

## **RESOLUTION 18-02**

### **RESTRICT FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND REQUIRE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL**

**WHEREAS** the foreign policy platform of the Washington State Democratic Party begins: "We must not conduct preemptive war and make diplomacy and nonviolent conflict resolution the primary organizing principle of foreign policy."

**WHEREAS** the Constitution of the United States, Article 1, Section 8 states: "Congress shall have the power...to declare War...";

**WHEREAS** the President currently has sole authority to launch a first nuclear strike, a policy that increases the risk of nuclear war and is vulnerable to accidents and miscommunication;

**WHEREAS** there are over 15,000 nuclear weapons globally, most possessed by the United States and Russia, many significantly more destructive than those used by the U.S. in Hiroshima and Nagasaki;

**WHEREAS** use and detonation of even a small number of nuclear weapons would have catastrophic human, environmental, and economic consequences globally;

**WHEREAS** Clallam County's proximity to major military installations puts it at great risk for any nuclear strike in the Northwest,

**WHEREAS** President Donald Trump has called for a major buildup of nuclear weapons, 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 arsenal.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Clallam County Democrats condemn President Trump's reckless agenda that makes us targets of nuclear war;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Clallam County Democrats support the Restricting First Use of Nuclear Weapons ACT of 2017 (H.R. 669 and S. 200) that would prevent the President from unilaterally launching a nuclear first strike without a Congressional Declaration of War Authorization;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Clallam County Democrats call on our legislators, Representative Kilmer and Senators Murray and Cantwell to publicly reject President Trump's nuclear agenda and to support H.R. 669 and S. 200 by co-sponsoring this legislation; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Clallam County Democrats urge the Washington State Democratic Party to call on the Washington State Congressional delegation to co-sponsor H.R. 669/S. 200 and ask that this issue be considered as an addition to the party's Foreign Affairs platform.

Adopted by the Membership of the Clallam County Democrats  
February 3, 2018