

Dear Chairman Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and esteemed EEE Members:

In the interest of the safety of Maryland citizens I urge you to give favorable report to SJ2-- Use of Nuclear Weapons.

As the confrontation between nuclear powers grows a majority of Americans feel that no country should be allowed to have nuclear weapons. See

<https://globalaffairs.org/commentary-and-analysis/blogs/do-nukes-make-us-safer-americans->

Resolution SJ2 urges our U.S. government to re-activate the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear War (signed by the U.S. in 1968) and to enact the five policy points of the Back from the Brink (BFTB) campaign:

--Negotiating nuclear disarmament with the other 8 nuclear nations.

--Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first.

--Ending presidential sole authority to initiate a nuclear launch

--Taking nuclear weapons off of hair trigger alert.

--Ending the expensive, destabilizing plans to modernize our nuclear weapons arsenal.

It urges our U.S. representatives to cosponsor H.Res.77: which supports the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear War and Back from the Brink.

Similar resolutions to SJ2 have passed in 7 state legislatures and 76 municipalities across the U.S. In Maryland, local resolutions like SJ2 have already passed in Baltimore City, the city of Frederick, Prince George's County and Montgomery County - jurisdictions that include 43% of Maryland's population.

This is a local issue. With proximity to Washington DC, Marylanders are close to ground zero. An unintended nuclear explosion is just as disastrous to our way of life and that of our progeny. Nuclear disaster can be triggered by error, intention, impulse or cyber-attack.

Please give favorable report to SJ2 (HJ3) so that it can realize passage in the MD General assembly, joining municipalities across Maryland and the U.S. in urging the United States Government and the President to end dangerous, expensive last-century nuclear weapons policies and reduce the risk of nuclear war while creating a multilateral pathway to nuclear disarmament.

Respectfully,
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