

Sept 21, 2021

Dear Members of Congress,

The undersigned 49 grassroots, climate justice, peace, domestic human needs, immigrant rights, national security and faith organizations unite in opposition to the current sky-high Pentagon budget and urge you to vote in favor of two amendments to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2022 that would reduce it.

Amendment 41, led by Representative Barbara Lee, would overturn the nearly \$25 billion increase that the House Armed Services Committee added to the Pentagon topline during markup of the NDAA. Amendment 40, led by Representative Mark Pocan, would go further by reducing the topline by 10 percent from the authorized level, exempting military personnel and the Defense Health Program.

Pouring billions more into the military, far beyond even the level requested by President Biden, sends exactly the wrong message at this moment in history. We are struggling to end a deadly pandemic, deal with the looming climate crisis, confront racial injustice, and secure badly-needed relief for working people all over the country. These are problems that no amount of military spending could ever solve. Yet we are consistently told that resources are finite and asked how we will pay for efforts to address these challenges even as there always appears to be plenty of money to buy new and unnecessary weapons and fill the pockets of weapons contractors.

This proposed level of Pentagon spending in the FY 2022 NDAA does not represent our values and priorities. We are looking to our elected leaders to reverse course and stem the tide of exorbitant military spending. We urge you to vote YES on Amendments 40 and 41 to the NDAA.

Sincerely,

National Organizations

+Peace

American Friends Service Committee

Brave New Films

Campaign for Peace Disarmament and Common Security

Center for International Policy

Christian Peacemaker Teams

Church of the Brethren, Office of Peacebuilding and Policy

Coalition on Human Needs

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces

DC Peace Team

Demand Progress

Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Friends of the Earth US
Greenpeace USA
Indivisible
Just Foreign Policy
Justice Is Global
MADRE
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns
MoveOn
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Employment Law Project
National Priorities Project at the Institute for Policy Studies
National WIC Association
Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
Our Revolution
Pax Christi USA
Peace Action
Peace Direct
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Public Citizen
Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft
RootsAction.org
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas - Justice Team
Sunrise Movement
The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society
United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries
United We Dream Network
Veterans for Peace
Women's Action for New Directions (WAND)
Win Without War
Yemeni Alliance Committee

State and Local Organizations

Citizens for Peace
Kalamazoo FCNL Advocacy Team
Peace Action of Michigan
Peace Education Center
Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles