

MAR - 6 2020

SENATE 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

11
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,
32 the United Kingdom, Pakistan, India, Israel, and North Korea;
33 and
34



S.R. NO. 73

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

41 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to a significant population of
42 Marshall Islanders, whose homeland was the site of sixty-seven



S.R. NO. 13

1 atmospheric nuclear weapons tests during the Cold War, and whom
 2 have yet to be adequately compensated for the catastrophic
 3 environmental and health consequences of such horrific testing;
 4 now, therefore,

5
 6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
 7 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that this body
 8 endorses and adopts the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear
 9 Weapons to support United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal
 10 16 for peace, justice, and strong institutions; and

11
 12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States is urged to
 13 endorse the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and
 14 make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of the United States'
 15 national security policy; and

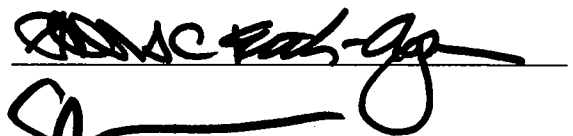
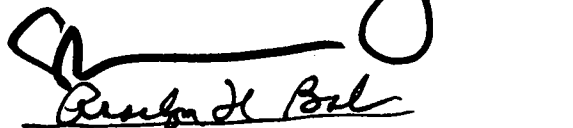
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 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body calls upon federal
 18 leaders and the nation to spearhead a global effort to prevent
 19 nuclear war by renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons
 20 first; ending the President's sole, unchecked authority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

26
 27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 28 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
 29 President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, Majority
 30 Leader of the United States Senate, Minority Leader of the
 31 United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of
 32 Representatives, Minority Leader of the United States House of
 33 Representatives, Secretary-General of the United Nations, United
 34 Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, members of Hawaii's
 35 congressional delegation, Governor of the State of Hawaii, and
 36 each mayor of our State's counties.

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OFFERED BY:



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