

EDWARD J. MARKEY
7TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

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August 2, 1985

Mr. Paul E. Healy
City Clerk
City of Cambridge City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

Given your interest in arms control, I wanted to let you know that I have just introduced new Nuclear Freeze legislation.

This legislation, H.R. 3100, the Comprehensive Nuclear Weapons Freeze and Reductions Act of 1985, will make use of Congress' power of the purse to enact a series of binding funding cut-offs for the testing, deployment, and production of nuclear weapons systems and space weapons.

The main provisions of the bill are as follows:

1. The President is called upon to negotiate a comprehensive nuclear freeze treaty. He shall also communicate to the Soviet Union the intention of the United States to engage in a bilateral freeze as set out below.
2. Thirty days after enactment, no funds may be spent for testing and deployment of nuclear weapons systems with a range of over 600 km. This funding cut-off takes effect only if the Soviet Union communicates its willingness to observe a bilateral halt in the testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons.
3. No later than one year after enactment, no funds may be spent for production of nuclear weapons or components or for testing or deployment of nuclear weapons with range of 600 km or less, unless Congress acts affirmatively to exempt such weapons, in whole or in part.
4. Congress shall hold hearings on freeze verification; the executive shall prepare an operational plan for implementation of a comprehensive freeze.
5. At six-month intervals following the initial testing and deployment moratorium, the President shall prepare a report on Soviet compliance with the freeze, verification of the freeze, and the progress of negotiations.

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6. If at any time the President finds that the Soviet Union has violated the freeze or that continuation of the funding restrictions would cause significant and irreparable harm to the security of the United States, he may request lifting of funding restrictions, in whole or in part. Congress shall act on such a request within 30 days.

I have introduced this legislation because I am convinced that the American people still want a freeze, and they are sick and tired of the same old arms race.

Though the Reagan Administration has promised to make deep reductions in nuclear arms, two years after the original freeze resolution passed the House by a vote of 278-149, the U.S. is no closer to a negotiated arms agreement with the Soviet Union.

Clearly, Congress is going to have to take an active role in forcing President Reagan to negotiate seriously. The new Comprehensive Freeze bill will translate words into action and bring further pressure on the Reagan Administration to reverse its dangerous nuclear weapons policies and begin serious arms control negotiations with the Soviets.

So far, this legislation has 94 cosponsors. In the months ahead I hope to attract additional cosponsors for the bill and then press for hearings.

I believe that the new freeze bill can help provide the Freeze Movement with a legislative vehicle around which to organize public opposition to this Administration's nuclear arms policies. In the months ahead, I hope that I can count on your support for the bill as you continue your efforts to mobilize opposition to the arms race.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress

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S-633

Comm. from Congressman Edward J. Markey Re:
H.R. 3100, the Comprehensive Nuclear Weapons
Freeze Reduction Act of 1985 which he intro-
duced in congress.

In City Council,

September 9, 1985

9/9/85

-Placed on File-