

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Joint Resolution 3 (Delegate Williams, *et al.*)
Rules and Executive Nominations

Use of Nuclear Weapons

This joint resolution states that the General Assembly joins the seven state legislative bodies, including the Senates of California, Maine, Oregon, and Rhode Island and over 75 municipalities and counties, including Baltimore, Frederick, Montgomery, and Prince George’s counties, and Washington, DC, in passing a Back from the Brink resolution. The joint resolution urges members of the Maryland Congressional Delegation who have not yet done so to cosponsor House Resolution 77, which embraces the goals and provisions of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Back from the Brink resolution. The joint resolution further urges the U.S. President and the U.S. Senate to endorse the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The joint resolution does not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The U.S. Constitution divides war powers between the U.S. Congress and the U.S. President. Pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution, Congress has power to declare war. In turn, Article II, Section 2 establishes the President as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SJ 2 (Senator Carter, *et al.*) - Education, Energy, and the Environment.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

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