



City of Chicago



R2021-920

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Meeting Date: 7/21/2021

Sponsor(s): Hadden (49)

Type: Resolution

Title: Call for United States government to cease spending federal tax dollars on nuclear weapons, embrace UN Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and make global nuclear disarmament main focus of national security policy

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Health and Human Relations

Health

Chicago City Council
July 21, 2021

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, nine nations together have over 13,000 nuclear weapons in their arsenals. The U.S. arsenal alone is 84,000 times more destructive than each of the bombs that killed over one hundred thousand in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan in 1945; and

WHEREAS, the use of even one of these weapons could have catastrophic human and environmental consequences that would affect all life on the planet; and

WHEREAS, as the effects of climate change place increased stress on communities in Chicago and around the world, intensifying the likelihood of conflict and the danger of nuclear war; and

WHEREAS, The United States' continued investment in nuclear weapons fails to address safety and security concerns of communities of color, both at home and abroad, while prioritizing security concerns of white Americans; and

WHEREAS, Chicago residents contribute more than \$500 million annually to nuclear weapons through Federal taxes; and

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago recognizes its historical role in contributing to nuclear weapons development in the first half of the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago is now a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone and has recent precedent of opposing nuclear armament; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago seeks to support an alternative to the march towards nuclear war and recognizes the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as such; and

WHEREAS, in January 2021, the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons entered into force as international law and the City of Chicago expects to be part of a nation that embraces both the letter and the spirit of international law.

RESOLVED, BY THE CHICAGO CITY COUNCIL, We call upon the U.S. government to cease spending Chicagoans' Federal tax dollars on nuclear weapons, embrace the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and make global nuclear disarmament a centerpiece of our national security policy.

RESOLVED, We call upon the U.S. government to spearhead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- renouncing the option of conducting nuclear preemptive strikes;
- ending the sole, unchecked authority of any president to launch a nuclear attack without consulting Congress;
- taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;

- cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons at a cost of more than \$1 trillion over the next 30 years; and
- actively embracing both the letter and the spirit of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to members of the Illinois delegation to the United States Congress.



Aldersperson Maria E. Hadden
49th Ward