

Stand Against Low-Yield Nukes: Co-sponsor the Hold the LYNE Act

Sending Office: Honorable Ted Lieu
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Request for
Cosponsor(s)

Call for Originals: Reintroduction of the Hold the Low-Yield Nuclear Explosives (LYNE) Act

Supported by: *Arms Control Association, Global Zero, Union of Concerned Scientists, Ploughshares Fund, Win Without War, Peace Action, Council for a Livable World, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Beyond the Bomb, Tri-Valley CARES, Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility, Women's Action for New Directions, Lawyers Committee for Nuclear Policy, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, Beyond Nuclear, Rocky Flats Right to Know, The Peace Farm, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Middle East and Disarmament Committees), Nuclear Watch South, Our Developing World, Southwest Research and Information Center, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety, Federation of American Scientists and Nuclear Watch New Mexico*

Cosponsors of H.R. 6840 in 115th Congress (19): *Bonamici, Carbajal, Cohen, DeFazio, DeGette, Garamendi, Grijalva, Hanabusa, Larsen, Lee, Lieu, McGovern, Norton, Panetta, Raskin, Rush, Schakowsky, Smith, Thompson*

Dear Colleague,

We invite you to join as an original cosponsor of the reintroduction of the Hold the Low-Yield Nuclear Explosive (Hold the LYNE) Act. Our legislation would reverse course on an unnecessary and destabilizing new low-yield nuclear warhead to be carried on US submarine-launched ballistic missile.

Last year, the Trump Administration proposed the development of a new low-yield nuclear warhead (W76-2) for the Trident D5 missile. Congress authorized and funded this ill-advised and dangerous proposal in the defense authorization and appropriations bills despite strong opposition and concern about the implications of, and need for, this new low-yield nuclear weapon.

The purpose of our nuclear arsenal, which already has several low-yield warhead options, is to deter our adversaries. Developing a new low-yield, submarine-launched warhead will not only provide no new deterrent capability, but it risks dangerously lowering the threshold for using nuclear weapons by adding emphasis on low-yield options, and it increases the risk of miscalculation in a crisis. It also adds to the cost of the planned \$1.2 trillion nuclear modernization program.

Last May, more than 30 former officials, including former Defense Secretary William Perry, former Secretary of State George Schultz, and former Senator Richard Lugar wrote a [bipartisan letter](#) rejecting the low-yield warhead as “dangerous, unjustified and redundant.”

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During the House Armed Services Committee markup of the FY19 National Defense Authorization (NDAA) an amendment to strike the authorization failed along party lines [33 to 28](#). When the NDAA was brought to the floor for the consideration, the full House considered a compromise amendment, which would have fenced off funding until the Secretary of Defense submitted a report assessing the program's impacts on strategic stability and operations to reduce the risk of miscalculation. Unfortunately, even the significantly pared-down amendment failed along party lines [188 to 226](#). A Fiscal Year 2019 Energy and Water Appropriations floor amendment similarly failed [177 to 241](#). Now, with a new majority in the 116th Congress, we have an opportunity to reverse course on this ill-advised Trump administration warhead.

Please join us again in taking a strong stand against not only the development and production, but also the deployment, of this dangerous and unnecessary warhead by cosponsoring the Hold the LYNE Act. To be an original cosponsor, please [complete this form](#).

Sincerely,

Ted Lieu
Member of Congress

Adam Smith
Member of Congress