

HJ 007/SJ 004: Anti-Nuclear Proliferation Resolution (Back from the Brink Act): Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Rules & Executive Nominations Committee:

I am writing to strongly urge you to **OPPOSE** House Joint Resolution 7 and Senate Joint Resolution 4 during committee consideration or floor votes.

While reducing nuclear risks is a worthy long-term goal, these resolutions are dangerously misguided and undermine U.S. national security and global stability in the current threat environment. Russia's repeated nuclear threats during its war in Ukraine, China's rapid nuclear buildup (projected to exceed 1,000 warheads by 2030), North Korea's aggressive missile tests and arsenal expansion, and the growing cooperation among these authoritarian regimes, along with Iran, create an unprecedented and deteriorating strategic landscape.

Unilaterally taking U.S. nuclear forces off alert, canceling modernization programs (which are already delayed and underfunded), and pushing for a prohibition treaty that nuclear adversaries would not join would weaken deterrence, embolden aggressive countries, and increase the likelihood of nuclear coercion or conflict—not reduce it. The U.S. nuclear arsenal is the cornerstone of deterrence against existential threats; eroding it unilaterally or through unverifiable reductions would signal weakness and invite aggression rather than promote peace.

Maryland should not lend its voice to resolutions that advocate policies that could compromise national security and the protection of our allies. The focus should be on strengthening deterrence, modernizing our aging arsenal responsibly, and pursuing realistic arms control agreements with verifiable compliance—not symbolic gestures that ignore current realities.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask you to **vote against HJ 007/SJ 004.**

Thank you for your attention to this critical national security and foreign policy matter..

Respectfully,

Trudy Tibbals