

WE HAVE THEIR ATTENTION:

CONGRESS IS CONSIDERING 7 BILLS TO CHANGE U.S. POLICY AND REDUCE OR ELIMINATE NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Alert! Your Calls are Needed Now!

The 116th Congress is underway with new vision and energy – including a freshly awakened interest in U.S. nuclear weapons policy. Two things are clear at the outset: First, this welcome congressional spark must be fanned by grassroots action in order to grow into full-fledged policy change. And, second, public involvement at this juncture can create real progress toward nuclear disarmament.



With this in mind, Tri-Valley CAREs has been working with DC colleagues and with legislators in the House and Senate to introduce

key bills to move the country away from the dangerous escalation outlined in Donald Trump's Nuclear Posture Review.

We ask for your help to enable seven newly introduced congressional bills to acquire enough co-sponsors to move forward, pass and become law. To read the full text of any of the bills, and to get further information, go to Congress.gov and type in the bill number.

Here are the details you need to make calls – and make a difference!

The capitol switchboard is (202) 224-3121

HOLD THE LYNE

In the House - Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA-33) has introduced **H.R. 1086** - the Hold the LYNE (low-yield nuclear explosive) Act of 2019. This bill

would prohibit the production and deployment of a “more usable,” low-yield sub-launched nuclear warhead (called the W76-2) that was given the go-ahead in last year's Nuclear Posture Review. H.R. 1086 has 30 co-sponsors including 7 from California (Garamendi, Lee, Speier, Lowenthal, Cisneros, Thompson and Panetta). According to Trump, this low-yield option will make a U.S. nuclear strike more “credible,” which means more likely to occur. This lowers the threshold for a conventional military conflict to become a nuclear war.

ACTION: Call your Representative and ask him/her to co-sponsor H.R. 1086. If your member of Congress is already on board, call and say “thank you”.

In the Senate – Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) introduced **S. 401** - the Hold the LYNE (low yield nuclear explosive) Act of 2019. S. 401 has 7 co-sponsors, including CA Senator Dianne Feinstein. Senator Kamala Harris is not a co-sponsor.

ACTION: Call both CA Senators; thank Senator Feinstein and ask Senator Harris to cosponsor.

RESTRICTING A PRESIDENT FROM FIRST USE

In the House - Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA-33) introduced **H.R. 669** - the Restricting First Use of Nuclear Weapons Act of 2019. This bill would prohibit the President from launching a first-use of nuclear weapons without an expressed declaration of war by the Congress. This bill addresses the need for checks and balances that are presently lacking.

This bill is gathering additional co-sponsors (and power) with 55 presently in the House including 18 from California (Panetta, Eshoo, Lee, Khanna, Speier, Garamendi, Lofgren Thompson, DeSaulnier, Waters, Lowenthal, Takano, Carbajal, Napolitano, Sherman, Chu, Porter and Cisneros.)

ACTION: Call your Representative and ask him/her to co-sponsor H.R. 669. Please thank the offices that have co-sponsored – and ask those who have not to get on board today and co-sponsor this piece of legislation.

In the Senate – Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) introduced **S. 200** – Restricting First Use of Nuclear Weapons Act of 2019. The bill has 13 co-sponsors, including CA Senator Dianne Feinstein. Senator Kamala Harris is not a co-sponsor.

ACTION: Call both CA Senators; thank Sen. Feinstein and ask Senator Harris to cosponsor.

NO FIRST USE POLICY

In the House - Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA-9) introduced **H.R. 921** to Establish the Policy of No First Use of Nuclear Weapons. This bill broadly changes U.S. policy. H.R. 921 has garnered 30 co-sponsors in the House including 9 from California (Lieu, Garamendi, Khanna, Lofgren, DeSaulnier, Thompson, Eshoo, Huffman and Cisneros).

ACTION: Call your Representative and ask him/her to co-sponsor H.R. 921. If your member of Congress is already on board, call and say “thank you”.

In the Senate – Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) introduced **S. 272** to Establish the Policy of No First Use of Nuclear Weapons. It has 6 co-sponsors, including CA Senator Dianne Feinstein. Senator Kamala Harris is not a co-sponsor.

ACTION: Call both CA Senators; thank Sen. Feinstein and ask Senator Harris to cosponsor.

Note: The No First Use bill is complementary to the Restricting First Use bill – but also unique. The text of this bill is one-line: “It is the policy of the United States to not use nuclear weapons first.” Indeed, if you poll the general public, many believe that is U.S. policy, but it is not so. This bill seeks to remedy that situation and establish that the U.S. will not be the first to launch a nuclear weapon.

Many of the same elected officials are on both bills, which makes sense.

IN SUPPORT OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

In the House – Rep. James McGovern (D-MA-2) introduced **H.Res. 302**, a resolution calling for the prohibition of nuclear weapons, rejection of first strike policy, and cancelation of the program to upgrade and modernize the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile. H.Res. 302 also calls on the President and Secretaries of State and Defense to embrace the goals and provisions of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, signed by 122 countries at the UN on July 7, 2017. H.Res. 302 has 3 co-sponsors, including 1 from California (Lee). There is no companion bill in the Senate.

ACTION - Call your Representative and ask him/her to co-sponsor H.Res. 302; thank Rep. Barbara Lee.

The capitol switchboard is (202) 224-3121



If you would like to know more about these and other bills and/or help Tri-Valley CAREs create change in U.S. nuclear and foreign policy, you can visit us on line at www.trivalleycares.org, come to our next monthly meeting, contribute financially with a tax-deductible donation, or call our offices for more information at 925.443.7148.

We appreciate all that you do for peace, justice and a healthy environment. Thank you!

Alert updated 5-3-19
<marylia@trivalleycares.org>