

2015-K162

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing the untimely death of Boris Yefimovich Nemtsov, nuclear scientist, environmentalist, politician, and reformer

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body, representing the people of New York, is moved this day to pay tribute to a man of great courage and determination, whose indomitable faith and tireless dedication will forever stand as a paradigm of benevolent endeavor; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize the untimely death of Boris Yefimovich Nemtsov, nuclear scientist, environmentalist, politician, reformer, and father of four, who died on Friday, February 27, 2015, at the age of 55; and

WHEREAS, New York State is home to a large and thriving Russian speaking community, many of whom have made significant contributions to our great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Admired by many New Yorkers and the world at large, Boris Nemtsov was one of the most important figures in the introduction of capitalism into the Russian economy, at the time of his death, he was in Moscow helping to organize a peace rally against Russian involvement in the war in Ukraine and the financial crisis; and

WHEREAS, Boris Yefimovich Nemtsov was born in Sochi to Yefim Davidovich Nemtsov and Dina Yakovlevna Nemtsova; and

WHEREAS, From 1976 to 1981, Boris Nemtsov studied physics at N. I. Lobachevsky State University of Nizhny Novgorod, where in 1985, at the age of 25, he defended a Ph.D. in Physics and Mathematics; and

WHEREAS, Boris Nemtsov worked as a research fellow at the Radiophysical Research Institute until 1990, and published more than 60 academic publications related to quantum physics, thermodynamics and acoustics; and

WHEREAS, Boris Nemtsov was the first governor of the Nizhny Novgorod Oblast, serving from 1991 to 1997; later, he served in the Government of Russia as Minister of fuel and energy in 1997, and Vice Premier of Russia and Security Council member from 1997 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, he founded the Young Russia movement, and co-founded the coalition group Right Cause; one year later, he co-formed Union of Right Forces, an electoral bloc and subsequently a political party; and

WHEREAS, He was elected several times as a Russian parliament member, and was a member of the Congress of People's Deputies, Federation Council, and State Duma; he also served as Vice Speaker of the State Duma and the leader of parliamentary group Union of Right Forces; and

WHEREAS, After a split in the Union of Right Forces in 2008, he co-founded Solidarnost; in 2012, Boris Nemtsov was co-chair of the Republican Party of Russia -- People's Freedom Party (RPR-PARNAS), a registered political party; and

WHEREAS, Since 2013, Boris Nemtsov had been elected member of the regional Parliament of Yaroslavl Oblast; and

WHEREAS, Following a turbulent rollercoaster of a career, Boris Nemtsov rose once again to prominence following Russia's annexation of Crimea in March of 2014 and the ongoing conflict in Eastern Ukraine in which approximately 1.25 million people have fled their homes, and around 5,800 people have died, according to the UN; and

WHEREAS, The President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko, has referred to Boris Nemtsov as a bridge between Ukraine and Russia; and

WHEREAS, A large opposition rally was set to be led by Boris Nemtsov but instead the tens of thousands of followers turned out to march in his memory, and to prove that despite the loss of their leader, the movement and idea of true democracy and a new Russia would continue on; and

WHEREAS, Those who supported Boris Nemtsov truly believed he was a man who had the full potential to change the entire climate in Eastern

Europe for the better; he died for the future of Russia; now, therefore,
be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to
memorialize the untimely death of Boris Yefimovich Nemtsov, nuclear
scientist, environmentalist, politician, and reformer; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be trans-
mitted to the family of Boris Yefimovich Nemtsov.