

2001 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 107

March 14, 2002 – Introduced by Representative BOYLE, cosponsored by Senator
RISSER. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 **Relating to:** urging Congress and the President to reduce the risks of a nuclear
2 holocaust.

3 Whereas, our democratic government has primary responsibility for the safety
4 and welfare of its people; and

5 Whereas, the current danger of an accidental nuclear war with its inevitable
6 deaths and injuries presents an unacceptable risk to the existence of this country, its
7 inhabitants, and all humankind; and

8 Whereas, since 1968 the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) has
9 prevented the spread of nuclear weapons so dangerous that national security is
10 enhanced by their control; and

11 Whereas, the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty has played a crucial role in
12 building trust during and after the cold war; and

13 Whereas, the proposed United States withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic
14 Missile Treaty has stressed our relationship with Russia, China, and Europe; and

1 Whereas, developing a national missile defense system encourages countries
2 such as China, Russia, North Korea, Pakistan, and India to test, maintain, and
3 enhance their nuclear weapons programs; and

4 Whereas, the United States national intelligence community reports that
5 terrorist groups are more likely to attack the United States using a suitcase bomb,
6 airplane, or truck bomb rather than a ballistic missile; and

7 Whereas, in July 1996, the International Court of Justice ruled that the use of
8 nuclear weapons would violate humanitarian law; and

9 Whereas, on September 10, 1996, at the United Nations, President Clinton and
10 over 70 other heads of state signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT),
11 signaling the end of the nuclear arms race; and

12 Whereas, the CTBT now bears 161 signatures, but on October 13, 1999, the U.S.
13 senate declined to ratify it; and

14 Whereas, this action by the U.S. senate was deplored around the world as a
15 significant setback to nuclear arms control, ensuring that the 2000 NPT Review
16 Conference would be highly contentious; and

17 Whereas, the failure of the NPT review was averted through the negotiation
18 and agreement by all 187 member states to 13 steps, including entry into force of
19 CTBT and the 5 nuclear-weapon states' unequivocal commitment to the ultimate
20 goal of complete elimination of nuclear weapons; and

21 Whereas, on March 10, 2002, the news media made public the administration's
22 recent "Nuclear Posture Review," which widens the circumstances thought to justify
23 a possible nuclear response and expands the list of countries considered potential
24 nuclear targets; and

1 Whereas, the Nuclear Posture Review lowers the threshold for using nuclear
2 weapons; and

3 Whereas, any nuclear attack could prompt a response initiating an all-out
4 nuclear war resulting in billions of direct and indirect casualties; now, therefore, be
5 it

6 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the Wisconsin
7 legislature, reflecting its responsibility for the safety and welfare of its people, calls
8 upon the U.S. Congress to take the following actions: to insist that the United States
9 abide by the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty; to respect the 1996 ruling of the
10 International Court of Justice on nuclear weapons; to ratify the CTBT; to fulfill all
11 of the United States' pledges made at the May 2000 Nuclear NPT review; and to
12 reject the national administration's "Nuclear Posture Review"; and, be it further

13 ***Resolved, That*** the President and Congress of the United States are requested
14 to immediately initiate action to reduce the risk of a nuclear holocaust by negotiating
15 the elimination of all nuclear weapons; and, be it further

16 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
17 resolution to the President of the United States, to the president and secretary of the
18 U.S. senate, to the speaker and clerk of the U.S. house of representatives, and to each
19 member of the congressional delegation from this state attesting the adoption of this
20 joint resolution by the 2001 legislature of the state of Wisconsin.

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(END)