



“The Chance for Peace” 1953

“We must guard against the unwarranted acquisition of power by the military-industrial complex . . . Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children. We pay for a single fighter plane with a half million bushels of wheat. For a single destroyer with new homes that could house more than 8,000 people. This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron. It is (a time) in the affairs of nations when the gravest choices must be made, if there is to be a turning toward a just and lasting peace. **Is there no other way the world may live?**”



Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “A nation that year after year spends more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death.”

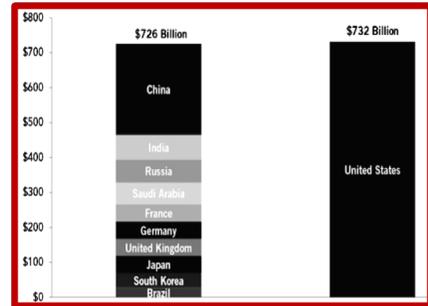
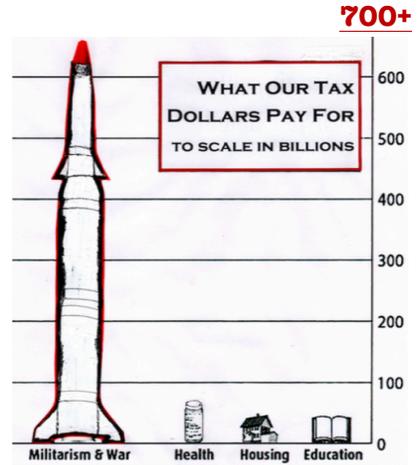


Pope Francis “It would be an absurd contra-

dition to speak of peace, negotiate peace and, at the same time, promote or permit arms sales.”

California Peace Budget Resolution

Redirect some of our military billions.



FY '19 / SOURCE: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute / April, 2020
U.S. Military Spends More Than the Next 10 Countries

Who Supports It?

The California Peace Budget Resolution is the updated Local Peace Budget Resolution which was endorsed by over 200 scholars, activist leaders, entertainers and organizations in 2016. In addition, the Conference of Mayors of large cities in 2017 endorsed the Local Peace Budget Resolution.

What Can YOU Do?

- *Individuals, organizations, and government representatives can endorse the Resolution by clicking on the link to sign on as an individual or as an organization/government representative, at worldbeyondwar.org/california/
- *Share the Resolution with friends and your organizations by forwarding the World Beyond War link.
- *Contact local newspapers, radio/tv stations, other media to share the Resolution and any background information.
- *For more information about World Beyond War updates, see the website. For questions about the Resolution, contact bobmckechnie@earthlink.net.

California has a large, diverse, and influential economy. If the California Governor and Legislature send this Resolution to the U.S. Congress, it can stimulate discussion and an examination of military operations and alternatives. It can help address viable ways to create equitable, sustainable communities both here and abroad by redirecting some of our warfare billions.

BRING OUR WAR DOLLARS HOME!

“Study Says Domestic, Not Military Spending, Fuels Job Growth” Brown University 5/25/17, by Gillian Kiley. “New research by the Costs of War Project . . . finds that federal spending on domestic programs creates far more American jobs and yields more broad-based benefits than military spending.” Every \$1 million in federal military spending creates fewer jobs than the same spending in other domestic job growth areas.



WORLDBEYONDWAR.org

California Peace Budget Resolution

Whereas the U.S. Congress has dramatically increased military spending in recent years, depriving us of those funds for human and environmental spending at home and abroad, and bringing military spending to well over 60% of the federal discretionary budget,

Whereas environmental and human needs are desperate and urgent,

Whereas fractions of the U.S. military budget could provide free, top quality education from pre-school through college, end hunger and starvation, convert the U.S. to clean energy, provide clean drinking water everywhere it's needed on the planet, build fast trains between all major U.S. cities, and double non-military U.S. foreign aid rather than cutting it,

Whereas 3 percent of U.S. military spending could end starvation on earth,

Whereas a fraction of military spending could prepare the U.S. to better handle disease pandemics,

Whereas part of helping alleviate the refugee crisis should be ending not escalating wars that create refugees,

Whereas a December 2014 Gallup poll of 65 nations found that the U. S. was far and away considered the largest threat to peace in the world, and a Pew poll in 2017 found majorities in most countries polled viewing the U.S. as a threat,

Whereas a nation responsible for providing clean drinking water, schools, medicine, and solar panels to others would be more secure and face far less hostility around the world,

Whereas the U.S. military is itself the single greatest consumer of petroleum,

Whereas economists at the U. of Massachusetts / Amherst have documented that military spending is an economic drain rather than a jobs program,

Whereas polling has found the U.S. public to favor reductions in military spending,

Whereas the Pentagon has not passed an audit and engages in massive accounting fraud,

Be It Therefore Resolved that the State of California urges the U.S. Congress to move some of the hundreds of billions of our tax dollars from militarism to human and environmental needs.

STOP MILITARY WASTE/PROFITEERING

*"Support our Troops, not Pentagon Contractors" The disastrous \$400 Bn F-35 program is typical of the Pentagon's wasteful spending. *POGO 7/23/18*

*"The Pentagon Buried an Internal Study Showing \$125 Bn in Administrative Waste" *Washington Post 12/16*

* "Pentagon's Massive Accounting Fraud Exposed" At least \$21 Tn of Pentagon financial transactions between 1998 and 2015 couldn't be traced, documented, or explained. *The Nation 11/27/18*

REDUCE MILITARY POLLUTION

*"The Military Cost of Protecting Oil" The U.S. Military spends more than \$81 Bn annually across the globe protecting oil supplies. *Nation of Change 1/20*

* "The U.S. Military is Destroying the Planet But No One is Talking About It" The U.S. military has contaminated thousands of sites, poisoned water supplies and made massive swaths of land entirely unlivable. Beyond the U.S., the country's wars abroad have left their mark. *Ecowatch.com 5/15/17*

* "The U.S. Department of Defense is the largest institutional consumer of oil (\$17 Bn/year) in the world, and the largest global landholder with 800 foreign military bases in 80 countries." *World Beyond War Fact Sheet: <https://bit.ly/31qe2kb>*

STOP REGIME CHANGE/ENDLESS FAILED WARS

* "Britain and the U.S. Must Stop Fueling the Bloody Saudi War on Yemen" Repeated violations of international humanitarian law including possible war crimes. *The Guardian, 5/20/18*

*Study Shows U.S. Weapons Given to Syrian Rebels Ended Up in ISIS Hands" *The Hill 12/14/17*

* "How U.S. Foreign Policy Helped Create the Immigration Crisis" Support for oligarchs and the War on Drugs have impoverished millions and debilitated Latin America. *The Nation 10/18/17*

MORE \$ FOR VETS' HEALTH

*The Congressional Budget Office has said a firm "NO" to privatizing the VA. *The American Legion 7/21/16*

*Many of the 4,000,000+ vets of the 16-year war in Afghanistan receive inadequate medical care. *Chicago Tribune 2/1/18*

*Vets with PTSD, substance abuse, and depression are often underserved in the VA's short-staffed hospitals. *Bloomberg 1/18*

HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS

*25% of US homeless and 29% of the 50,000 U.S. homeless vets live in CA. *NY Times 12/17*

*In CA, a 2-bedroom rental = 30% of the monthly income from a \$31 an hour fulltime job. *Nat'l Low Income Housing Coalition/2017*

*58% of US unsheltered and homeless youth under 25 live in CA. *USA Today/Desert Sun Times/7/18.*

END CHILD HUNGER

*In California, over 4 million people are struggling with hunger, and over 1 million of them are children. People facing hunger in California are estimated to report needing over \$2 Bn more per year to meet their food needs. *Feeding America / 2020 study*

CUT STUDENT LOAN DEBT

*Student loan debt is second only to mortgage debt, higher than credit card/auto loans. *Vox 9/18*

*Student loan debt has risen 992% to \$1.5 Tn in 2018. Average monthly payment for 44,000,000 in student loans is \$351, with 11.2% late or in default. *Student Loan Hero, 2018*

FUND RENEWABLE ENERGY

*California leads in renewables, and it must fund its new green energy jobs. *KQED/Science 9/18*

*California's 500,000+ green energy jobs are 10 times more than all U.S. coal mining jobs combined. *Politifact 6/17*

* "Don't Mention U.S. Military Carbon Footprint" 11% of the military budget could fund renewable energy for every U.S. home. In 2020, we spend .028% of our discretionary budget on renewables, compared to over 60% on the military. *World Beyond War, 2/4/20*