**Actions you can take:**

**VFP Golden Rule Project**

A National Project of Veterans For Peace

[www.VFPGoldenRuleProject.org](http://www.VFPGoldenRuleProject.org)
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P. O. Box 87, Samoa, California 95564-0087

* Support the Golden Rule Project - we need

Speakers Authors

Crew Facebook/web posters

Musicians Event organizers

Media outreach Organizational outreach

Tabling Photographers

Hosts Sponsors

* Join a local or national nuclear abolition or disarmament group or form your own
* Carry signs and banners at rallies
* Make connections with environmental, peace and carbon-free groups - attend and bring the anti-nuclear message to them.

**Organizations taking action that you can support and/or join**

* Back From the Brink  [preventnuclearwar.org](http://www.preventnuclearwar.org)
* Don’t Bank on the Bomb [dontbankonthebomb.com](http://www.dontbankonthebomb.com)
* Veterans For Peace  [veteransforpeace.org](http://www.veteransforpeace.org)
* Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom <wilpfus.org>
* Physicians for Social Responsibility <psr.org>
* Nuclear Age Peace Foundation <wagingpeace.org>

**Encourage your town or county to pass resolutions that reduce the possibility of nuclear war**

Nuclear weapons pose an unacceptable threat to people everywhere. This is why, on 7 July 2017, 122 nations voted to adopt the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. All national governments are now invited to sign and ratify this crucial global agreement, which prohibits the use, production and stockpiling of nuclear weapons and lays the foundations for their total elimination. Cities and towns can help build support for the treaty by endorsing the ICAN Cities Appeal.

**Example of a great resolution, passed by New Jersey state legislature:**

## **Title:** Urges federal government to ratify Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and pursue other measures to reduce danger of nuclear war.

**Text:** An Assembly Resolution urging the federal government to pursue a broad range of measures to reduce the danger of nuclear war and to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

**Whereas,** Nuclear weapons are the most destructive weapons ever created by mankind, with immense destructive capacity and lingering radiation effects after detonation; and

**Whereas,** More than 90percent of these weapons are in the hands of the United States and Russia, and the rest are held by seven other countries: China, France, Israel, India, Pakistan, North Korea, and the United Kingdom; and

**Whereas,** Since the height of the Cold War, the United States has reduced its active weapons by more than 25,000 nuclear warheads, but about 4,000 still exist, almost 2,000 of which are on alert for use at short notice; and

**Whereas,** A large-scale nuclear war would cause hundreds of millions of casualties and cause unimaginable environmental damage, and create catastrophic climate disruption by dropping temperatures across the planet to levels that would cause crop failures and mass starvation; and

**Whereas,** Under current federal law, the President has the authority to unilaterally initiate the use of a nuclear weapon; and

**Whereas,** The power of the United States’ stockpile of nuclear weapons is too devastating and the result of their use too irrevocable to be left to the sole authority of the President; and

**Whereas,** Renouncing the option of launching a first strike with nuclear weapons would reduce tension and make a nuclear exchange between the United States and another country less likely; and

**Whereas,** These weapons are placed on hair-trigger alert, meaning that the likelihood of an accidental launch or a launch as a result of an international misunderstanding is highly possible; and

**Whereas,** The planned expenditure of about $500 billion over the next decade to maintain and enhance our nuclear arsenal, including the development and deployment of new nuclear weapons and broadening the conditions for use, will not only increase the risk of nuclear disaster, but fuel a global arms race and divert crucial resources needed to assure the well-being of the American people and people all over the world; and

**Whereas,** The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted by the United Nations in July of 2017 and, to date, has been signed by 70 countries, and prohibits the development, testing, production, stockpiling, transfer, use, and threat of use of nuclear weapons, and sets out procedures for nuclear-armed signatories to destroy their existing nuclear stockpile; and

**Whereas,** The United States, as well as the other nuclear weapon countries, are not yet signatories to this treaty; and

**Whereas,** These actions would be a major step toward eliminating the existence of nuclear weapons, which pose an intolerable risk to human survival, especially if the United States pursues an agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their arsenals; now, therefore,

**Be It Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:**

     1.    This House urges the federal government to spearhead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons in a first strike, ending the President’s sole authority to launch a nuclear attack, taking the nuclear weapons of the United States off hair-trigger alert, canceling the plan to replace its entire nuclear arsenal with enhanced nuclear weapons, and actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

     2.    This House urges the President and the Senate of the United States to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

     3.    Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Congress elected thereto from New Jersey.