

## CALL FOR PEACE: MOVE THE MONEY ACTIONS TO TAKE TODAY

Please take these actions today:

First, call your representative to ask that he or she join the new [House Defense Spending Reduction Caucus](#).

Remember: After the November election you may have a new representative.

If a Democrat, first check whether your representative was:

- A. among the 27 Democrats who signed the May 19, 2020 letter (scroll down to see that letter) that Reps. Mark Pocan (D-WI) and Barbara Lee (D-CA) sent to the Chair of the House Armed Services Committee requesting a reduction in defense spending during the coronavirus pandemic.
- B. among the 93 House of Representatives Democrats (scroll down further to see document titled “Did Your Member of Congress Vote to Cut the Pentagon Budget?”) who voted on July 21, 2020 for the amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to 10% cut of \$74 billion from the bloated \$740 billion Pentagon budget.
- C. Then [find their Washington office number here](#).

Here’s a short script: Say you are a constituent living in (place name) and calling to ask Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ to join the new House Defense Spending Reduction Caucus. Say you support at least a 10% reduction of the 2022 NDAA Pentagon budget and to move money to such human needs as Medicare for All, ending student debt, rebuilding the transportation and drinking water; job retraining for sustainable green energy, and reforestation and many more human needs. Speak up if there is an urgent need in your district.

**Note: Please be sure to thank your representative if he or she signed the May 19<sup>th</sup> letter (A above) or voted for the 10% budget cut (B above), and ask that (Rep. name) invite colleagues in the House to join this new caucus. Your representative needs to contact Barbara Lee’s office and tell her they wish to join the caucus. Just voting for the 10% amendment last July does not automatically make them a member of the new Defense Spending Reduction Caucus,**

**If your Representative is a Republican,** please make a call; stress that you are a constituent and that you want your tax dollars spent for human and community needs



**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 19, 2020

The Honorable Adam Smith  
Chairman  
House Armed Services Committee  
2216 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mac Thornberry  
Ranking Member  
House Armed Services Committee  
2216 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Thornberry:

We write to request a reduction in defense spending during the coronavirus pandemic.

As you draft this year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), we encourage you to authorize a level of spending below last year's authorized level. Congress must remain focused on responding to the coronavirus pandemic and distributing needed aid domestically. In order to do so, appropriators must have access to increased levels of non-defense spending which could be constrained by any increase to defense spending.

In the last three years alone – during a time of relative peace – we have increased annual defense spending by more than \$100 billion, almost 20 percent. This has occurred during a period without any military action authorized by this Congress. Right now, the coronavirus is our greatest adversary. It has killed more than 90,000 Americans, far surpassing the number of casualties during the Vietnam War.<sup>1</sup> We must remain focused on combating the coronavirus and not on increasing military spending that already outpaces the next 10 closest nations combined (China, India, Russia, Saudi Arabia, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan, South Korea, and Brazil).<sup>2</sup> At some point, spending more than every other nation on earth must be enough.

America needs a coronavirus cure, not more war. We need more testing, not more bombs. In order to reopen our nation in a data-driven, safe manner, we need to focus our spending efforts on the millions of additional coronavirus tests and tens of thousands of additional contract tracers we will need, as well as covering treatment costs, developing therapeutics, and distributing future vaccines.

We thank you for your service as Chairman and Ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee and your consideration of this request. These are unparalleled times. We encourage you to constrain defense spending during this pandemic so that we can defeat the greatest threat to our nation – the coronavirus.

Sincerely,



Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/vietnam-war/casualty-statistics>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.pgpf.org/chart-archive/0053\\_defense-comparison](https://www.pgpf.org/chart-archive/0053_defense-comparison)

Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

Peter DeFazio  
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress

Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress

Jesús G. “Chuy” García  
Member of Congress

Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress

Henry C. “Hank” Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress

Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

Andy Levin  
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress

Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress

Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress

John Sarbanes  
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

José E. Serrano  
Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress

# Did Your Member of the House of Representatives Vote to Cut the Pentagon Budget?

adapted from Win Without War, August 2020

In July, 2020 — as the U.S. fought a devastating pandemic, economic collapse, rampant unemployment, and a housing crisis — Congress greenlit almost three quarters of a **TRILLION** dollars for the already-out-of-control Pentagon budget. It didn't have to be this way!

Senators Sanders, Markey and Warren and Representatives Pocan, Lee, and Jayapal introduced amendments to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to cut the Pentagon budget by 10%, and invest those funds instead in critical human needs. When these amendments came to a vote last July, 23 Senators and 93 Representatives voted to cut the budget.

This level of support would have been unthinkable a few years ago – a testament to the power of the peace movement. But we need to do more.

Today, WILPF is focusing on our representatives on this list (Keep in mind that this list is from July 2020, and you may have had a different representative elected in November 2020)



## TAKE ACTION NOW

If your representative is among the 93 below who supported the Pocan-Lee-Jayapal Amendment and still in office, you can send a thank you letter [here](#).

If not on this list and still in office, write a letter and hold them accountable [here](#).

|                      |                  |                     |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| AZ-3 Grijalva        | CA-37 Bass       | CA-29 Cárdenas      |
| CA-27 Chu            | CA-11 DeSaulnier | CA-44 Diaz Barragán |
| CA-14 Eshoo          | CA-34 Gomez      | CA-2 Huffman        |
| CA-17 Khanna         | CA-13 Lee        | CA-33 Lieu          |
| CA-19 Lofgren        | CA-47 Lowenthal  | CA-6 Matsui         |
| CA-9 McNERNEY        | CA-32 Napolitano | CA-45 Porter        |
| CA-38 Sánchez        | CA-28 Schiff     | CA-30 Sherman       |
| CA-14 Speier         | CA-41 Takano     | CA-51 Vargas        |
| CA-43 Waters Coleman | CO-2 Neguse      | CT-5 Hayes          |
| DC-1 Norton          | FL-11 Castor     | FL-21 Frankel       |
| FL-20 Hastings       | FL-17 Wilson     | GA-4 Johnson        |
| HI-2 Gabbard         | IL-7 Davis       | IL-4 Garcia         |

|                |                |                      |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| IL-2 Kelly     | IL-1 Rush      | IL-9 Schakowsky      |
| KY-3 Yarmuth   | MA-5 Clark     | MA-9 Keating         |
| MA-4 Kennedy   | MA-8 Lynch     | MA-2 McGovern        |
| MA-1 Neal      | MA-7 Pressley  | MA-3 Trahan          |
| MD-7 Mfume     | MD-8 Raskin    | MD-3 Sarbanes        |
| ME-1 Pingree   | MI-12 Dingell  | MI-5 Kildee          |
| MI-9 Levin     | MI-13 Tlaib    | MN-5 Omar            |
| MO-5 Cleaver   | MO-1 Lacy Clay | MS-2 Thompson        |
| NJ-6 Pallone   | NJ-10 Payne    | NJ-12 Watson Coleman |
| NM-3 Luján     | NY-9 Clarke    | NY-13 Espaillat      |
| NY-8 Jeffries  | NY-14 Maloney  | NY-6 Meeks           |
| NY-6 Meng      | NY-10 Nadler   | NY-14 Ocasio-Cortez  |
| NY-15 Serrano  | NY-20 Tonko    | NY-7 Velazquez       |
| OH-3 Beatty    | OH-11 Fudge    | OR-3 Blumenauer      |
| OR-1 Bonamici  | OR-4 Defazio   | PA-18 Doyle          |
| PA-2 Evans     | TN-9 Cohen     | TX-20 Castro         |
| TX-35 Doggetts | TX-9 Green     | TX-18 Jackson Lee    |
| TX-30 Johnson  | VT- Welch      | WA-10 Heck           |
| WA-7 Jayapal   | WI-4 Moore     | WI-2 Pocan           |