



Agenda Bill AB19-132

Meeting Date: July 15, 2019

Agenda Item: IX. B.

Regular Business Meeting

Workshop/Study Session

Special Business Meeting

Submitted By: Nora Mitchell

Date Submitted: July 9, 2019

Department: Administration

Contact Phone: 360-379-4403

SUBJECT: Resolution 19-065 Calling for the United States to Negotiate the Worldwide Elimination of All Nuclear Weapons

CATEGORY:

- Consent Resolution
 Staff Report Ordinance
 Contract Approval Other:
 Public Hearing (Legislative, unless otherwise noted)
 3-Year Strategic Plan: N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Expenditure Amount: \$
Included in Budget? Yes No

Cost Allocation Fund: 010-011 GF - Mayor & Council

SUMMARY STATEMENT: Port Townsend citizens concerned about the real threat of nuclear weapons have asked the City of Port Townsend for support in their efforts towards nuclear disarmament. The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners adopted a similar resolution at its June 3, 2019 meeting. The attached resolution calls for the United States government to follow through on its commitments under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and negotiate in good faith worldwide nuclear disarmament.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution 19-065

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: None

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Move to approve Resolution 19-065 Calling for the United States to Negotiate the Worldwide Elimination of All Nuclear Weapons

ALTERNATIVES:

- Take No Action Refer to Committee Refer to Staff Postpone Action
 Remove from Consent Agenda Waive Council Rules and approve Ordinance ____
 Other:

RESOLUTION NO. 19-065

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT TOWNSEND,
WASHINGTON, CALLING FOR THE UNITED STATES TO NEGOTIATE THE
WORLDWIDE ELIMINATION OF ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons cannot be used without catastrophic health and humanitarian consequences that violate every principle of international law, natural justice, public health, environmental protection, and human morality; and

WHEREAS, the continued existence of these weapons poses an intolerable risk to human survival; and

WHEREAS, the United States, together with the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China, are parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and have agreed to negotiate "in good faith" and "at an early date" the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, the International Court of Justice ruled, in its 1996 Advisory Opinion on the Legality of Nuclear Weapons, that the legally binding commitment to negotiate means "pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion"; and

WHEREAS, in the year 2000 the United States, together with the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China committed to 187 other Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons treaty signing nations that they would fulfill their commitment to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals;

WHEREAS, in July 2017, 122 nations drafted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, agreeing not to develop, test, produce, possess, stockpile, transfer, use, or threaten to use nuclear weapons;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Port Townsend that:

Section 1. The United States should negotiate in good faith and at an early date the total elimination of all nuclear arsenals.

Section 2. The United States should take immediate steps to reduce the threat posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and prevent the possibility of nuclear war.

Section 3. The City Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to US Representative Derek Kilmer, US Senator Patty Murry, US Senator Maria Cantwell, and President Donald J. Trump.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Port Townsend at a regular meeting thereof, held this 15th day of July 2019.

Deborah Stinson
Mayor

Attest:

Approved as to form:

Joanna Sanders, MMC
City Clerk

Heidi Greenwood
City Attorney