We Need To Change The Congressional Budget

By joining forces with organizations and movements for housing, healthcare, education and the environment, we have the possibility of building strong enough movements in US House districts to influence budget votes.

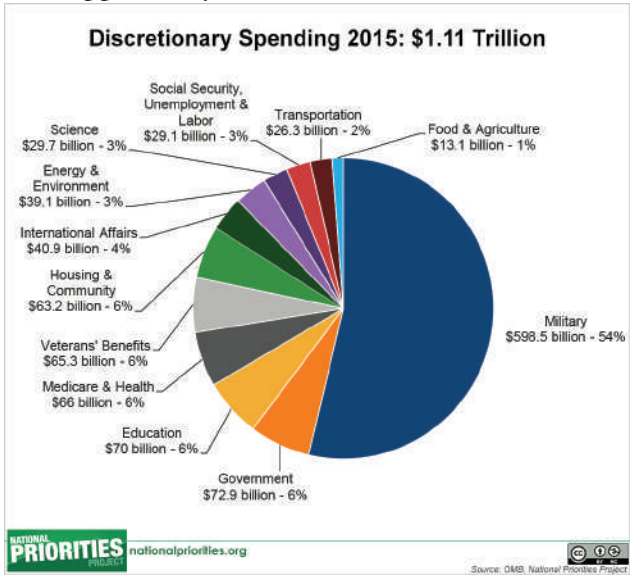
One initial step in this effort is to educate the most receptive Congresspersons, members of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, and press them to incorporate **No to the Trillion Dollar Escalation** into the People's Budget prepared annually by the Progressive Caucus.

Also important is the **SANE Act (S. 831 and H.R. 1534)**, sponsored by Senator Ed Markey [D-MA] and congressman Earl Blumenauer [D-OR], which would prohibit funds for the development of the new Long Range Penetrating Bomber and F-35 nuclear mission, restrict the cost of nuclear warhead modernization, and terminate the SSNB(X) program and many of the new production facilities. Collectively, these cuts would reduce the cost of nuclear modernization by $100 billion throughout the next decade.

The **Don't Bank on the Bomb** campaign calls on city pension funds, universities, and responsible investors to divest from corporations involved in the production and development of nuclear weapons.

The People's Call to President Obama is a petition drive calling on the president to take actions he can take without Congress during his last year in office.

In October, 2016, in an encouraging step designed to increase pressure on the nuclear powers, 123 nations – not including the United States - mandated the U.N. to begin negotiations on a "legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination." U.S. and international peace organizations are mobilizing to add to build on this opportunity.



We need to build campaigns like Subways not Submarines, Books not Bombs, and Housing not H-Bombs, to reach ordinary people around their day to day concerns. Such campaigns, modeled on the current, powerful No to Trident campaign in the UK, call for meeting people's and communities' needs by shifting funds from unnecessary weapons development.

Let's start today!

Coalition for Peace Action

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Invest in Minds Not Missiles...

by saying No to a New Nuclear Arms Race

Fund Healthcare Not Warfare...

by saying No to the Trillion Taxpayer's Dollars Nuclear Weapons Escalation

Build Subways Not Submarines...

by saying No to New Nuclear Missile Submarines

Build Homes Not Bombs...

by saying No to the $1 Trillion Dollar Nuclear Weapon Upgrades

Fund Solar Energy Not Nuclear Winter...

by increasing federal investments in science and technology for sustainability

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed." **Pres. Dwight D. Eisenhower.**

The World's Most Dangerous Weapons

Nuclear weapons have the potential to wreak unprecedented destruction upon the peoples of world. The hydrogen bombs currently deployed in the U.S. arsenal have 50 times the destructive capacity of the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Even a limited nuclear war with these weapons would produce irreparable damage, killing tens of millions of civilians directly and many more indirectly due to the fallout and nuclear winter that would follow. Despite these dangers, the United States maintains over 1,900 operational nuclear warheads on hair trigger alert, in addition to 4,700 in stockpiles.

The Fundamental Immorality of Nuclear Weapons

All nuclear weapons are deeply and fundamentally immoral, their detonation killing every living creature indiscriminately in the blast zones. Nuclear weapons should have been outlawed from human society decades ago, following the Geneva Convention and international bans on Chemical and Biological Weapons. As noted by Pope Francis in his 2015 address to the United Nations "….*There is urgent need to work for a world free of nuclear weapons, in full application of the non-proliferation Treaty, in letter and spirit, with the goal of a complete prohibition of these weapons".*

The Administration's Plan to Upgrade the Nuclear Arsenal

Rather than reduce existing stockpiles, the Obama administration has embarked upon an incredibly costly plan to "modernize" the nuclear weapons arsenal. The plan includes replacements and upgrades to the three nuclear weapons delivery systems, known as the "triad" (strategic bombers, ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs), and intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs)). Viewed from outside the U.S., these programs represent a clear escalation of the nuclear weapons threat.



Nuclear Enhancements Will Make us Less Safe

The upgrading of nuclear warheads increases the risk of nuclear war, accidental or intentional. Warhead upgrades will produce more accurate, and more lethal weapons. Such warhead upgrades are perceived as incredibly provocative by other nuclear powers and therefore represent an escalation of nuclear deterrence policy. Thus the nuclear weapons upgrade policy is destabilizing and dangerous to Americans and all the world's peoples.

Human and Taxpayer Cost of the Nuclear Weapons Upgrade

The total cost of the U.S. nuclear weapons escalation program is estimated at over $1 trillion taxpayer dollars over the span of three decades -- a thousand billion dollars.

These programs are financed from the federal budget, predominantly our income tax dollars. Funding these programs will be done by cutting almost all major programs that fund human needs including housing, public transit, food stamps, biomedical research, education, environmental protection and energy sustainability.

The high costs of these programs insure high profits to the corporations receiving the contacts for the maintenance, upgrading and production of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. These corporations are the leading lobbyists in the country promoting this dangerous, provocative and amoral nuclear weapons escalation.

How Can We Stop It?

The funds for nuclear weapons programs are voted by Appropriation Committees of the House of Representatives and of the Senate. Cutting the House appropriations is the best path to slowing weapons development and deployment, and essential to free up funds for other essential human needs such as housing, healthcare, education and environmental protection. We need to insure that cutting funding for such critical human needs programs and continuing wasteful and dangerous weapons spending becomes a political issue in U.S. House elections.