

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY: RESOLUTION ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS

APPROVED 04/27/2017

WHEREAS, there are over 15,000 nuclear weapons globally, most possessed by the United States and Russia and most significantly more destructive than those dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki¹; and

WHEREAS, use and detonation of even a small number of nuclear weapons would have catastrophic human, environmental and economic consequences globally – impacting everyone on the planet; and

WHEREAS, the first use of nuclear weapons against any other nuclear-armed nation would most likely result in their immediate retaliation and invite the near total destruction of, San Francisco State University; and

WHEREAS, a single nuclear detonation in downtown San Francisco would cause upwards of 450,000 fatalities and 300,000 injuries²; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America is a signatory party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT); and

WHEREAS the students, faculty, and staff of San Francisco State University have the right to live a life free from the threat of death by nuclear weapons; and

WHEREAS nuclear weapons fail to address 21st century national security concerns such as climate change, cyber attacks and terrorism while draining precious resources from programs that make us safer and more secure; and

WHEREAS the current President Donald Trump has repeatedly questioned why we cannot use nuclear weapons and called for a major nuclear buildup, which will incite other countries to do the same and dramatically increase the risks of nuclear war; and

WHEREAS the United States is on track to spend \$1 trillion over the next 30 years to upgrade its nuclear arsenal³, money that could be better spent on education, healthcare, jobs or infrastructure; and

¹ “Nuclear Weapons – UNODA.” *Nuclear Weapons*, United Nations, www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/.

² Johnson, Lizzie. “Can SF Plan for Surviving a North Korean Nuclear Strike?” *San Francisco Chronicle*, 8 Aug. 2017, www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Can-SF-plan-for-surviving-a-North-Korean-nuclear-11743318.php.

³ The Editorial Board. “A Threat to Nuclear Arms Control.” *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 29 July 2017, www.nytimes.com/2017/07/29/opinion/sunday/trump-nuclear-arms-

WHEREAS the United States President currently has the sole and unilateral power to launch a nuclear war without any consultation or any system of check and balances,

RESOLVED, that San Francisco State University Associated Students calls upon our congressional representatives to take all necessary steps to establish a system of checks and balances with regard to the first use of nuclear weapons; and let it be further

RESOLVED, that our congressional representatives work to create a system in which the United States President shall no longer have the sole and unchecked authority to launch nuclear weapons, except in circumstances of retaliation; and

RESOLVED, that this resolution be distributed widely, including, but not limited, to statewide student associations, campus associated students, Academic Senate CSU, CSU Board of Trustees, Chancellor Timothy P. White, the California legislature, and the Office of the Governor of California.