



CITY TAKOMA OF PARK MARYLAND

Support Senate Joint Resolution 2 - Use of Nuclear Weapons **Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee** **March 8, 2024**

The City of Takoma Park supports and urges favorable consideration of this bill, which adopts a “Back from the Brink” resolution aimed at reducing the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons.

The City of Takoma Park is a densely developed, largely residential municipality of almost 18,000 people living within 2.4 square miles in Montgomery County, right along the District of Columbia line.

Takoma Park has been a nuclear-free zone for over 40 years. The City Council voted unanimously in December 1983 to ban activities involving producing, transporting, storage, disposal and activation of nuclear weapons within the City, an unprecedented decision at the time for a municipality. As a Nuclear-Free Zone, Takoma Park prohibits work on nuclear weapons and limits harmful exposure to high-level nuclear waste. Additionally, the City urges redirecting resources previously used for nuclear weapons and nuclear power generation towards endeavors which promote and enhance life, such as human services including but not limited to housing, food insecurity, and childcare.

In November 2023, the City of Takoma Park joined over 200 local, county, and state officials calling on President Biden to confront the existential threat to humanity posed by nuclear weapons. It is in that spirit that we urge Maryland to join seven other states in urging our nation to step “Back from the Brink.” The City of Takoma Park supports joint House bill 0003 and urges a favorable vote.