



22 January 2019

Hon. Bill Shorten MP
Parliament House ACT 2600

Dear Bill Shorten,

On behalf of Australian Quakers, I commend the recent ALP conference decision to support the moves for Australia to sign on to and later ratify the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2017. We have been supporting the work of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) and have made our views clear to a number of members of the Federal Parliament through personal visits and letters or emails during 2018. We have been heartened by the positive response from many ALP Members to the pledge that ICAN circulated.

We are conscious of the Labor Party's history of actively seeking nuclear disarmament, especially through its initiatives with the Canberra Commission in the mid-1990s and the International Commission on Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Disarmament (2010). We have no doubt that the time has come for Australia to add its weight to the majority of UN member states who have seen the urgency of this treaty. We urge you and the Parliamentary party to work to create the conditions for all states (including those with nuclear weapons) to support the treaty, including verification and monitoring.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J.R. Jordan".

Jo Jordan
Presiding Clerk
The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Australia

CC: Penny Wong, Senator

Australia Yearly Meeting

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