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

Resolution No. CR-110-2022

Proposed by Council Member Dernoga

Introduced by ____________________________________________

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

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

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

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

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

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that Prince George’s County Government strongly
urges the Administration of President Joseph R. Biden, to embrace the “Treaty on the Prohibition
of Nuclear Weapons”;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption, this Resolution shall serve as an
official correspondence from the Prince George’s County Government to be shared with the
Biden Administration, the Prince George’s Congressional Delegation, and the Prince George’s
County Senate and Prince Georges County House Delegations.

Adopted this _____ day of ____________, 2022.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE’S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: ________________________________
Calvin S. Hawkins, II
Chair

ATTEST:

________________________________________
Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council