



To:

Senate Committee on Rules
rules.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

May 10, 2019

Dear Chair Burdick, Vice-Chair Baertschiger, and Members of the Senate Rules Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) to express our **support for Senate Joint Memorial 5**, urging Congress to lead a global effort to reduce the threat of nuclear war. As a statewide, grassroots organization, we work with Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders across Oregon to advance social justice and improve the health, well-being, and survival of our communities.

Global nuclear war and testing have had devastating effects on Asian and Pacific Islander communities. The United States, alone, has detonated atomic bombs in Nagasaki, Hiroshima, and an equivalent to 7,200 nuclear bombs on Pacific Island atolls, incinerating upwards of 6 islands. The Marshall Islands were the site of 67 nuclear weapons tests by the United States, causing many to migrate to Oregon under the Compact of Free Association (COFA). Oregon currently has one of the largest populations of Marshall Islanders in the nation and a growing Micronesian Islander community, many of whom continue to suffer health consequences from this testing such as radiogenic diseases, abnormally high rates of TB, obesity, diabetes and high-blood pressure.

We support Senate Joint Memorial 5 to prevent nuclear destruction on our land, our bodies, and our future.

Everyone should learn the history and develop an understanding of the unacceptable threat of nuclear weapons. We urge the Senate Rules Committee to vote in support of Senate Joint Memorial 5.

Sincerely,
Ivy Major-McDowall
Legislative Coordinator
APANO