
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENDORSING AND ADOPTING THE TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR
WEAPONS AND URGING FEDERAL LEADERS AND THE NATION TO MAKE
NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT THE CENTERPIECE OF UNITED STATES'
NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY.

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
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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 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 China, France, Israel, India, North Korea, Pakistan, and the
18 United Kingdom; and
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20 WHEREAS, the use of even a tiny fraction of these weapons
21 could cause worldwide climate disruption and famine; for
22 example, as few as one hundred Hiroshima-sized bombs, small by
23 modern standards, would put at least five million tons of soot
24 into the upper atmosphere and cause climate disruption across
25 the planet, reducing food production and putting two billion
26 people at risk of starvation; and
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1 WHEREAS, on January 13, 2018, Hawaii witnessed the chaos
2 and harm caused by only the threat of a missile impacting the
3 State; and
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5 WHEREAS, a large-scale nuclear war would kill hundreds of
6 millions of people directly and cause unimaginable environmental
7 damage and catastrophic climate disruption by lowering
8 temperatures across the planet to levels not seen since the last
9 ice age; under these conditions the vast majority of the human
10 race would starve and it is possible humans would go extinct;
11 and
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13 WHEREAS, despite assurances that these arsenals exist
14 solely to guarantee that they are never used, there have been
15 many occasions when nuclear armed states have prepared to use
16 these weapons, and war has been averted only at the last minute;
17 and
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19 WHEREAS, former United States Secretary of Defense Robert
20 McNamara said, speaking about the Cuban missile crisis, "it was
21 luck that prevented nuclear war", yet nuclear policy cannot be
22 the hope that luck will continue; and
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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
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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
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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 also
38 fuel a global arms race and divert crucial resources needed to
39 assure the well-being of the American people and people all over
40 the world; and
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1 WHEREAS, in July 2017, one hundred twenty-two nations
2 called for the elimination of all nuclear weapons by adopting
3 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; now,
4 therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
8 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that this body engages,
9 endorses, accepts, and adopts the Treaty on the Prohibition of
10 Nuclear Weapons; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges federal leaders
13 and the nation to embrace the Treaty on the Prohibition of
14 Nuclear Weapons and make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of
15 the United States' 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; cancelling the plan to replace its
23 entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and actively pursuing a
24 verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate
25 their nuclear arsenals; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary-General of
29 the United Nations, High Commissioner for Human Rights of the
30 United Nations, President of the United States, President Pro
31 Tempore of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United
32 States House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the United
33 States Senate, all members of the Hawaii congressional
34 delegation, Governor, and Mayors of each county.
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