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**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8007**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senator Hasegawa

1 TO THE HONORABLE DONALD J. TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,  
7 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Nearly 12,100 nuclear weapons still exist in the world  
9 and pose an intolerable risk to human survival; and

10 WHEREAS, The United States has roughly 5,748 nuclear weapons,  
11 constituting the world's most lethal nuclear weapons capability; and

12 WHEREAS, The United States is currently planning to spend up to  
13 \$2,000,000,000,000 rebuilding our entire nuclear weapons arsenal,  
14 which takes funding away from conventional military needs and social  
15 programs like education, health care, and infrastructure; and

16 WHEREAS, The use and detonation of even a small number of nuclear  
17 weapons could have catastrophic human, environmental, and economic  
18 consequences globally; and

19 WHEREAS, These weapons pose a threat simply by existing, due to  
20 the possibility of accidents and miscalculations, many of which have  
21 been documented in the past; and

1       WHEREAS, In July 2017, 122 nations called for the elimination of  
2 all nuclear weapons by adopting the Treaty on the Prohibition of  
3 Nuclear Weapons; and

4       WHEREAS, The United States Constitution gives Congress the sole  
5 power to declare war; and

6       WHEREAS, Despite this, the President currently has de facto sole  
7 authority to launch a nuclear attack on his or her own, without any  
8 required consultation or any system of checks and balances; and

9       WHEREAS, By any definition of war, a first-use nuclear strike  
10 from the United States would constitute a major act of war; and

11       WHEREAS, Washington state citizens benefit from the safety and  
12 security provided by existing nuclear arms reductions treaties,  
13 including the New START Treaty; and

14       WHEREAS, On February 2, 2019, the United States President  
15 declared a suspension of United States obligations under the  
16 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty and formally announced  
17 its intention to withdraw from the treaty in six months. On August 2,  
18 2019, the United States formally withdrew from the INF Treaty; and

19       WHEREAS, A single nuclear detonation in any major city in  
20 Washington could cause hundreds of thousands of immediate fatalities,  
21 hundreds of thousands of injuries and illnesses from radiation, and  
22 devastating destruction of agricultural land and natural resources  
23 for decades; and

24       WHEREAS, Washington state has the largest collection of deployed  
25 nuclear weapons in the Western Hemisphere, at Naval Base Kitsap-  
26 Bangor on Hood Canal, just 20 miles from Seattle, Washington; and

27       WHEREAS, This nuclear weapons installation, added to Washington  
28 state's large city centers and many other military installations,  
29 makes our state a primary target in the event of a nuclear exchange;  
30 and

31       WHEREAS, Washington state is home to many other nuclear weapons  
32 sites and nuclear reactor facilities, including: The Hanford Nuclear  
33 Site, the most contaminated nuclear site in the Western Hemisphere;  
34 the Midnite Mine, a former nuclear weapons uranium mine located on  
35 the Spokane Tribe of Indians Reservation; and one of the largest  
36 populations of Marshall Islanders in the United States, whose home  
37 was the site of 67 atmospheric nuclear weapons tests during the Cold  
38 War; and

39       WHEREAS, These nuclear weapons sites and activities  
40 disproportionately affect communities of color and indigenous people,

1 none of whom have been adequately compensated for the environmental  
2 and health consequences of nuclear weapons activities pursued by the  
3 United States government during the 50 years of the Cold War; and

4 WHEREAS, These nuclear weapons and nuclear-related activities in  
5 Washington state make this a uniquely local responsibility for  
6 Washington state to lead a national conversation about reducing and  
7 eliminating the threat of nuclear war, and revamping our federal  
8 strategy, which is also known as mutually assured destruction (MAD);  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Washington's citizens, and all Americans have an  
11 inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and  
12 to live a life free from the threat of nuclear weapons; and

13 WHEREAS, The United States could lead a global effort to prevent  
14 nuclear war by:

15 (1) Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;

16 (2) Ending the President's sole, unchecked authority to launch a  
17 nuclear attack;

18 (3) Taking United States nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;

19 (4) Canceling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with next  
20 generation nuclear weapons; and

21 (5) Actively pursuing a verifiable, multilateral agreement among  
22 nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress  
24 take appropriate steps to move back from the brink of nuclear war by  
25 establishing a system of checks and balances to ensure that the  
26 President shall no longer have the sole, unchecked authority to  
27 launch nuclear weapons, except in circumstances of retaliation to a  
28 nuclear attack, and making it the policy of the United States to not  
29 use nuclear weapons first.

30 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
31 transmitted to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United  
32 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
33 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State  
34 of Washington.

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