest.

**Please have your boss vote in favor of Risch amendment #4859.** No other NDAA amendment being offered, including Menendez amendment #4868, imposes immediate sanctions on Nord Stream 2. While we appreciate Senator Menendez's amendment #4868, it does not impose immediate sanctions against Nord Stream 2 in time to stop the pipeline before it becomes operational and **is not a substitute** for Risch amendment #4859. There is no justification for voting in favor of Menendez #4868 but voting against Risch #4859.

**A vote against Risch amendment #4859 is a decision to protect Russia's most malign geopolitical project, Nord Stream 2.**

On behalf of our Ukrainian friends and allies, who are on the front lines safeguarding Europe and the West from Russian aggression, we urge you to vote in favor of Risch #4859.

**President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky:**

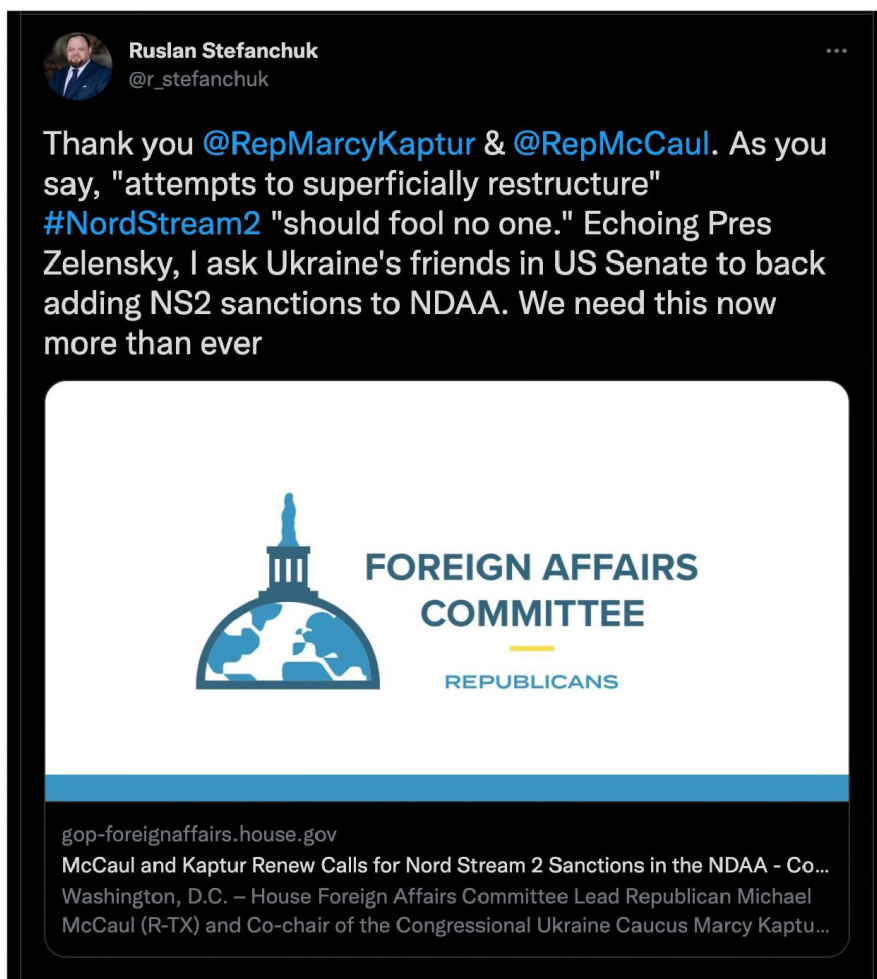


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Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmygal:



Speaker of the Ukrainian Parliament Ruslan Stefanchuk:



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