

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-__

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilor Renee D. Villarreal

A RESOLUTION

IN OPPOSITION TO THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGENDA OF THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION; CALLING ON THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO CONDEMN THE RHETORIC AND AGENDA; AND SUPPORTING THE RESTRICTING FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ACT OF 2017.

WHEREAS, there are over 15,000 nuclear weapons, most possessed by the United States & Russia and more destructive than those that killed tens of thousands and devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and

WHEREAS, use and detonation of even a small number of nuclear weapons would have unimaginable global human, environmental and economic consequences – affecting everyone on the planet, and

WHEREAS, all cities and communities, including Santa Fe, remain at great, imminent risk as potential targets in a nuclear war; and

WHEREAS, a single nuclear strike in Santa Fe would cause upwards of 40,000 fatalities and 40,000 injuries; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the city of Santa Fe’s proximity to Los Alamos National Laboratory, a
2 primary designer and producer of the nation’s nuclear stockpile and plutonium pits, puts all of the
3 city’s residents, and those of northern New Mexico, at risk; and

4 **WHEREAS**, numerous safety violations at Los Alamos National Laboratory, as well as
5 open pits holding nuclear waste dating back to the Manhattan Project threaten the health and
6 wellbeing of nearby residents including all that rely on water supply from the Rio Grande; and

7 **WHEREAS**, nuclear weapons testing has caused irreparable harm to communities and
8 the natural environment, and

9 **WHEREAS**, all of humanity and every citizen has the right to live a life and pursue a
10 future free from the fear and worry of nuclear devastation, and

11 **WHEREAS**, the nuclear weapons complex at Los Alamos National Laboratory has
12 suffered several accidents in recent years, documented in a multi-part series from the Center for
13 Public Integrity; and

14 **WHEREAS**, these events include:

15 1. In March, 2011 manager placed nuclear material in a glovebox that exceeded the
16 criticality limit of the box;

17 2. In August, 2011 technicians seeking a photo-op placed eight rods of plutonium in
18 close proximity to each other – several more rods would have triggered a deadly nuclear chain
19 reaction;

20 3. A 2013 LANL study found that glovebox leaks in PF-4 occurred roughly three
21 times a month, often the result of avoidable errors;

22 4. In December, 2013 LANL sent a drum containing radioactive material to the
23 WIPP storage facility near Carlsbad that ruptured inside the facility – a result of improper mixing
24 of ingredients – costing the government \$1.5 billion to clean up.

25 5. In May, 2016 a trolley used to carry nuclear materials in a facility at LANL fell

1 from the ceiling and crashed into a glovebox;

2 6. An annual report released in February, 2017 found that LANL was the only
3 nuclear production site that did not meet criticality safety expectations; and

4 7. In July, 2017 a LANL employee sent “special nuclear material” across the
5 country by air in direct violation of nuclear safety standards.

6 **WHEREAS**, researchers have uncovered evidence of nearly 1000 other accidents and
7 mishaps involving nuclear weapons elsewhere, including one over Goldsboro, North Carolina in
8 1961 and Palomares, Spain in 1966 that nearly resulted in the detonation of nuclear weapons;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, several accidents have resulted in the loss of nuclear weapons which have
11 never been recovered, most recently in 2007 and 2010 when the United States Air Force lost track
12 of live nuclear weapons; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in 1980 a worker dropped a socket down a silo, piercing the outer hull of a
14 Titan missile near Damascus, Arkansas causing the missile to explode and send the warhead
15 flying out of the silo; and

16 **WHEREAS**, over 300 former heads of state, experts, and military leaders have endorsed
17 a vision of a world without nuclear weapons; and

18 **WHEREAS**, every President since Ronald Reagan has worked to reduce the size of
19 global nuclear stockpiles bilaterally with Russia in an effort to eventually eliminate them; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body adopted Resolution #1986-16 that urged the President
21 to join the Soviet Union in a mutual and verifiable suspension of nuclear testing; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body adopted Resolution #1995-62 supporting a
23 programmatic review of the future nuclear weapons complex; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body adopted Resolution #2005-39 supporting United States
25 compliance with the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT); and

1 **WHEREAS**, the current administration has stated their intention to greatly expand the
2 country’s nuclear capabilities for the first time since 1968, and called for a new nuclear arms
3 race; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the administration has refused to take nuclear war off the table for future
5 conflicts, has questioned why the United States can’t use the nuclear weapons it currently holds,
6 and is open to supporting new countries developing their own nuclear weapons program to
7 protect themselves; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the President currently has the authority to launch a nuclear strike on any
9 target without consent from another branch of government; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Rep. Ted Lieu (CA-33) has introduced H.R. 669 – Restricting First Use of
11 Nuclear Weapons Act of 2017, along with 37 cosponsors, that would prohibit the President from
12 conducting a first-use nuclear strike unless such strike is conducted pursuant to a congressional
13 declaration of war expressly authorizing such a strike; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the United States spends over \$2,000,000 per hour (over \$48,000,000 per
15 day and \$336,000,000 per week) on nuclear weapons and their development; and

16 **WHEREAS**, an entire new generation of nuclear weapons is under development at a
17 projected cost of over \$1,000,000,000,000 (\$1 trillion) over a thirty-year period.

18 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY**
19 **OF SANTA FE** condemns the Trump Administration’s misguided agenda in regards to nuclear
20 weapons, including greatly expanding the nuclear weapons arsenal of the United States.

21 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Governing Body of the city of Santa Fe adds its
22 name to a growing list of cities and college campuses that refuse to be complicit in the
23 administration’s domestic proliferation of nuclear weapons.

24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Governing Body calls on Senator Tom Udall,
25 Senator Martin Heinrich and Congressman Ben Ray Lujan to publicly reject the current nuclear

1 agenda and demand they take action to address the growing threat.

2 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body supports the Restricting First
3 Use of Nuclear Weapons Act of 2017 (H.R. 669) which would prevent the President from
4 launching a nuclear first strike without Congressional Authorization.

5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body stands for the protection of
6 our families and community because a world without nuclear weapons is a freer, safer, more just
7 world.

8 PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2017.

9

10

11

12

JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR

13

ATTEST:

14

15

16

YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

17

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

18

19

20

KELLEY A. BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY

21

22

23

24

25

M/Legislation/Resolutions 2017/Nuclear Weapons Agenda