

US Peace Council City / Town Resolution Initiative
Resolution Calling for Hearings on Real City Budgets Needed and the Taxes our Cities Send to the Federal Military Budget

WHEREAS, The United States Conference of Mayors has for numerous years passed resolutions calling for cutting the military budget to spend the savings on human needs; and

WHEREAS, the severity of the ongoing economic crisis has created budget shortfalls at all levels of government and requires us to re-examine our national spending priorities; and

WHEREAS, the military portion of our discretionary Federal budget has been for many years and continues to be greater than fifty percent; and

WHEREAS, reductions in spending on the military budget should be done in a measured way that does not destabilize our communities nor reduces in any way funds for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, funds should be allocated to create a just transition to a civilian economy; and

WHEREAS, city governments throughout the nation are hard pressed to maintain city services and meet their responsibilities to their constituents; and

WHEREAS, The US Conference of Mayors wishes to draw our residents into the conversation so that they too can express their wishes,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The United States Conference of Mayors calls on the Mayors of each of our cities to promptly hold public hearings that examine what each of city's Departments needs to carry out the goals of the Department and the work it is assigned and what they could accomplish if funds were available that now go to the military; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each city is urged to include in its public hearings a report on how much of its resident's federal taxes go toward paying the military budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each city government is urged to pass a resolution calling on our federal legislators and the US government to move significant funds away from the military budget to human needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each city is urged to send a copy of the resolution passed to its federal legislators with a request that they respond with their plans to reduce the military budget in favor of the human needs budget.

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This is the resolution, passed unanimously by the 85th US Conference of Mayors in June 2017. It is a slightly revised version of the resolution passed by the New Haven (CT) Board of Aldermen.

<http://uspeacecouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Peace-Commission-Resolution-2017-PASSED-BY-ALDERS-Calling-for-Hearing-on-Funding-Human-Services-in-New-Haven.pdf>

http://legacy.usmayors.org/resolutions/85th_Conference/proposedcommittee.asp?committee=Metro%20Economies