



Take the Mayoral War Dollars Home Resolution to the Offices of Your Congressional Representatives!

What: Deliver a copy of the US Conference of Mayors Resolution Calling on Congress to Redirect Military Spending to Domestic Priorities. Also included is a copy of the mayors' press release on the resolution.

Why: This historic resolution—the first time the mayors have taken a stand on war policy since Vietnam—shows Congress the way forward. We'd like to make sure Congress reads the resolution and commits to action.

Talking points:

- ✓ The financial crisis is a direct result of tax cuts and endless wars.
- ✓ The people of the United States, and our mayors, are calling on DC to withdraw all troops and contractors from Iraq and Afghanistan and redirect the money to priorities here in the US, like education, building bridges, feeding children, and researching renewable, sustainable energy.
- ✓ Over \$3 trillion has been wasted on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan For more information see Brown University's Costs of War <http://costsofwar.org/>
- ✓ The president's "withdrawal" plan from Afghanistan keeps the war going for another three years. That's three years too many. Human needs must be met, not the war machine. Instead of cutting programs like Women, Infant, Children, the federal government should cut the military budget.

Remember to document your visit!

- ✓ Tweet during your visit
- ✓ Take pictures of delivering the resolution
- ✓ Submit a report back via our website: <http://j.mp/iY2or4>

CODEPINK: Women for Peace <http://www.codepink.org>

On Twitter: @codepinkalert @wardollarshome



CALLING ON CONGRESS TO REDIRECT MILITARY SPENDING TO DOMESTIC PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, every member of the US Conference of Mayors and the Americans they represent, support our brave men and women in uniform and their families;

WHEREAS, the drawdown of troops should be done in a measured way that does not destabilize the region and that can accelerate the transfer of responsibility to regional authorities;

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 people of the United States are collectively paying approximately \$126 billion dollars per year to wage war in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, 6,024 members of the US armed forces have died in these wars; and at least 120,000 civilians have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan since the coalition attacks began.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the United States Conference of Mayors supports efforts to speed up the ending of these wars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States Conference of Mayors calls on the President and U.S. Congress to end the wars as soon as strategically possible and bring these 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 the federal debt.

Adopted by the U.S. Conference of Mayors on June 20, 2011



The United States Conference of Mayors

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US MAYORS CALL FOR EARLY END TO WARS IN AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ AND FOCUS REINVESTMENTS ON DOMESTIC JOB CREATION

BALTIMORE, MD – During the closing hours of the United States Conference of Mayors' annual meeting in Baltimore, nearly 150 mayors met to debate and pass a policy resolution, calling on a speedier drawdown of troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. The nation's mayors called on leaders in Washington to end the wars as soon as strategically possible and bring war dollars home to meet vital human needs.

In his Presidential inaugural speech to the group of mayors that he will be leading, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said: "It's time for mayors to join the call for an end to the war in Afghanistan. We support our men and women in uniform and these brave soldiers have served our country proudly. Now we must honor them by addressing our pressing needs at home by investing in our own economy and create jobs for them to come home to."

Mayors are calling for the war dollars to instead be utilized to: promote job creation, rebuild American's infrastructure, provide aid to municipal and state governments, and develop a new economy based upon renewable, sustainable energy and reduce the federal debt.

During the debate process and in the written resolution, mayors stated that the drawdown of troops should be done in a measured way that does not destabilize the region and that can accelerate the transfer of responsibility to regional authorities.

To view the full resolution (refer to number 59), visit:
<http://usmayors.org/79thAnnualMeeting/documents/AdoptedResolutions.pdf>

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,210 such cities in the country today, and each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. Find us at usmayors.org, like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/usmayors](https://www.facebook.com/usmayors), or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/usmayors.

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