NICOLE A. WILLIAMS, ESQ. Legislative District 22 Prince George's County

Judiciary Committee

Chair, Public Safety Subcommittee

Vice Chair, Democratic Caucus Chair, Prince George's County House Delegation

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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Delegate Anne Healey Chair of the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee Annapolis, Maryland 21401

House Joint Resolution 6

Good afternoon, Chair Healey, Vice Chair Holmes, and the members of the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee. I am Delegate Nicole Williams of District 22, testifying in favor of House Joint Resolution 6, also known as the **Use of Nuclear Weapons**. The purpose of this resolution is to reduce the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons within the United States and, ultimately, the world. If we pass this resolution here at the Maryland General Assembly, we are joining 7 state legislative bodies and over 75 municipalities and counties in support of this measure.

In the world, there are over 13,000 nuclear weapons. A majority of these deadly weapons are in possession of the United States and Russia. Being that the United States owns a large portion of the nuclear weapons worldwide, we, as Americans, have the power to create a difference in the usage possibility of nuclear weapons everywhere. We strongly urge the President of the United States and members of the United States Senate to endorse the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons that would prohibit any form of nuclear activity. This treaty has already been ratified in 73 nations as of January 2024. The United States can, and should, join many other countries in working towards a safer world for all.

For these reasons, I urge this committee to give a favorable report on House Joint Resolution 6.

Sincerely,

Delegate Nicole A. Williams, Esq.