

MGA 2026: HJ0007 - ANTI-NUCLEAR-PROLIFERATION RESOLUTION (Back From The Brink)

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Greetings, House Rules and Senate EEE Committee members. I write **IN FAVOR** of the above

My name is Lou Curran. I'm a former federal law clerk and retired career Assistant Public Defender.

Nuclear weapons controls, treaties and abolition is **a truly non-partisan issue**. No Marylander wants to be incinerated, blown to pieces or poisoned with radiation in the event of an accidental or criminal detonation, let alone in a planetarily catastrophic nuclear war. Since 5 Feb.'26, when New START, our last verifiable arsenal limitations treaty with Russia, was allowed to expire, we have all been at an exponentially increased risk of experiencing what President Trump calls "oblivion".

Citizens have been urging our federal government to address this problem for decades, because we mere individuals can't negotiate treaties with foreign countries. 1000s of Marylanders were among the 1,000,000 people who gathered in New York City on 12 June 1982 in support of the ineffective 2nd U.N. Special Session on Disarmament, an event that nonetheless helped persuade President Reagan to begin negotiating arms reduction treaties with the USSR. Hundreds of US cities and towns echoed the cry, with over 200 declaring themselves to be Nuclear Free Zones, including **Baltimore, Garrett Park, Mount Rainier, Sykesville, Takoma Park and Wilde Lake**. Since 1982, over 8,566 mayors worldwide have joined the Mayors For Peace campaign, calling for the total abolition of all nuclear weapons, including the mayors of **Baltimore, Cambridge, College Park, Easton, Greenbelt, Salisbury and Takoma Park** - but Mayors can't negotiate treaties. Lately, dozens of major cities and counties - including the **Cities of Baltimore and of Frederick and both Montgomery and Prince George's Counties** - have passed "Back From The Brink" resolutions very much like this one. To date, at least 9 other statewide legislative bodies have passed resolutions like this one. But only our federal government can actually solve this 100% manmade crisis. To date, 122 nations have signed and 73 have ratified the **U. N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**, but they can't force the 9 nuclear nations to deal with this. **The US and other nuclear nations must lead here!**

Like every US president since Truman, President Trump has expressed awareness of this problem, talking about "de-nuclearization" at the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2025, and declaring at his February 13, 2025 White House press conference that "*There's no reason for us to be building brand-new nuclear weapons, We already have so many, you could destroy the world 50 times over, 100 times over [...] If there's ever a time when we need nuclear weapons [...] that's going to be a very sad day, that's going to be probably oblivion.*" What's missing? Political will.

We must generate that political will in our Executive branch and our Congress to act affirmatively instead of passing the "nuclear football", literally and figuratively, from one president to the next, and kicking this can down the halls of Congress session after session. **It's the only missing ingredient.**

Your VOTE IN FAVOR of this resolution will amplify the calls of the thousands of Marylanders who've been urging urging our federal government to pursue sane nuclear

policies **PLEASE REPRESENT US, SPEAK UP FOR ALL MARYLANDERS, AND URGE
OUR US GOVERNMENT TO PRIORITIZE PROTECTING ALL OF US FROM A NUCLEAR
DISASTER NOBODY WANTS !**

Lou Curran (B.A, 1975, JHU; J.D., 1981, U.Md.Law)

5115 Underwood Road, Baltimore MD 21212-4107

410-499-8899