

CITY COUNCIL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, March and April of 2010 mark both the 40th anniversary of Earth Day and of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty that unites 189 nations; and

WHEREAS, the Bainbridge Island North Kitsap Interfaith Council declared on April 8th that the very presence of nuclear weapons represents an increasing and unacceptable threat to the entire Earth, and those interfaith leaders of our community added their voices to encouraging further international negotiations to abolish such weapons; and

WHEREAS, those community interfaith leaders honored Senji Kanaeda of our local Nipponzan-Myōhōji Buddhist Temple, who is currently on a three-month Peace Walk for a Nuclear-Free Future, from Oak Ridge, Tennessee to the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, our community's interfaith leaders have urged the City of Bainbridge Island to actively stand with the United States Conference of Mayors, which in 2009 voted unanimously for a resolution Affirming the Role of Cities in Achievement of a Peaceful World Free of Nuclear Weapons; and

WHEREAS, as long as nuclear weapons exist, cities around the world will be vulnerable to instantaneous devastation on a scale exceeding even that experienced by Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the City of Bainbridge Island joins with our community's interfaith leaders in encouraging individual, local, national and international efforts to seek a future that is free of nuclear weapons and the proliferation of such weapons; and

FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the City of Bainbridge Island joins with the U.S. Council of Cities in affirming the role of cities in achieving a peaceful world free of nuclear weapons by 2020; and

FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the City of Bainbridge Island joins with the U.S. Conference of Mayors urging adoption of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament to adopt 2020 as the target date for the achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world, and calls upon the Commission to recognize the importance of city and citizen level movements for the abolition of nuclear weapons; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Scales, Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, on behalf of the City Council, join with the U.S. Conference of Mayors in welcoming enthusiastically the new leadership and multilateralism that the United States is demonstrating toward achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world, and calls on our U.S. President Barack Obama to continue to urge multilateral negotiations on an international agreement to abolish nuclear weapons by the year 2020.

DATED this 21st of April 2010.

Bob Scales, Mayor