Nuclear Weapons

Urge Congress to:

* **PASS the GOOD** Legislation.
* **DEFEAT the BAD** Legislation.

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Updated to August 5, 2019

**SUPPORT:**

**SUPPORT H. Res. 302 to support the goals of the UN’s Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of our national security policy.**

Representatives Jim McGovern and Earl Blumenauer are the prime sponsors.

Several states and cities have already passed resolutions supporting the UN’s ban on nuclear weapons.

**SUPPORT the “No First Use” bills:**

The U.S. Constitution explicitly states that only Congress can declare war, but since 1945 presidents have claimed the de facto power to start the most horribly destructive war possible without any congressional approval, and Congress has allowed that unconstitutional power to persist. We must restore the Constitution – especially now during the Trump era.

* **S.200 and H.R. 669 are companion bills.**
* **S. 272 and H.R. 921 are companion bills.**

Senator Markey and Rep. Lieu introduced Senate and House legislation (S. 200 and H.R. 669) that would limit Trump’s (or any subsequent president’s) ability to launch nuclear weapons. Their legislation would prohibit any U.S. President from launching a nuclear first strike without a declaration of war by Congress. We need more co-sponsors and more members of Congress to vigorously support these bills.

Also, S. 272 and H.R. 921 are companions to each other. Each of these two bills is only 12 words long: **“It is the policy of the United States to not use nuclear weapons first.”** We need more co-sponsors and more members of Congress to vigorously support these bills.

**SUPPORT S. 312, the Prevention of Arms Race Act. This is URGENT!**

Trump has officially withdrawn from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, which Reagan and Gorbachev had signed in 1987, to reduce the likelihood of nuclear war in Europe. Now Trump wants to **immediately** build nuclear weapons that the INF treaty had banned. Please urge our senators to co-sponsor S. 312 to deny Trump the funding to build them. Eleven senators have introduced it. **Urgent!** Please join them in co-sponsoring S. 312 to stop a new nuclear arms race!

**SUPPORT the LYNE Act (S. 401) to prevent so-called “low-yield” nuclear explosives (LYNE).** Theyare recklessly dangerous! These nuclear weapons would be in the range of Hiroshima/Nagasaki bombs – not really “small” – and they would deceive presidents and the Pentagon into thinking they could use them, but really they would quickly escalate into all-out nuclear war.

**SUPPORT S. 401, the “Hold the LYNE” legislation.** This legislation would prohibit the development and deployment of these unnecessary and destabilizing new “low-yield” nuclear warhead to be carried on US submarine launched ballistic missiles.

**The House is working to stop them too.** Congressmen Ted Lieu and Adam Smith sent this “Dear Colleague Letter”: [**http://www.trivalleycares.org/new/DearCollegueLTR\_Hold\_LYNE\_Act\_2019.pdf**](http://www.trivalleycares.org/new/DearCollegueLTR_Hold_LYNE_Act_2019.pdf)

The House zeroed-out funding for the LYNE in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

See this article from *The Guardian*  about low yield nuclear weapons: **https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jan/28/us-nuclear-weapons-first-low-yield-warheads-roll-off-the-production-line**

**SUPPORT S. 845, the “New START Policy Act of 2019.”** It would establish as U.S. policy that – if the Russian Federation confirms its continued compliance with the New START Treaty – the U.S. should extend the Treaty through 2026.

**OPPOSE:**

**OPPOSE the complete rebuild of all nuclear weapons, missiles, submarines, bombers. It would cost much more than a TRILLION DOLLARS. Reasonable estimates are 1.5 TRILLION or more!** President Obama wanted the Senate to ratify the New START Treaty, but Senate Republicans refused, so – in order to get their support, Obama ironically promised to completely replace all of the U.S.’s nuclear weapons, including warheads, missiles, submarines, and bomber airplanes with horribly expensive new ones. We can provide information about this reckless, unnecessary project. Please urge Congress to refuse such reckless, budget-breaking, destabilizing spending on weapons that will provoke a new nuclear arms race.

**OPPOSE the proposed cruise missile – Long Range Stand-Off (LRSO) – proposal. It is not necessary and would make nuclear war more likely.** In 2017-2018 we had a piece of federal legislation to SUPPORT that was opposing the LRSO. It was S. 574, Nuclear Cruise Missile Reconsideration Act, but I could not find a current bill number for the 2019 Congress.

**MORE INFORMATION:**

For more information about nuclear weapons:

- See the “Nuclear Weapons” part of Glen Anderson’s blog, [www.parallaxperspectives.org](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)

- Connect with the Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (360) 491-9093

- Connect with our statewide coalition, Washington Against Nuclear Weapons ([www.wanwcoalition.org](http://www.wanwcoalition.org)) (206) 547-2630