

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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