



**International Physicians**  
for the Prevention of Nuclear War



Monday August 6, 2018

Los Angeles City Council  
200 N Spring St.,  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

To the Los Angeles City Council:

On behalf of the 64 national affiliates of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), winner of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize, representing tens of thousands of medical professionals worldwide, we commend you for considering, and urge you to support, resolution 18-0002-S94 calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

The Los Angeles resolution is part of a national grassroots campaign called “Back from the Brink,” which has support from our US affiliate, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and other prominent public health, science, environmental, faith-based and justice organizations. The US Conference of Mayors voted unanimously in June to support a similar resolution, and cities throughout the United States are following suit. We were just informed that the City of Baltimore enacted their resolution today. With your approval, Los Angeles would be the largest city to do so.

The United Nations Treaty on the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons endorsed in the resolution also has broad support, from the American Medical Association and the International Red Cross/Red Crescent, to Pope Francis and the Archbishop of Canterbury, to former Secretary of Defense William J. Perry. The Treaty, which was adopted last year with the support of 122 countries, bans nuclear weapons in the same way that biological and chemical weapons are banned – as inhumane, indiscriminate, and illegal weapons, whose use, in this case, have the potential to end human civilization. As a medically based organization, we have, for nearly forty years, supported nuclear abolition because we know that there is no cure for nuclear war – only prevention. As President Ronald Reagan famously said in echoing our message, “Nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought.”

While the people of the world nervously listen to periodic bellicose bursts of “fire and fury” talk from the leaders of nuclear-armed states, a community with the global stature of Los Angeles taking a stand makes a big difference. Your support is very much appreciated by all who are working to return to reasoned discussion, rational policy, and an end to nuclear weapons.

Again, we applaud your consideration and request your approval of resolution 18-0002-S94.

Sincerely,

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