

Support for HJ0007 Anti-Nuclear Proliferation Resolution (Back from the Brink Act)

Nuclear weapons do not protect our country or the world. A nuclear war would not only damage the country that was targeted but, over time, the radioactive fallout and the impact of nuclear winter weather changes would hurt the country that started the attack. That's why nuclear weapons fundamentally have no strategic value. Their use is a risk to civilization as we know it.

Further, it's impossible to predict how a nuclear holocaust might come about. It could be a calculated decision, actions by an unstable world leader, a miscalculation, a computer error, or a nuclear conflict initiated by a terrorist person or organization. We are playing Russian Roulette, and it doesn't matter how many bullets are in the chamber. If we keep spinning the barrel and pulling the trigger, a nuclear catastrophe will happen. The only way to prevent that from happening is to put down the gun.

Today's nuclear weapons are significantly more powerful than the 15-kiloton "Little Boy" bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Modern warheads are 5-80 times more powerful thermonuclear weapons, designed to produce explosions of 100 kilotons to over 1 megaton. They would cause vastly wider, city-destroying, or hardened-target impacts. And frankly, with Maryland being so close to Washington, D.C., our state would suffer directly.

It's time for the Maryland General Assembly to join the many communities and states that have adopted the Back from the Brink Resolution.

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(These comments are from me only and do not represent any group or organization with which I am affiliated.)