

MAR 11 2022

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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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,



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

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

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

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

OFFERED BY:  \_\_\_\_\_

