

60%



Dear Washington State Representatives and Senators:

We are from organizations in the diverse communities you represent. This spring when you passed the state budget, it was a painful challenge for you. In November you face the task of making yet more drastic cuts, at the same time that the Congressional Super Committee is mandated to make deep cuts in the federal budget. This will in turn cause even greater pain and insecurity in our communities. It is time for bold solutions. The suffering is intolerable.

We urge you to take a stand against further cuts by passing a Joint Memorial to the President and Congress, much like the US Conference of Mayors’ resolution of June 20, 2011 which, “... calls on the President and US Congress to end the wars as soon as strategically possible and bring the war dollars home to meet vital human needs, promote job creation, rebuild our infrastructure, aid municipal and state governments, and develop a new economy based upon renewable, sustainable energy and reduce our federal debt.”

A look at the federal budget reveals both a major cause of and potential solution to our budget crisis. Over half of federal discretionary funding goes to the military. Washington State taxpayers have already paid \$28 Billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, with another \$3.8 Billion proposed for the 2011 fiscal budget. (National Priorities Project, June 2011)

Have these huge expenditures made us more secure? **We need jobs.** The unemployment rate in this state as of April 2011 is 8.9%. (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics) **We need education.** Nearly \$2 Billion of new cuts impact education, most hitting our K-12 children. (KUOW - NPR, May 27, 2011) **We need health care.** This budget slashed health care for hundreds of thousands of low-income Washingtonians. Many more cuts -- including to jobs, housing, libraries, transportation, arts and culture, renewable energy and the environment -- are all too familiar to you.

If we were to spend our tax dollars on the needs of our communities, we would build real security. This year’s war appropriations from Washington alone could hire 57,146 elementary school teachers or provide 2.3 million low-income children with healthcare or give 500,087 scholarships to university students! (National Priorities Project) We have not experienced major environmental disasters and rising sea levels, but those threats loom over our children’s future. As Washingtonians, we **MUST** wean our state from dependence on military income, and use the funds instead to support a sustainable future for all our residents.

A majority of Americans call for an end to the wars. (ABC News/ Washington Post poll, March 2011) We call for deep cuts in military spending and for restoring federal funds for human needs. (Reuters poll, March 2011) As our state representatives, your voices can make a crucial difference in redirecting some of the bloated military budget back to our struggling state. We will stand with you when you arrange a budget priorities meeting between state and federal representatives, and when you support a Joint Memorial calling on our federal government to invest in our real wealth – the people, workers, children, veterans, elderly, and the environment of our State.

**Inspire us with hope in our future. We’re counting on you to help BRING OUR BILLIONS HOME!**

Sincerely,

*Susan Segall*

**Susan Segall**

Regional Director

American Friends Service Committee

*Ellen Finkelstein*

**Ellen Finkelstein**

Organizer

Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation



American Friends Service Committee



60%

7% Health and Human Services

6% Education

5% State

4% Other Programs

3.5% Department of Homeland Security

3% Housing and Urban Development

2% Justice

2% Agriculture

1.5% NASA

Energy (excludes nuclear weapons programs)

Labor

Treasury

Interior

Environmental Protection Agency

Transportation

**Lorraine**

Rainier Valley Neighbors for Peace and Justice

**Bill Aal**

Tools For Change

**Kathya Alexander**

JusticeWorks!

**Oussama Alkhalili**

Arab Alliance  
Chamber of Commerce Washington State\*

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SEIU 775 NW, Spokane\*

**Sarah Augustine**

Suriname Indigenous Health Fund

**Rose M. Bailey**

Broadview Community UCC

**Stephen Barlow**

Centralia Fellowship of Reconciliation

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Assistant to the Bishop  
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**Edwin Beatty**

Plymouth Church\*

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Director, Lutheran Public Policy Office

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Board Member, Community Coalition for Environmental Justice

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Executive Director  
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility

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United Nations Association of Greater Seattle

**Reverend David C. Bloom**

Director Emeritus, Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness

**Juan Bocanegra**

El Comité Pro-Reforma Migratoria Y Justicia Social

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NW Washington Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

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Washington State Nurses Association\*

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Vietnam Veteran

**Todd Boyle**

Washington Truth in Recruiting

**LeRoi Brashears**

First AME Church

**Tom Brookhart**

Veterans For Peace  
Vietnam-era veteran

**Beth Brunton**

Teacher  
Northgate Middle College High School

**Tom Buchanan**

Temple Beth Am

**Dick Burkhart**

Co-Founder, Whistle Stop Co-op  
Washington UU Voices for Justice

**Richard Burton**

Political Organizer, Federation of Teachers Washington AFL-CIO\*

**Darlene Buss**

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

**Charles O. Caessey**

**Gabi Clayton**

Families United Against Hate,  
Olympia, WA

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Solid Ground\*

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Veterans for Peace

**Council President Richard Conlin**

Seattle City Council/Position 2

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**Alison Eisinger**

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**Tom Ewell**

Friends Committee on Washington Public Policy

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St. John United Lutheran Church

**Beverly Ferarro**

Member, Church of Latter Day Saints, Colville, WA

**Mary Lou Finley**

Antioch University

**Mary Flowers**

Peoples Institute Northwest

\*organization listed for identification purposes only

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**Rodolfo Franco**  
President, AFSCME/Washington  
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**Diakonda Gurning**  
Indonesian Lutheran Fellowship

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**David C. Hall, MD**  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
(National)

**Alex Hamling MD**  
Washington Physicians for Social  
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Harrell**  
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Spokane

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Peace and Justice Action League of  
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Green Party - Olympia

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Greater Seattle Veterans for Peace

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**Marti Lambert**  
Tacoma Fellowship of Reconciliation

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University Lutheran Church

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Teacher, Seattle

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Seattle Mennonite Church

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**Sharon Maeda**  
United Food and Commercial Workers  
21

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**Lynn Magnuson**  
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**Reverend Timothy Phillips**  
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Former Washington State Legislator

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Veterans for Peace

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Office\*

**Sandra Schroeder**  
President, American Federation of  
Teachers Washington AFL-CIO\*

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Police Accountability Chair, NAACP/  
Seattle Chapter

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Seattle Mennonite Church

**Patricia Shaver**  
Seattle Mennonite Church

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Health Educator, Renton

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Coordinator, Faith Trust Institute

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Move to Amend - Olympia

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Broadview Community UCC

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SEIU 775 NW, Spokane

**Melissa Stone**  
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**Anne Sunrise**  
Olympia

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University of Washington Medical  
Center

**Megan A. Thompson**  
Community Organizer

**Dr. Michael Trice**  
Associate Dean of Theology and  
Ministry, Seattle University

**Ron Turner**  
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Community Organizer

**Greg Voelker**  
Olympia

**Reverend Harriett Walden**  
Mothers for Police Accountability

**Thea Ward**  
Broadview Community UCC

**Thomas Ward**  
Broadview Community UCC

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**Cliff Wells**

12st LD Snohomish Democrats  
USMC Post Vietnam

**Geraldine Welsh**

Community Activist, Seattle

**Andrew Westerhold**

Licensed Acupuncturist

**Nicole Williams**

SEIU 775 Spokane

**Sam Wilson**

Broadview Community UCC

**Alice Woldt**

Director, Washington Association of Churches

**Abby Wolfe**

SEIU 925

**Michael Woo**

Director, Got Green

**Heather Yancey**

University Friends Meeting

**Ruth Yarrow**

Co-President, Abe Keller Peace Education Fund

**Michael Yarrow**

Co-President, Abe Keller Peace Education Fund

**Lea Zengage**

Director  
Justice Works!

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