

MAR 08 2019

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENDORISING AND ADOPTING, AND URGING FEDERAL LEADERS AND THE  
NATION TO ENDORSE, THE TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR  
WEAPONS TO SUPPORT UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
GOAL 16 FOR PEACE, JUSTICE, AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii is a place of peace in the Pacific and its  
2 people believe in a better world for all; and

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4           WHEREAS, Hawaii supports the United Nations sustainable  
5 development goals and recognizes the interconnectedness of all  
6 goals to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  
7 around the globe; and

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9           WHEREAS, since the height of the Cold War, the United  
10 States and Russia have dismantled more than fifty thousand  
11 nuclear warheads, but approximately fourteen thousand five  
12 hundred of these weapons still exist and pose an intolerable  
13 risk to human survival; and

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15           WHEREAS, over ninety percent of these weapons are in the  
16 hands of the United States and Russia and the rest are held by  
17 seven other countries: China, France, Israel, India, North  
18 Korea, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom; and

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20           WHEREAS, Hawaii witnessed how the chaos and harm even a  
21 missile threat lasting for only thirty minutes can impact the  
22 islands; and

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

31



1           WHEREAS, a large-scale nuclear war would kill hundreds of  
2 millions of people directly and cause unimaginable environmental  
3 damage and catastrophic climate disruption by dropping  
4 temperatures across the planet to levels not seen since the last  
5 ice age; under these conditions the vast majority of the human  
6 race would starve and could lead to human extinction as a  
7 species; and

8  
9           WHEREAS, despite assurances that these arsenals exist  
10 solely to guarantee that they are never used, there have been  
11 many occasions when nuclear armed states have prepared to use  
12 these weapons, and war has been averted only at the last minute;  
13 and

14  
15           WHEREAS, nuclear weapons do not possess some magical  
16 quality that prevents their use; and

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18           WHEREAS, former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara said,  
19 speaking about the Cuban Missile Crisis, "[i]t was luck that  
20 prevented nuclear war," yet the United States' nuclear policy  
21 cannot be the hope that luck will continue; and

22  
23           WHEREAS, as the effects of climate change place increased  
24 stress on communities around the world and intensify the  
25 likelihood of conflict, the danger of nuclear war will grow; and

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27           WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to a significant population of  
28 Marshall Islanders, whose homeland was the site of sixty-seven  
29 atmospheric nuclear weapons tests during the Cold War, and who  
30 have not been adequately compensated for the catastrophic  
31 environmental and health consequences of such horrific testing;  
32 and

33  
34           WHEREAS, the planned expenditure of more than  
35 \$1,000,000,000,000 to enhance the United States' nuclear arsenal  
36 will not only increase the risk of nuclear disaster but fuel a  
37 global arms race and divert crucial resources needed to assure  
38 the well-being of the American people and people all over the  
39 world; and

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41           WHEREAS, there is an alternative to this march toward  
42 nuclear war: in July 2017, one hundred twenty-two nations



1 called for the elimination of all nuclear weapons by adopting  
2 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; now,  
3 therefore,  
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
6 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of  
7 Representatives concurring, that this body endorses and adopts  
8 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons to support the  
9 United Nations sustainable goal 16 for peace, justice, and  
10 strong intuitions; and  
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that federal leaders and the nation  
13 are urged to endorse the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear  
14 Weapons and make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of the  
15 United States' national security policy; and  
16

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 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
29 United States, President Pro Tempore of the United States  
30 Senate, Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Minority  
31 Leader of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States  
32 House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the United States  
33 House of Representatives, Secretary-General of the United  
34 Nations, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,  
35 members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, Governor of the  
36 State of Hawaii, and each mayor of the several counties.  
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