

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

February 4, 2019

Bill Thompson  
P.O. Box 165  
Old Chatham, New York 12136

Dear Bill:

Thank you for contacting me to express your concerns about nuclear weapons. I agree that they are a serious security issue for the U.S. and the world at large and that we must do all we can to limit their use.

In October 2018, President Trump announced his decision to withdraw the United States from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. In 1987, the U.S. and the Soviet Union signed the INF Treaty, agreeing to ban the use of certain ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles. Many Soviet successor states and European nations have since eliminated these missiles. I fear that U.S. withdrawal from the treaty could result in a global arms race, raising the potential for nuclear war.

I have long been a fierce opponent of nuclear proliferation and have supported efforts to intelligently reduce spending on nuclear weapons programs as well as international treaties that work toward de-legitimizing nuclear testing and development. In the past, I voted for the New START treaty with Russia, which was ratified by the Senate in the 111th Congress and signed into law by the President on February 2, 2011. The treaty intended to reduce the size and scope of our respective nuclear arsenals. I will continue to do all I can to reduce the risk of nuclear conflict.

Again, thank you for contacting me. Please keep in touch with your thoughts and opinions.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator