

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2022 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-110-2022
Proposed by Council Member Dernoga
Introduced by Council Members Dernoga, Hawkins, Medlock, Harrison, Ivey, and Glaros
Co-Sponsors _____
Date of Introduction September 13, 2022

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Urging the Federal Government To Exercise Restraint to Avoid Global Nuclear War

3 For the purpose of

4 The Prince George's County Government urging the Biden Administration and
5 encouraging the federal government to engage in nuclear disarmament to prevent global nuclear
6 warfare and massive destruction; and generally relating to global and federal nuclear
7 disarmament.

8 WHEREAS, Nuclear conflict between superpowers will cause unimaginable and
9 irreversible catastrophic damage to all life on this earth; and

10 WHEREAS, Nuclear conflict will produce conditions in which much of humanity will
11 starve, and probably become extinct; and

12 WHEREAS, "A limited, regional" war between countries employing less than 1% of the
13 world's nuclear arsenal, will send plumes of dark soot and pollution into the stratosphere
14 creating a "nuclear winter" which could lead to the starvation of two billion or more of the
15 world's most vulnerable people; and

16 WHEREAS, Destabilization of the world's health and economic resources have resulted
17 from the Russian invasion of the Country of Ukraine on February 24th, 2022, dramatically
18 increases the threat of nuclear conflict between the superpowers and adjacent countries; and

19 WHEREAS, In light of Prince George's County's proximity to the District of Columbia, a
20 nuclear war is expected to lead to the immediate destruction of significant portions of this
21 County and much of the surrounding areas near this County; and

22 WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2021, Maryland taxpayers collectively paid approximately one

1 point seven billion dollars (\$1.7 billion) in federal taxes toward nuclear programs, including but
2 not limited to, the modernization of nuclear weapons; and

3 WHEREAS, Prince George's County Government asserts that a more productive use for
4 Prince George's County's federal tax dollars would be to provide sustainable energy programs,
5 additional education funding, more eviction and foreclosure prevention programs, an increase of
6 quality healthcare programs for all County residents, and increased senior services; and

7 WHEREAS, The County Council has noted that the climate crisis, the COVID-19
8 pandemic, and recent protests against racial injustice and gender bias have highlighted the need
9 for greater financial investment into our healthcare systems, education systems, criminal justice
10 reform systems, and the creation of sustainable energy programs to support each community in
11 Prince George's County; and

12 WHEREAS, Sixty-Seven (67) municipalities including Montgomery County, Washington
13 D.C. and Baltimore City, have passed resolutions in support of the "Back from the Brink
14 Campaign" and the U.N. "Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons" (TPNW)
15 <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/tpnw/>; and

16 WHEREAS, One hundred and twenty-two (122) nations called for the adoption of the
17 TPNW, eighty-six (86) nations have signed the treaty and as of May 17, 2022, sixty (60) nations
18 have ratified it.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council of Prince George's
20 County, Maryland, that the Prince George's County Government urges our state and federal
21 representatives to sign legislation that is consistent with the goals of the "Back from the Brink
22 Campaign" which: (1) require the United States (U.S.) to pursue a verifiable agreement among
23 nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals; (2) take U.S. nuclear weapons off
24 immediate alert status; (3) cancel plans to replace the entire U.S. arsenal with amplified weapons
25 and make plans to redirect those funds toward life-enhancing programs; (4) renounce the option
26 of using nuclear weapons before engaging in other non-lethal options of defense; and (5)
27 terminate the United States' President's sole authority to launch nuclear attacks.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that Prince George's County Government strongly
29 urges the Administration of President Joseph R. Biden, to embrace the "Treaty on the Prohibition
30 of Nuclear Weapons";

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption, this Resolution shall serve as an

1 official correspondence from the Prince George’s County Government to be shared with the
2 Biden Administration, the Prince George’s Congressional Delegation, and the Prince George’s
3 County Senate and Prince Georges County House Delegations.

Adopted this 13th day of September, 2022.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Calvin S. Hawkins, II
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council