

# Stand Against Low-Yield Nukes: Co-sponsor H.R. 6840, Hold the LYNE Act

Sending Office: Honorable Ted Lieu  
Sent By: Corey.Jacobson@mail.house.gov

Request for  
Cosponsor(s)

**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:** *Lieu, Smith, Blumenauer, Garamendi, Lee, DeFazio, Grijalva, Cohen , **McGovern, Hanabusa, Panetta, DeGette***

Dear Colleagues,

We invite you to join us in cosponsoring H.R. 6840, 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 U.S. submarine-launched ballistic missiles.

Earlier this 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 is to deter our adversaries. Developing a 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 increases the risk of miscalculation in a crisis. It also adds to the cost of the planned \$1.2 trillion nuclear modernization program.

In 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.”

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](#).

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 H.R. 6840, the Hold the LYNE Act. To cosponsor, please email [Nathan.Riggins@mail.house.gov](mailto:Nathan.Riggins@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress

Adam Smith  
Member of Congress