



RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE UNITED NATIONS TREATY ON THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND WELCOMING THE GOLDEN RULE PEACE BOAT TO HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the United Nations ("U.N.") passed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons ("TPNW") on July 7, 2017, which would prohibit any nuclear weapon activities, including development, testing, production, acquisition, possession, stockpiling, use and any threat to use; and

WHEREAS, there are currently 79 signatories and 32 states parties to the TPNW, which will be international law when 50 states parties have ratified it; and

WHEREAS, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons ("ICAN") won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017 for their part in passage of the U.N. TPNW; and

WHEREAS, since the height of the Cold War, the United States and Russia have dismantled more than 50,000 nuclear warheads, but approximately 15,000 of these weapons still exist and pose an intolerable risk to human survival; and

WHEREAS, 95 percent of these weapons are in the hands of the United States and Russia and the rest are held by seven other countries: China, France, Israel, India, North Korea, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the use of even a fraction of these weapons could cause worldwide climate disruption across the planet, cutting food production and putting two billion people at risk of starvation; and

WHEREAS, a large-scale nuclear war would kill hundreds of millions of people directly and cause unimaginable environmental damage and catastrophic climate disruption by dropping temperatures across the planet to levels not seen since the last ice age, which is likely to result in mass starvation or possibly the extinction of the human race; and



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WHEREAS, when speaking about the Cuban Missile Crisis, former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara said, "It was luck that prevented nuclear war," yet America's nuclear policy cannot rest on hope and luck; and

WHEREAS, the planned expenditure of over \$1 trillion to enhance the United States' nuclear arsenal will increase the risk of nuclear disaster and may fuel a global arms race; and

WHEREAS, in February 1958 four Quaker activists sailed the Golden Rule, a boat built to engage in environmental direct action, from California towards the Marshall Islands in an attempt to stop nuclear bomb tests there; and

WHEREAS, after stopping for provisions in Honolulu, when the Golden Rule attempted to continue its voyage to the Marshall Islands, the U.S. Coast Guard twice forced the boat to sail back to Honolulu and arrested its crew; and

WHEREAS, there were protests against the arrest of the crew of the Golden Rule around the country and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the Golden Rule crew in 1958 and subsequent protests helped convince President Kennedy to sign the Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty of 1963; and

WHEREAS, the boat's restoration from 2010 to 2015 was supported by Quakers, Veterans For Peace, and hundreds of donors and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, thousands of supporters have seen the Golden Rule and hundreds have sailed on the small ketch; and

WHEREAS, the Golden Rule is now "Sailing for a Nuclear-Free World and a Peaceful, Sustainable Future" and the Golden Rule Project is the embodiment of the mission of Veterans for Peace to "...end the arms race and to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons"; and

WHEREAS, the Golden Rule is currently visiting the Hawaiian Islands through 2019 as the start of a Peace in the Pacific Voyage and will continue on to the Marshall Islands, Guam, Okinawa, South Korea, and Japan, among other stops; and

WHEREAS, the Golden Rule is scheduled to visit Oahu from October 20 through November 30, 2019; and



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WHEREAS, the Golden Rule Project, an educational project of Veterans For Peace, is a member of ICAN and supports the TPNW and the "ICAN Cities Appeal" which calls on cities, counties, and states throughout the world to call on their federal and national governments to support the TPNW; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the United States government is urged 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 the Council 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 U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert, canceling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons, and actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate all nuclear arsenals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council declares its support for Veterans For Peace and the Golden Rule Project and encourages all residents to welcome the Golden Rule peace boat and her crew to Oahu; and



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 19-262

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the Hawaii Congressional delegation, the Governor, and the Mayor.

INTRODUCED BY:

Ann Kobayashi
and *Fumayo*

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

OCT 11 2019

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers