

Editorial

Nuclear ordinance should keep intent

Three revised versions of a nuclear free zone ordinance have been submitted to the City Council to clarify and redefine the scope of the original, voter-approved ordinance. But two of the versions attempt to change the meaning and intent of the ordinance, and should not be considered.

The third version performs minor repairs on the original ordinance. It eliminates the legal problems found in the first ordinance. Because this version is closest to the original intent, it should be approved.

In the November 1986 general election, 58 percent of the voters approved the nuclear free zone ordinance. The ordinance forbids activities that deal with nuclear weapons.

Since the election, the City Council has looked into the legality and clarity of the ordinance. The council appointed a nuclear free zone task force, which some say was stacked in order to change the original intent of the ordinance.

Two of the versions will change the scope of the ordinance by rewording the definitions of nuclear weapons, component and delivery system.

The third version, submitted to the City Council this week by five members of the task force, is minimally revised so as to maintain the original purpose of the ordinance.

This is the most important aspect of the original ordinance — it stays within the realm of the version approved by the voters. By trying to fundamentally change the approved ordinance without voter approval, the task force is, in effect, asking the public to sign a blank check. The terms have been defined and approved by informed voters and should be left at that.

Visual impact of bar graph disappearing with weather

About four years ago some students and people in the community decided to visually display how much the Reagan administration was spending on different programs. The bar graph painted down the closed section of 13th Avenue vividly demonstrated this allocation of funds.

Because of an arrangement with University President Paul Olum, however, the students had to use washable paint. Now time and weather have taken their toll on the graph and the visual display of excessive government spending has disappeared.

These lines should be updated and saved before they are forgotten. The graph was painted in four days at the end of summer session, and had an informational impact on students returning to campus in the fall.

"They made an impression on people when they saw them fall term," University Archivist Keith Richard said. "People were saying, 'wow, look how much they spend on that compared to that.'"

The longest line, for military spending, runs to the end of the block.

The graph is a subtle reminder of what our government considers important and should not become a victim of apathy or the weather. Currently, the lines have faded so much that people no longer realize what they represent. Repainting the lines would emphasize the values the current administration holds and inform the community of its priorities.



Letters

On the brink

Sept. 18 and 19 have come and gone. To many Lane County residents these two days were particularly uneventful; however, for a few of us who are keeping our eyes and minds open, these two days were very distressing.

The first event was the Eugene Rodeo. The cruelty inflicted on animals by grown adults harkens all humanity back to a time before our modern enlightenment, when careless people abused animals as they did each other. Inhuman treatment of animals is subhuman.

The second event was the nuclear war drills sponsored by FEMA. Several reserve units set up command posts like the one by the Autzen foot bridge (code named "ATOM" — appropriately enough) and displayed several instruments to test for radioactive fallout from a nuclear exchange.

Other instruments were (supposedly) tested for a biological warfare agent. A man dressed in camouflage green showed us how the little red light went on when he placed a probe into a beaker of solution. They also had contingency plans to deal with the "peace groups" that they said would destroy com-

munication towers.

Didn't the voters of Eugene and Lane County vote overwhelmingly to make our areas nuclear free zones and therefore outlaw these ridiculous exercises in futility? Or is allowing this type of madness to continue one of the reasons the Nuclear Free Zone Task Force is trying to change Eugene's voter approved ordinance?

Is it any wonder that the human race is teetering on the brink of nuclear annihilation?

Think about it!

Richard Gold
Eugene

Closed classes

Who the hell makes the decisions around here?

In return for a tuition increase, we (the students) have been greeted with either overcrowded class rooms (if we were lucky enough to get in) or closed classes.

Meanwhile, money continues to pour into that hole in the ground that is said to be a future science complex, and the parking situation is desperate (as usual).

Has quality been sacrificed for quantity? Has integrity in education been trampled under foot by the almighty greenback?

Ah, the price(s) one pays to be a Duck.

Joshua Hamill
International studies

Don't fight

My name is Peter Fina. I came to Oregon to work and go to school. People say I can get money from the government. I've tried and can't.

Mine is a sad story because I spent more than half of my

Letters Policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in.

twenties in mental hospitals.

I do a lot of things because I love my father but he doesn't understand me.

I've broken no law and I don't plan to fight anyone. I am not in any trouble.

A rich guy in Minnesota once offered a lot of money if I would fight for a girl on a sidewalk in St. Paul. I told him in four-letter-words that it is not me that is not successful, it is him that has the problem.

This man rallies people against me, and has followed me for eight years.

He broke the law, I didn't. He wants the fight, I don't. He wants senseless violence, I don't. That's why I'm here.

Peter Fina
Senior, economics

Disagrees

I write to disagree strongly with the editorial "Holland's testimony not representative," which reads in part: "in his prepared statement, however, Holland introduces himself as the law school dean. He then adds the disclaimer that he is appearing on his own behalf and not on the behalf of the University."

Period. End of discussion. Do you think the senators and others who were listening not astute enough to pick up the distinction?

Your solicitousness for those poor unfortunate souls out there who may be misled about Dean Holland's testimony betrays a lack of trust and understanding about democracy and the reasons for the First Amendment.

While I suppose I classify myself as a "liberal" and certainly agree that Judge Bork should not be confirmed, the point is that we've all got First Amendment rights. To suggest that those on the other end of the political spectrum forget about their's is an all-too-common hypocrisy.

Jon Muir
Second year law
Friday, October 2, 1987

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