

Joint Resolution of the City of Holyoke City Council & Mayor Joshua A. Garcia
_____,____, 2022

BACK from the BRINK

WHEREAS, The United States and Russia together possess close to 13,000 nuclear warheads, with the remainder of the world's nuclear arsenal held by seven other countries: China, France, the United Kingdom, North Korea Israel, India, and Pakistan; and

WHEREAS, Use of these weapons in a war would kill hundreds of millions of people directly and cause catastrophic environmental damage and climate disruption; and

WHEREAS, Use of even a tiny fraction of these weapons would also cause worldwide climate disruption and put billions of people at or over the brink of starvation; and

WHEREAS, Many times the world has come perilously close to the use of nuclear weapons, which has only been averted at the last minute by luck; and

WHEREAS, An alternative to the great risk of nuclear war exists if the world's nations commit to the reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons, as embodied in the International Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, already adopted by 122 of the world's nations;

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the City Council of Holyoke, Massachusetts, joined by Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to TAKE THE LEAD in protecting the planet from the use of nuclear weapons by:

- RENOUNCING the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- ADDING SAFEGUARDS to the current unchecked authority of any President to launch a nuclear attack;
- TAKING U.S. nuclear weapons off of hair trigger alert;
- CANCELING the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced nuclear weapons;
- ACTIVELY TAKING THE LEAD in pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administrative Assistant to the City Council shall cause a copy of this Resolution to be sent to the Honorable U.S. Senators Edward J. Markey and Elizabeth Warren, the Honorable Congressman Richard E. Neal, and to President of the United States Joseph R. Biden.

RESULT: