

1 [Renouncing Nuclear Weapons Proliferation and Embracing the Treaty on the Prohibition of
2 Nuclear Weapons]

3 **Resolution urging renunciation of nuclear weapons proliferation, actively pursuing a**
4 **verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals,**
5 **and embracing the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.**

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7 WHEREAS, Nine nuclear weapons states (NWS) collectively possess approximately
8 13,400 nuclear weapons in their arsenals, most of which are far more destructive than those
9 that killed hundreds of thousands of people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, in 1945; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the Federation of American Scientists, “all the nuclear
11 weapon states continue to modernize their remaining nuclear forces, adding new types,
12 increasing the role they serve, and appear committed to retaining nuclear weapons for the
13 indefinite future”; and

14 WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Congressional Budget Office, the U.S. plans to
15 spend an estimated \$1.2 trillion, approximately \$4 million an hour, to upgrade and modernize
16 its nuclear weapons and delivery systems over the next 30 years, with the expectation that
17 modernization, maintenance, and storage of nuclear weapons will cost \$494 billion over the
18 next decade, a cost rising each year; and

19 WHEREAS, For Fiscal Year 2020, the population of San Francisco County will spend
20 an estimated \$261,294,805 in tax contributions towards the full cost of all U.S. nuclear
21 weapons programs; and

22 WHEREAS, The United States maintains several hundred nuclear missiles in
23 underground silos on hair-trigger alert, capable of being launched within minutes after a
24 presidential order, which greatly increases the risk of an accidental, mistaken or unauthorized
25 launch; and

1 WHEREAS, The detonation of even a tiny fraction of these weapons could cause
2 worldwide climate disruption and global famine; for example, as few as 100 Hiroshima-sized
3 bombs, small by modern standards, would put at least five million tons of soot into the upper
4 atmosphere and cause climate disruption across the planet; and

5 WHEREAS, The United States, as well as Britain, China, France and Russia and all
6 nuclear weapons states, are obligated under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to take
7 concrete steps toward eliminating their nuclear arsenals; and

8 WHEREAS, In July 2017, The United Nations overwhelmingly adopted the Treaty to
9 Prohibit Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), for which the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear
10 Weapons (ICAN) garnered the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize; to date there are 84 signatories and
11 50 ratified states, whereby the TPNW is slated to enter-into-force in January 2021; this new
12 UN treaty, represents our best opportunity in generations to achieve a global consensus to
13 abolish nuclear weapons; and

14 WHEREAS, In 2018 a new grassroots movement "Back from the Brink," initiated by the
15 Union of Concerned Scientists and Physicians for Social Responsibility, identified five
16 concrete steps (referred to as "The Call") that will reduce the risk of nuclear war by calling on
17 the U.S. federal government to: 1) Renounce the option of using nuclear weapons first; 2) End
18 the President's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack; 3) Take U.S. nuclear
19 weapons off hair-trigger alert; 4) Cancel the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced
20 weapons; and 5) Actively pursue a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to
21 eliminate their nuclear arsenals; and

22 WHEREAS, The five steps in The Call have been endorsed by 250 health,
23 environmental, academic, peace, faith, and justice organizations, and have been incorporated
24 in resolutions approved by fifty municipalities, including nine California cities (Arcata,
25 Berkeley, Carlsbad, Eureka, Los Angeles, Menlo Park, Ojai, Santa Barbara and Santa

1 Monica,) as well as by the California State Assembly in Joint Resolution 33 passed on
2 September 25, 2018; and

3 WHEREAS, In October 2020, the American Public Health Association (APHA), the
4 oldest and largest organization of public health professionals in the world, adopted a
5 resolution “Towards a Nuclear-Free World,” embracing the five steps in the Call, as well as
6 calling on the U.S. President and Senate and the other nuclear-weapons states to sign and
7 ratify the TPNW; and now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco calls upon its federal
9 delegation and our nation to spearhead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by renouncing
10 the option of using nuclear weapons first; ending the President’s sole, unchecked authority to
11 launch a nuclear attack; taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert; canceling the plan
12 to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and actively pursuing a verifiable
13 agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That San Francisco urges our federal leaders and our nation
15 to embrace the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and make nuclear
16 disarmament the centerpiece of our national security policy.

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