

MAR - 6 2020

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES TO ENDORSE THE TREATY ON THE
PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO SUPPORT UNITED NATIONS'
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 16 CALLING FOR PEACE, JUSTICE,
AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii supports the United Nations' Sustainable
2 Development Goals and recognizes the interconnectedness of these
3 goals to achieve the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
4 Development worldwide; and

5
6 WHEREAS, Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
7 Development is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for
8 sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and
9 build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all
10 levels; and

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12 WHEREAS, one of the targets of Goal 16 is to significantly
13 reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery
14 and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized
15 crime; and

16
17 WHEREAS, in July 2017, one hundred twenty-two nations moved
18 to reach this target through practical disarmament measures,
19 specifically adopting the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear
20 Weapons, which calls for the elimination of all nuclear weapons;
21 and

22
23 WHEREAS, since the height of the Cold War, the United
24 States and Russia have dismantled more than fifty-five thousand
25 nuclear warheads, but approximately fourteen thousand of these
26 weapons still exist and pose an intolerable risk to human
27 survival; and

28
29 WHEREAS, over ninety percent of the remaining nuclear
30 weapons are in the possession of the United States and Russia
31 and the rest are held by seven other countries: France, China,



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1 the United Kingdom, Pakistan, India, Israel, and North Korea;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, in 2018, Hawaii witnessed how the chaos and harm
5 of even a missile threat lasting for only thirty minutes can
6 impact the islands; and

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8 WHEREAS, the use of even a tiny fraction of these weapons
9 could cause worldwide climate disruption and global famine; for
10 example, as few as one hundred Hiroshima-sized bombs, small by
11 modern standards, would put at least five million tons of soot
12 into the upper atmosphere and cause climate disruption across
13 the planet, cutting food production and putting two billion
14 people at risk of starvation; and

15
16 WHEREAS, a large-scale nuclear war would kill hundreds of
17 millions of people directly and cause unimaginable environmental
18 damage and catastrophic climate disruption by dropping
19 temperatures across the planet to levels not seen since the last
20 ice age; these conditions could lead to human extinction; and

21
22 WHEREAS, despite assurances that these arsenals exist
23 solely to guarantee that they are never used, there have been
24 many occasions when armed states have prepared to use these
25 weapons, and nuclear war has been averted only at the last
26 minute; and

27
28 WHEREAS, former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara said,
29 "[i]t was luck that prevented nuclear war [during the Cuban
30 Missile Crisis]"; and

31
32 WHEREAS, the effect of climate change, coupled with the
33 United States' nuclear weapons policy, places increased stress
34 on communities worldwide and intensifies the likelihood of
35 conflict, which leads to the reasonable conclusion that this
36 luck will not continue; and

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38 WHEREAS, the planned expenditure of over one trillion to
39 enhance the United States' nuclear arsenal will not only
40 increase the risk of nuclear disaster but also fuel a global
41 arms race and divert crucial resources needed to assure the
42 well-being of the American people and people worldwide; and



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2 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to a significant population of
3 Marshall Islanders, whose homeland was the site of sixty-seven
4 atmospheric nuclear weapons tests during the Cold War, and whom
5 have yet to be adequately compensated for the catastrophic
6 environmental and health consequences of such horrific testing;
7 now, therefore,

8
9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
10 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the House of
11 Representatives concurring, that this body endorses and adopts
12 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons to support
13 United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 16 for peace,
14 justice, and strong institutions; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States is urged to
17 endorse the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and
18 make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of the United States'
19 national security policy; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body calls upon federal
22 leaders and the nation to spearhead a global effort to prevent
23 nuclear war by renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons
24 first; ending the President's sole, unchecked authority to
25 launch a nuclear attack; taking United States nuclear weapons
26 off hair-trigger alert; canceling the plan to replace its entire
27 arsenal with enhanced weapons; and actively pursuing a
28 verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate
29 their nuclear arsenals; and

30
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
33 United States, President Pro Tempore of the United States
34 Senate, Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Minority
35 Leader of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States
36 House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the United States
37 House of Representatives, Secretary-General of the United
38

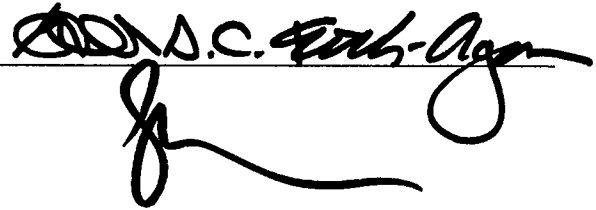


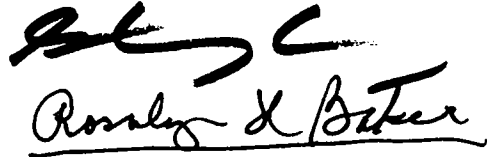
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1 Nations, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,
 2 members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, Governor of the
 3 State of Hawaii, and each mayor of our State's counties.
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OFFERED BY:



~~Don S.C. Erb-Ann~~



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