

State of Vermont

Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

Senate Resolution

By Senators Racine, Cummings, Ashe, Ayer, Bartlett, Campbell, Carris, Choate, Flanagan, Giard, Hartwell, Kitchel, Kittell, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Miller, Sears, Shumlin, Snelling, Starr and White,

S.R. 20. Senate resolution urging President Barack Obama to initiate negotiations for a nuclear weapons abolition treaty.

Whereas, nuclear weapons continue to pose a threat to civilization, the human species, and life itself; and more nations are seeking to develop them while international terrorists want to acquire them, and

Whereas, former Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and George Shultz, former Secretary of Defense William Perry, and former Chair of the United States Senate Armed Services Committee Sam Nunn have acknowledged the threat that nuclear weapons pose, and they have repeatedly called for the complete abolition of all nuclear weapons, and

Whereas, United States taxpayers spend over \$52 billion each year for nuclear weapons programs, resources which could be better used to rebuild our schools, roads, and bridges; create a renewable energy economy; and put people back to work, and

Whereas, the Cold War, the reason for the buildup of nuclear stockpiles, ended 20 years ago, but there remain thousands of nuclear weapons poised to unleash in a moment's notice enough destructive power to end most of life on earth, and

Whereas, President Obama has declared his intention to work toward worldwide abolition of these most destructive of weapons, and President Medvedev of Russia and he have agreed the weapons must be eliminated, and

Whereas, the legal cornerstone of international nuclear disarmament, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), will be the subject of an international review conference starting in April 2010 at the United Nations, and

Whereas, the United States and other nations with nuclear weapons have an unfulfilled obligation under Article VI of the NPT to conduct negotiations on nuclear disarmament in good faith, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate of the state of Vermont urges the President of the United States to present to the U.N. NPT Review Conference in April 2010 a plan for starting negotiations which will lead to a worldwide mutual and verifiable nuclear weapons abolition treaty, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States and to the Vermont Congressional Delegation with a request that it be read into the Congressional Record.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ATTESTED TO:

David A. Gibson
Secretary of the Senate

DATE: _____