Model Resolution for US cities

Whereas each year the Pentagon and other Federal Departments engaged in war and preparations for war are provided 55% of the Federal Discretionary Budget, that is money raised by our taxes and borrowing, leaving all other needs of the people – environment and energy, food and agriculture, education, veterans benefits, housing and community, healthcare, social security and unemployment and labor, international affairs, science, transportation – to divide up among them the remaining 45%; and

Whereas the City of ____ has limited resources both to fulfill the human service needs of the community, repair and rebuild infrastructure and to generate good jobs; and

Whereas the Trump administration is calling for moving another $54 billion from human needs, including environmental protection, Meals on Wheels, arts and the others to the Pentagon budget;

Therefore, the City Council of ____ will
• call one or more public hearings this quarter to reveal what the extent of the city’s public and human services needs are, what the gaps are between the city’s needs and all funds provided by taxes, grants and debt, and how those gaps could be met by reducing the annual national military budget; and
• invite the public and representatives of the National Priorities Project or any other organization that weighs spending on military versus human needs to make presentations; and
• invite the Mayor and directors of city departments that work directly with the public – including but not limited to ______, ______, ______,… – to speak to the city’s and their departments’ unfulfilled needs; and
• will resolve to send a letter with a copy of this resolution to all of the city’s federal legislators, urging them to cut the military budget, use the savings to fund human services, infrastructure and other local needs, and report back to the City Council how they will proceed to achieve this request.