

April 2019

Bill Glassmire comments about Senate Joint Memorial 5

Thank you to the committee for holding this public hearing.

My name is Bill Glassmire. I serve as a city councilor in Corvallis. The city council works hard to make Corvallis, and indeed all of Oregon, a better place to live. The city does not have enough money to fix our streets, to care for our homeless community, to address our housing shortage. Instead we spend our money on nuclear weapons. Today that is a complete waste. It is money not spent on housing, not spent on education, not spent on mental health, not spent on making our communities and our nation better. Consequently, I am deeply grateful to this committee and to the sponsors of Senate Joint Memorial 5 for talking about nuclear weapons.

Besides the wastefulness of nuclear weapons, I want to offer you a Corvallis political story in support of SJM5. In Benton County the intersection of 53rd Street and West Hills Boulevard was for many years a problem traffic spot. The county commissioners thought long and hard about what to do. Eventually, in the face of outspoken public opposition, they did something unconventional: they installed a roundabout. A couple of years later there is virtually unanimous public agreement that the roundabout is a great improvement.

Nuclear weapons are the reverse of the Benton County roundabout. Nuclear weapons are wasteful and dangerous. Because the US public is used to them, you may face opposition to getting rid of them. But, if and when they are gone, we will all look back and say, what a great improvement.

Thanks again for offering SJM5. I appreciate your work.

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