

Committee: Rules and Executive Nominations
Resolution HJ6: Use of Nuclear Weapons
Testimony: FAVORABLE
March 3, 2025

As members of Pax Christi, the Catholic peace movement, we advocate for the abolition of nuclear weapons because of their potential for killing massive numbers of people immediately and then by radiation. The U.S. government began eliminating these weapons but now the federal government is committing a trillion dollars to "modernizing" these nuclear weapons. We must make our state-level voices heard against these weapons.

Why is this a STATE issue?

- If accidentally, or by an act of war, a weapon is detonated, we in Maryland could be in danger of death especially living so close to DC.
- These nuclear weapons are now much more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima.
- Any nuclear exchange would cause a climate disaster, that is, it would throw so much ash into the atmosphere that nuclear winter and famine would affect at least a third of the earth.
- Nuclear weapons and defense spending absorb a large amount of Marylanders' tax dollars which could be used locally.

Pax Christi - St. John the Baptist urges you to vote favorably on HJ6, which would help Maryland add its voice to move "Back from the Brink" and reduce the risk of nuclear war.

Thank you.

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(Pax Christi USA is the national Catholic peace movement)