

MAR 06 2020

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENDORISING AND ADOPTING OF THE TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF
NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO SUPPORT UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOAL 16 FOR PEACE, JUSTICE, AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS AND URGING THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE LIKE
ACTION.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is a place of peace in the Pacific and its
2 people believe in creating a better world for all; and
3

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
8

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 thirteen thousand eight
12 hundred of these weapons still exist and pose an intolerable
13 risk to human survival; and
14

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, India, Israel, North
18 Korea, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom; and
19

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
23

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



1
2 WHEREAS, a large-scale nuclear war would kill hundreds of
3 millions of people directly and cause unimaginable environmental
4 damage and catastrophic climate disruption by dropping
5 temperatures across the planet to levels not seen since the last
6 ice age; under these conditions the vast majority of the human
7 race would starve and could lead to human extinction as a
8 species; and
9

10 WHEREAS, despite assurances that these arsenals exist
11 solely to guarantee that they are never used, there have been
12 many occasions when nuclear armed states have prepared to use
13 these weapons, and war has been averted only at the last minute;
14 and
15

16 WHEREAS, nuclear weapons do not possess some magical
17 quality that prevents their use; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the former Defense Secretary said, speaking about
20 the Cuban Missile Crisis, "[i]t was luck that prevented nuclear
21 war," yet the United States' nuclear policy cannot be the hope
22 that luck will continue; and
23

24 WHEREAS, as the effects of climate change place increased
25 stress on communities around the world and intensify the
26 likelihood of conflict, the danger of nuclear war will grow; and
27

28 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to a significant population of
29 Marshall Islanders, whose homeland was the site of sixty-seven
30 atmospheric nuclear weapons tests during the Cold War, and who
31 have not been adequately compensated for the catastrophic
32 environmental and health consequences of such horrific testing;
33 and
34

35 WHEREAS, the planned expenditure of more than
36 \$1,000,000,000,000 to enhance the United States' nuclear arsenal
37 will not only increase the risk of nuclear disaster but fuel a
38 global arms race and divert crucial resources needed to assure
39 the well-being of the American people and people all over the
40 world; and
41



1 WHEREAS, there is an alternative to this march toward
2 nuclear war: in July 2017, one hundred twenty-two nations
3 called for the elimination of all nuclear weapons by adopting
4 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; now,
5 therefore,
6

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

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that federal leaders and the nation
15 are urged to endorse the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear
16 Weapons and make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of the
17 United States' national security policy; and
18

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

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
31 United States, President Pro Tempore of the United States
32 Senate, Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Minority
33 Leader of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States
34 House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the United States
35 House of Representatives, Secretary-General of the United
36 Nations, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,
37 members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, Governor of the
38 State of Hawaii, and each mayor of the several counties.
39
40
41

Michelle N. Kukani

OFFERED BY:



S.C.R. NO. 191

Paul E. JD

