

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Schumer,

The undersigned 48 advocacy, faith, grassroots, and government oversight organizations are troubled by [reports](#) that Members of Congress are considering adding new funding for the Department of Defense to forthcoming infrastructure and recovery legislation. We join 24 Members of Congress [led by Representatives Barbara Lee, Mark Pocan, and Cori Bush](#) in strongly urging that no new Pentagon funding is included in the Build Back Better agenda.

We are a nation experiencing multiple crises. We are recovering from a year of record unemployment and housing insecurity, reeling from the loss of loved ones, staggering under the weight of multiplying medical and student loan debt, confronting systemic racism and violent white nationalism, and combating the ongoing climate crisis. Militarized spending has not solved these problems, and in many ways has made them worse. Every additional dollar allocated to the Pentagon is another dollar that is not being used to address these urgent challenges, and will not provide the relief our communities desperately need.

There is already a well-established process by which military funding is debated and considered by Congress. Through this process, President Biden has already proposed a sky-high [\\$753 billion](#) for the Pentagon. Defense contractors have already [received and misspent COVID relief money](#), and the Pentagon cannot account for the money it currently receives from taxpayers, [having failed](#) all four audits it has conducted in its entire history. It is urgent that Congress focus its efforts to rebuild a U.S. economy fit for the 21st century by increasing opportunities for jobs, healthcare and a green economy, rather than entertaining even a cent more in giveaways to war profiteers and weapons manufacturers, as those dollars are painfully and crucially needed to provide relief to working families of every stripe across the country.

We therefore urge you to ensure that no new Pentagon money is included in the forthcoming infrastructure legislation, and that the bill instead focuses squarely on our communities' most urgent needs.

Signed,

**National Organizations:**

+Peace

Action Center on Race & the Economy

American Friends Service Committee

Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO

Beyond the Bomb

Brave New Films

Center for International Policy

Center on Conscience and War

Coalition for Human Needs

CODEPINK

Common Defense

Council for a Livable World  
Demand Progress  
Democracy for America  
Eisenhower Media Network  
Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC)  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
Friends of the Earth US  
Jewish Voice for Peace Action  
Justice is Global  
MADRE  
National Priorities Project at the Institute for Policy Studies  
New Internationalism Project at Institute for Policy Studies  
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
Our Revolution  
Pax Christi USA  
Peace Action  
People's Action  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Progressive Democrats of America  
Public Citizen  
Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft  
RootsAction.org  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas - Justice Team  
Sunrise Movement  
The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society  
United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries  
Veterans For Peace  
Women's Action for New Directions (WAND)  
Win Without War  
Working Families Party  
World BEYOND War

**State and Local Organizations:**

Broward for Progress, Broward County, Florida  
Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Dorothy Day Catholic Worker, Washington D.C.  
Mainers for Accountable Leadership  
Massachusetts Peace Action  
Peace Education Center, Lansing, Michigan