

Audit the Department of Defense

People all across the political spectrum wants to eliminate waste in governmental spending, but hardly anyone knows that **the Pentagon – which is notoriously full of waste and fraud – has avoided meaningful audits for decades.** A comprehensive, serious audit of the Department of Defense would reveal many opportunities to cut military spending.

Our precinct caucuses include the opportunity to present resolutions that can work their way up from the grassroots into county-level, state level and federal political party platforms.

Here is a sample resolution that can be adapted for passage at precinct caucuses – and easily adapted for passage by other organizations, local governments, and so forth. (For many local organizations, shortening it will make it less controversial, easier to grasp, and therefore easier to pass.)

For information about this, call (360) 352-6327 for Bourtai Hargrove (bourtai31@gmail.com) or Ted Nation (nation_ted@yahoo.com).

Resolution Calling for an Audit of the Department of Defense

WHEREAS, the cost of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the continuation of former President Bush's tax cuts and the current recession make it imperative that the U.S. Congress have the ability to review an audit of the expenditures of the Defense Department (DoD); and

WHEREAS, the DoD has failed to comply with the 1996 Chief Financial Officers' Act requiring all federal agencies to provide annual auditable statements; and

WHEREAS, the General Accounting Office cited serious financial management problems at the DoD because the Defense Contract Audit Agency failed to follow basic auditing standards, noting that the agency lacks independence from the contractors it audits; and

WHEREAS, the lack of accountability enables DoD to continue massive waste, fraud and mismanagement of billions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, Congress decreed that the DoD must be ready for a full financial-statement audit by September 30, 2017, but the DOD has historically and currently managed to postpone the audit deadline;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that [Name of Organization] write to the US Senators and Representatives from our local area and insist on systematic reductions in the DoD budget until the Department can produce an auditable statement that can be fairly evaluated.

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