Reduce Pentagon Spending

As the country struggles with a pandemic and a devastating economic downturn, Congress is moving to fund the Pentagon and defense contractors as if nothing has changed. The United States is poised to spend $741 billion on the Pentagon and nuclear weapons in fiscal year 2021.

That is more than $2 billion every day and $1 million every minute. Even adjusted for inflation, the United States is now spending far more on the military than at the heights of the Vietnam War. Our country should focus on urgent human needs here at home, not on paying ever more for weapons and war that only fuel more violence and long-term insecurity.

Congress has approved these increased budgets while shrugging off continued mismanagement of complex weapons programs and the Pentagon’s continued failure to pass an audit. Congress should cut these massive budgets and the conventional and nuclear arms buildups and wars they fund, instead of continuing to reward Pentagon waste and mismanagement. Congress must insist on a new path—by rolling back these outrageous, counterproductive budgets, ending these unauthorized wars, and holding the Pentagon accountable for the money it gets.

» **Reinvest in our communities:** Congress must redirect a portion of military budgets (other than health care and salaries) to meeting urgent human needs in our nation’s hardest hit communities.

» **Demand accountability for Pentagon spending:** Congress must insist that the Pentagon make better use of taxpayer dollars and finally pass an audit—just as every other major federal agency already has.

» **Oppose a new nuclear buildup:** A nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought. Congress must cut back on the dangerous trillion-dollar-plus plan to expand the U.S. nuclear arsenal.

**Congress should cut the Pentagon budget by 10% and redirect funds to meet human needs.**

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