

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 8:52:44 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jim Albertini	Malu 'Aina	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our organization -- Malu Aina Center for Non-violent Education & Action strongly supports HCR 148. This is a timely resolution with international tensions rising among the US, Russia, and China -- all nuclear powers. Nuclear war and climate disaster pose the greatest threats to civilization and continued life on earth. We must take urgent action now toward peace and a livable planet. This resolution is a step in the right direction. But let us do more for future generations.

Mahalo.

Jim Albertini,

President of Malu Aina

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 11:14:53 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pete Doktor	Veterans for Peace, Hawai'i Ch. 113	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony for March 23, 2022 HCR 148 endorsing 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.

Aloha `Āina e Committee Members,

As a co-coordinator/co-founder of Veterans For Peace Chapter 113-Hawai'i, an organization that has members on each of the islands of Hawai'i, I would like to include in this supportive testimony for HCR 148 the national Veterans For Peace [Nuclear Posture Review](https://www.veteransforpeace.org/files/1016/4312/8275/Updated-1.25-FINAL-VFPNuclearReview-Jan2022.pdf) (<https://www.veteransforpeace.org/files/1016/4312/8275/Updated-1.25-FINAL-VFPNuclearReview-Jan2022.pdf> in case embedded URL does not work on online testimony)

The Veterans For Peace Nuclear Posture Review warns that the danger of nuclear war is greater than ever now and that nuclear disarmament must be vigorously pursued. Veterans For Peace has delivered our Nuclear Posture Review to the President and Vice President, to every member of Congress, and to the Pentagon. It makes a number of recommendations for how the U.S. could provide leadership to begin a process of worldwide disarmament.

With the first anniversary of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) on January 22, the Veterans For Peace Nuclear Posture Review calls on the U.S. government to sign the treaty and to work with other nuclear-armed states to eliminate all the world's nuclear weapons. The TPNW, approved by a vote of 122-1 in the UN General Assembly in July of 2017, reflects the international consensus against the existence of such weapons.

Veterans For Peace Nuclear Posture Review also calls for measures that would reduce the risk of nuclear war, such as implementing policies for No First Use and taking nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert.

Veterans For Peace anticipates that the Biden Administration's Nuclear Posture Review will continue to reflect the unrealistic goals of [full spectrum dominance](#) and justify the continuing expenditure of billions of dollars on nuclear weapons.

"Veterans have learned the hard way to be skeptical of our government's military adventures, which have led us from one disastrous war to another," says Ken Mayers, a retired Marine Corps major and fellow VFP member "Nuclear weapons are a threat to the very existence of

human civilization,” continueds Mayers, “so the U.S. nuclear posture is too important to be left to the cold warriors at the Pentagon. Veterans For Peace has developed our own Nuclear Posture Review, one that is consistent with U.S. treaty obligations and reflects the research and work of many arms control experts.”

“This is not rocket science,” says Gerry Condon, a Vietnam-era veteran and former president of Veterans For Peace. “The experts make nuclear disarmament seem impossibly difficult. However, there is a growing international consensus against the existence of such weapons. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was approved overwhelmingly by the UN General Assembly in July 2017 and went into effect on January 22, 2021. It IS possible and necessary to eliminate all nuclear weapons, as 122 nations of the world have agreed.”

Māhala nui loa for this committee's commitment to uphold public health and safety - particularly the opportunity to place the Veterans For Peace Nuclear Posture Review on the record for HCR148. Veterans for Peace members affirm the importance of assertive peacemaking to prevent belligerent militarism and war, and thank you for this bill.

Pete Doktor

VFP Hawai`i, Ch. 113

Honolulu, Hawai`i

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 6:18:16 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rik Masterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Richard Masterson, legal resident of Hilo, Hi, strongly support HCR 148. This is a timely resolution with international tensions rising among the US, Russia, and China -- all nuclear powers. Nuclear war and climate disaster pose the greatest threats to civilization and continued life on earth. We must take urgent action now toward peace and a livable planet. This resolution is a step in the right direction. But let us do more for future generations.

with Aloha, Mahalo.

Rik Masterson

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 9:36:29 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Colonel Ann Wright	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I served 29 years in the U.S. Army/Army Reserves and retired as a Colonel. I was also a U.S. diplomat for 16 years and resigned from the U.S. government in 2003 in opposition to the U.S. war on Iraq. I am a member of Hawai'i Peace and Justice and Veterans for Peace, whose historic, anti-nuclear sailboat Golden Rule sailed in the Hawaiian waters for 2 years and crew members made over 100 presentations on the dangers of nuclear weapons.

As a U.S. Army veteran and a survivor of the nuclear missile attack scare in Hawai'i four years ago, I am glad to add my voice for approval for the Hawaii's State Legislature's resolution HCR 148

on the international peace initiative, the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). The nuclear missile attack scare we endured here in Hawai'i should compel our citizens to think seriously about joining the worldwide nuclear weapons abolition efforts.

The "Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty" as it is also known, was approved by 122 nations in the UN General Assembly in July 2017, a clear expression of the will of the world's people. Unfortunately, none of the nine nuclear governments have signed the treaty, showing that the 122 non-nuclear nations that voted for the treaty fear that one or more of the nuclear nations may use nuclear weapons which could result in a "nuclear winter" and the destruction of the planet.

In the U.S., powerful and influential corporations will be making billions of dollars from the nuclear programs over the next decade and will be contributing to congressional campaign funds for their vote for the U.S. to not approve the treaty and to continue their mutual assured destruction rationale for continuing the nuclear weapons arsenal and their profits. The U.S. is spending [\\$494 billion over the next 10 years](#) and over [\\$1.2 trillion](#) in the next 30 years to "upgrade" its arsenal of nuclear weapons.

For its leadership in working for the passing of the treaty, the International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) was awarded the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize. In November 2020, Honduras became the 50th country to ratify the Treaty, the number of nations needed for the treaty to come into effect. On January 22, four days after the January 18 national holiday commemorating the birth of civil rights icon Martin Luther King, Jr., the treaty comes into force. In his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech in December 1964, King said, "Somehow we must transform the dynamics of the world power struggle from the negative nuclear arms race which

no one can win, to a positive contest to harness man's creative genius for the purpose of making peace and prosperity a reality for all of the nations of the world. In short, we must shift the arms race into a "peace race."

The Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty prohibits the development or possession of nuclear weapons and the use or threat to use nuclear weapons. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is a milestone in the long march toward nuclear abolition. The people of the world have spoken. This is a moment to urge all the nuclear powers to sign the Treaty and begin the process of de-nuclearization. Nowhere is this more important than in the United States, which holds a large portion of the world's nuclear weapons and maintains a dominant military presence throughout much of the world.

The United States could be a leader in the peace race, but only if our leaders hear a loud message from the people: nuclear weapons are very dangerous for humanity and now they will now also be illegal. This is good news for a future free of weapons of mass destruction.

I strongly support HCR 148 which endorses and adopts 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.

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 6:57:12 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Dean	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Of course I support this resolution. Look at the situation right now. Putin believes he can do anything he wants and no one can stop him, because he has a huge nuclear arsenal. The world is literally powerless to stop him, because he's a psychopath and now that he's been accused of genocide by the World Criminal Court, he knows that defeat is death for him, what has he got to lose? He'll just keep on his murderous rampage for as long as he likes, or he'll wipe out all the cities of the world. If we survive this, let this be the beginning of the end of nuclear weapons. In fact, let this be the end of all weapons. Let this be the beginning of a new world, where we recognize that we are all humans, that we all should be allowed to live our lives the way we see fit, as long as it doesn't impinge on other people's ability to live their lives the way they want. Let this be the end of borders. Let this be the end of competition for natural resources. Failure to achieve these goals will result in the extinction of all life on Earth, if it isn't too late already.

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 7:12:12 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
jeanne wheeler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a step in the right direction - please pass it! Mahalo, JW

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 9:58:12 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Regina Gregory	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 4:37:07 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Koohan Paik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As we teeter on the brink of what will likely be World War III, which involves a stand-off between two nuclear powers, I cannot think of a more urgent resolution to pass at this time than this one.

Here's to a flourishing future for all life on Earth!

Here's to passing the resolution that endorses and adopts the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons!

STRONGLY SUPPORT!

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 5:29:44 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sanford Yee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HCR148. I urge you to pass it. Mahalo!

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 7:53:03 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wally Inglis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Representative Cedric Gates, Chair, and

Representative Adrian Tam, Vice Chair, and

Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs

Aloha!

My name is Wally Inglis. I come before this committee in strong support of both HCR 148 and HR 148.

I arrived in Hawaii fifty years ago. My wife and I immediately joined with people who were advocating for the abolition of nuclear weapons, both in Hawaii and around the world. Many of us protested, and some of us were arrested, for nonviolent actions against the storage of nuclear weapons at Waikele and West Loch. As these resolutions point out, there may have been some reduction in the number of warheads over the past half-century, but there are still more than fourteen thousand of these weapons still in existence--enough to destroy our world, and then some!

It is time that the United States and the other nuclear powers join the 122 nations who approved the United Nations treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons that went into effect one year ago. This is especially incumbent upon our own nation--the only one in the world to have unleashed the destructive power of nuclear weapons. By signing this treaty, the US will acknowledge some of its moral debt from the horrific bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.

These resolutions also reference the "false alarm" that frightened Hawaii citizens on January 13, 2018, when we were mistakenly warned of incoming missiles. Ever since that event four years ago, some of us have been standing vigil in front of the capitol on the first working day of each month, when the warning sirens are tested at 11:45 AM. We will still be there as long as the threat of nuclear weapons exists. I invite all of you to join us. If that's not possible, your passage of these resolutions will be a good start.

Aloha,

Wally Inglis

Palolo Valley

HCR-148

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 5:20:05 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:40:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary True	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a no-brainer. Mahalo for supporting sanity.

Mary True, Pepekeo

Testimony for March 23, 2022 HCR148/HR 148

I am honored to give this testimony in strong support of HCR148/HR48, which endorses and adopts 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.

I am the founder of [NuclearWakeUpCall.Earth](#) and [Women Transforming Our Nuclear Legacy](#) where we have engaged over 600 women from 53 countries to catalyze a global movement to eliminate nuclear weapons. I am the author of [Dawn of a New Armageddon](#), a personal account of the Hawaii missile scare amidst escalating nuclear dangers, published in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists on Hiroshima Day. My work is dedicated to ending the threat of nuclear war and to the abolition of nuclear weapons.

When the Cold War came to an end, I thought I could stop worrying about nuclear war. All of this changed for me in 2017 when I was producing the film, [U.S.-Russia Relations: Quest for Stability](#) and interviewed dozens of top experts in the U.S. and Russia on nuclear dangers. Everyone awakened me to today's staggering nuclear danger.

The two people who had the greatest impact on me were former U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Secretary Perry said to me, "Today the danger of some sort of a nuclear catastrophe is greater than it was during the Cold War and most people are blissfully unaware of this danger... Because we don't understand the dangers, we make no serious attempt to repair the hostility between the United States and Russia. And so we are allowing ourselves to sleepwalk into another catastrophe. We must wake up."

At that moment I realized I had been sleepwalking since the end of the Cold War. I came home here to Hawaii at the height of the fire and fury between Donald Trump and Kim Jong-un, and we can all remember the morning of January 13, 2018 when this message lit up our cell phones: ***Ballistic Missile Threat Inbound to Hawaii, Seek Immediate Shelter, This is Not a Drill***

After getting confirmation from a journalist that our Kaua'i County government was telling us to take shelter, like so many of us, I spent the next 38 minutes preparing my family to try to survive a nuclear attack.

Where do you go?

What do you take with you?

Where are your loved ones?

Can you get to them?

How many minutes do you have?

Who do you call to say good-bye?

For me it was my daughter in LA. As I was racing to shelter in a cave, I called her and said, "MacKenzie, we've all gotten a message on our cell phones that we are going to be hit by a nuclear missile and I just want you to know that I love you." And she said, "Mom, I love you too."

At that moment, time stopped. I didn't want to let her go. I thought, will I ever see her again?

I thought, is this one nuclear missile from North Korea? Or is this many nuclear missiles coming from Russia to us and many of our missiles headed to them? Is this the beginning of the accidental nuclear war with Russia that Secretary Perry and the other experts I interviewed are so worried about? Is this the beginning of the end of life as we know it, of everything and everyone we know and love and cherish on this Earth?

Even with everything I knew about nuclear weapons, nuclear war was unimaginable to me until I went through those 38 minutes. Now this experience lives inside of me, as a mother, as a human being, and it's never going to go away until we eliminate nuclear weapons.

Living through those 38 minutes was a shared, collective near-death experience. It was a moment when what's most important became clear to us, our beloved *ohana*, our loved ones -- we were all trying to get to and protect our loved ones, or we were all calling our loved ones to say I love you and good-bye.

The Hawaii False Alarm raises the ever present risk of accidental nuclear war due to human or technical error, blunder, miscalculation or mistake, a risk that becomes greater in the fog of war.

We cannot overstate the gravity of the moment we are in. Twice in the past month Vladimir Putin, the President of the country with the world's largest nuclear arsenal, has threatened the possible use of nuclear weapons and he ordered Russia's nuclear deterrent forces on high alert.

It is not alarmist to say that we could possibly be closer and more at risk of nuclear war than ever before in our lifetime. This would be a civilization-ending event, the end of life as we know it.

The only way to prevent 1 person or nine nuclear-armed countries from holding the whole world hostage & unleashing nuclear Armageddon is to abolish, eliminate & ban nuclear weapons forever.

This is a planetary nuclear wake-up call. If we survive this, we will have a chance to get this right and move as quickly as possible toward the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

The landmark Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons ([TPNW](#)) offers an unprecedented way forward to achieve this. It is the first nuclear weapons treaty based on humanitarian, not military law, the first to ban and make nuclear weapons illegal, the first to address the "catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons," the first to recognize the disproportionate impact of nuclear weapons on indigenous peoples, the first to recognize the disproportionate impact on women and girls due to ionizing radiation, and the first provide victims assistance and environmental remediation.

It was adopted by 122 countries at the UN in 2017, and it's been ratified by 59 countries and entered into force on January 22, 2021.

Our lives are at stake. It's a moral and existential imperative that we act before it is too late and support the TPNW.

This is why I strongly support resolution HCR148/HR 148 which endorses and adopts 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.

Cynthia Lazaroff
Anahola, Hawaii 96703