

**RESOLUTION NO. M-1963**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, DECLARING THAT THE CITY OF OLYMPIA SUPPORTS THE ELIMINATION OF ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS, OPPOSES THE EXISTING FIRST-STRIKE AUTHORITY OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND BELIEVES IN THE PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AMONG ALL PEOPLES.**

**WHEREAS**, there are over 14,500 nuclear weapons globally and most are significantly more destructive than those dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, the use and detonation of even a small number of nuclear weapons would have catastrophic human, environmental, and economic consequences globally – impacting everyone on the planet; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Olympia has embraced the concept of sustainability as an overarching community philosophy and has implemented numerous programs and policies to realize sustainability, and the threat posed by nuclear weapons is antithetical to these goals; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of our community have the right to live a life free from the threat of nuclear war; and

**WHEREAS**, nuclear weapons fail to address 21st century national security concerns such as climate change, cyberattacks, and terrorism, while draining precious resources from programs that make us safer and more secure; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States is on track to spend \$1 trillion over the next 30 years to upgrade its nuclear arsenal, money that could be better spent on education, healthcare, or infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the President currently has the sole and unilateral power to launch a nuclear war without any consultation or any system of checks and balances by Congress; and

**WHEREAS**, in November 2017, Pope Francis said “...nuclear weapons create nothing but a false sense of security. They cannot constitute the basis for peaceful coexistence between members of the human family, which must rather be inspired by an ethics of solidarity”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1970, which was established to 1) prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, 2) promote cooperation

in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and 3) further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament, remains in force with 191 countries in compliance; and

**WHEREAS**, in October 2017, the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons for its work to foster a global ban on nuclear weapons; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States of America should take the lead in the global rejection of an arms race, and the City of Olympia should exert the voice of this community to influence critical national decisions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The City of Olympia supports the elimination of nuclear weapons and universal adherence to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1970, and calls upon our Congressional leaders to reject modernization of the existing nuclear stockpile, or testing of new nuclear devices, opting instead to actively reduce the number and power of all existing nuclear weapons.

Section 2. The City of Olympia calls upon our Congressional leaders to take action that prevents any sitting President from launching a nuclear first strike without a formal declaration of war by Congress.

Section 3. The City of Olympia, in concert with the concepts of sustainability and security, declares that all people possess inherent dignity and are worthy of justice and equity, in pursuit of a world community with peace and liberty for all.

**PASSED BY THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL** this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 2018.

  
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MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
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CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
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CITY ATTORNEY