

Defence Legislation Amendment (Naval Nuclear Propulsion) Bill 2023 [Provisions]

Submission to Senate Inquiry into the above Bill put before the Senate and due for debate
June 2023

I chair a small volunteer run organisation, International Volunteers for Peace, that facilitates international volunteering. We are affiliated with Raising Peace, a grouping of peace organisations that we contributed to creating. We are the Australian bench of the SCI movement with over a hundred years experience in building peace through community level action. Our collective aim is to create a basis for understanding across historical and cultural divisions that can make military posturing obsolete,

This Bill gives evidence of the flaw in the drive for 'nuclear propelled, conventionally armed submarines'. The 1998 moratorium in place against nuclear infrastructure recognised the environmental and national risks in investment in nuclear technology. Making an exception for the proposed acquisition of craft propelled by nuclear energy steps Parliament back from this principled stand and is not worthy of Australia as a leader in nuclear nonproliferation.

Further I support the call for an inquiry into the decision to purchase these craft.

Stephen Horn