
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENDORISING AND ADOPTING THE TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR
WEAPONS TO ACHIEVE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
GOAL 16 OF PEACE, JUSTICE, AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS OF THE
2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is a place of peace in the Pacific and the
2 people of Hawaii believe in 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 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 fourteen thousand five
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 China, France, Israel, India, North Korea, Pakistan, and the
18 United Kingdom; and
19

20 WHEREAS, on January 13, 2018, Hawaii witnessed the chaos
21 and harm caused by only the threat of a missile impacting the
22 State; and
23

24 WHEREAS, the use of even a tiny fraction of these weapons
25 could cause worldwide climate disruption and 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, reducing 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 lowering
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 it is possible humans would go extinct;
7 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, former United States Secretary of Defense Robert
16 McNamara said, speaking about the Cuban missile crisis, "it was
17 luck that prevented nuclear war", yet nuclear policy cannot be
18 the hope that luck will continue; and
19

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

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

31 WHEREAS, the planned expenditure of more than
32 \$1,000,000,000,000 to enhance the United States' nuclear arsenal
33 will not only increase the risk of nuclear disaster but also
34 fuel a global arms race and divert crucial resources needed to
35 assure the well-being of the American people and people all over
36 the world; and
37

38 WHEREAS, there is an alternative to the march toward
39 nuclear war: in July 2017, one hundred twenty-two nations
40 called for the elimination of all nuclear weapons by adopting
41 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; now,
42 therefore,



1
2 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
3 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
4 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that this body engages,
5 endorses, accepts, and adopts the Treaty on the Prohibition of
6 Nuclear Weapons; and
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges federal leaders
9 and the nation to embrace the Treaty on the Prohibition of
10 Nuclear Weapons and make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of
11 the United States' national security policy; and
12

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

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary-General of
25 the United Nations, High Commissioner for Human Rights of the
26 United Nations, President of the United States, President Pro
27 Tempore of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United
28 States House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the United
29 States Senate, all members of the Hawaii congressional
30 delegation, Governor, and Mayors of each county.
31
32
33

OFFERED BY: 

MAR 11 2022

