



TOWN OF DURHAM
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RESOLUTION #2018-21 OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

CALLING ON THE UNITED STATES TO LEAD A GLOBAL EFFORT TO PREVENT NUCLEAR WAR

WHEREAS, nine nations collectively have approximately 15,000 nuclear weapons in their arsenals, most of which are far more destructive than those that killed hundreds of thousands of people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, in 1945; and

WHEREAS, the detonation of even a small number of these weapons could have catastrophic human and environmental consequences that could affect everyone on the planet; and

WHEREAS, the United States maintains several hundred nuclear missiles in underground silos on alert, capable of being launched within minutes after a presidential order, which if not managed with the utmost care, could increase the risk of an accidental, mistaken or unauthorized launch; and

WHEREAS, the United States continues to reserve the right to use nuclear weapons first, which if not utilized prudently, could reduce the threshold for nuclear use and make a nuclear war more likely; and

WHEREAS, the United States president has the sole authority to order the use of nuclear weapons; and

WHEREAS, according to the Union of Concerned Scientists, over the next 30 years, the United States plans to spend an estimated \$1.7 trillion to replace its entire nuclear arsenal and the bombers, missiles, and submarines that deliver them with more capable, more usable versions; and

WHEREAS, according to the Union of Concerned Scientists, taxpayers spend over \$2 million every hour of every day to maintain the United States nuclear arsenal; and

WHEREAS, the United States, as well as Britain, China, France, and Russia are obligated under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to take concrete steps toward eliminating their nuclear arsenals; and

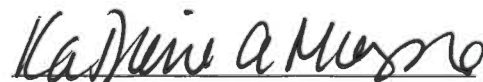
WHEREAS, in July 2017, 122 nations approved the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which makes it illegal under international law to develop, test, produce, manufacture, or otherwise acquire, possess, or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Durham Town Council, the governing and legislative body of the Town of Durham, New Hampshire, does hereby approve Resolution #2018-21 calling on the United States Government to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- seeking and encouraging to the extent possible peaceful means to resolve conflict;
- renouncing the policy option of using nuclear weapons first;
- renouncing the policy option of sole authority of any President to launch a nuclear attack;
- carefully evaluating the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons prior to taking steps to do so; and
- actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Durham Town Council that the Town Administrator shall register the Town of Durham as having passed this resolution on the website www.preventnuclearwar.org; and shall send this resolution to New Hampshire's elected members of the United States House of Representatives and Senate.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3rd day of December, 2018 by a majority vote of the Durham Town Council with Nine (9) voting in favor, Zero (0) voting against, and Zero (0) abstaining.



Katherine A. Marple, Chair
Durham Town Council

ATTEST:



Lorrie Pitt, Town Clerk-Tax Collector