



**HJ0003 – Use of Nuclear Weapons**  
Rules and Executive Nominations  
March 3, 2024  
**POSITION: FAVORABLE**

[Peace Action Montgomery](#) urges the State of Maryland to join the seven state legislatures, and 70 counties, and municipalities across the U.S, that have sent messages to Congress in support of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), now ratified by 70 nations and the [five policy points](#) of Back from the Brink (BFTB) campaign.

Peace Action Montgomery has nearly 1,500 members and is a chapter entity under national Peace Action, the largest grassroots organization dedicated to eliminating the threat of weapons of mass destruction and promoting U.S foreign policy that is based on peaceful support for human rights and democracy, and cooperation with the world community.

So why should the Maryland legislature take up this issue? We sit in the shadow of the U.S. capitol so, here in Maryland, we are close to ground zero should nuclear war start by error, impulse, or intent and once nuclear missiles are launched, they cannot be recalled. Our tax dollars are going to support 60+ year old policies that are expensive, and dangerous. Marylanders this past year paid over \$2 billion in taxes for the nuclear weapons complex.

Modernizing nuclear weapons does not make us safer. Security would be greater if that money were spent on housing, healthcare, education and addressing climate change. By joining other state legislatures that have passed similar resolutions, we are giving support to our President and federal leaders to re-examine old and dangerous policies.

I hope you will help Maryland contribute to a national effort to urge the policy changes that make the world safer for all of us, including future generations..

There is no fiscal cost. Preventing nuclear war is priceless.

**We urge the House Rules and Executive Nominations to issue a favorable report.**

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