

Veterans & Labor Activists:

We are writing to invite you to join a campaign to bring the movement for labor rights in a closer relationship with the movement for a peaceful world. We invite you to sign the Open Letter (**bit.ly/VL4SPsignon**) supporting The People Over the Pentagon Campaign. Mark Pocan and Ilhan Omar will be introducing a bill in 2026 to cut the Pentagon budget by $150 billion, and make the money saved available to address climate change, healthcare, education, veterans benefits, and other pressing human needs.

We also invite you to encourage your labor organization (or Veterans For Peace chapter) to endorse our Sample Resolution in support of People Over the Pentagon. (Revise it as necessary to meet the needs of your organization and be sure to let us know when it is adopted. If you want to keep it simple, your resolution could simply say "_____ [name of labor organization] endorses the People Over the Pentagon campaign).

As of April 24, 2026, we are pleased to announce the support of **126 labor organizations and 37 Veterans For Peace chapters.**

The following 126 labor organizations representing more than 928,000 workers have endorsed the **People Over the Pentagon Act**, which was HR 1134 in the 2023-2024 Congress. That bill stipulated cutting excessive Pentagon spending by $100 billion (11%). and making the money available to address pressing human needs such as health care, housing, education and veterans' benefits. The pay, benefits and health care of members of the military and veterans would not be cut. Our nation would be safer because the biggest threats to our security are economic inequality, racism, and climate change. The Pentagon has failed 8 consecutive audits, so we know that our tax dollars can be put to better use! Endorsed by Veterans for Peace. **Ask your labor organization to endorse the bill!**

2 National Unions:

- **American Postal Workers Union (APWU)**
- **Union of Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers of America (UE)**

National Labor Constituency Groups:

- **National Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW)**

22 State-wide Union organizations:

Health Professional and Allied Employees (AFT, NJ)
Service Employee International Union (SEIU) Healthcare Pennsylvania
New Jersey Industrial Union Council
Washington State Nurses Association (AFT Local 5901)
Montana Nurses Association (AFT Local 5901)
Alaska Nurses Association (AFT Local 1953)

11 American Federation of Teachers (AFT): AFT Connecticut; AFT Massachusetts; AFT New Mexico; AFT Oklahoma; AFT Oregon, AFT Vermont; AFT Washington; AFT Wisconsin; California Federation of Teachers; Georgia Federation of Teachers; Illinois Federation of Teachers

5 American Postal Workers Union (APWU): New Mexico State Postal Workers Union; Missouri Postal Workers Union; Montana Postal Workers Union; NY State Postal Workers Union; Texas State Postal Workers Union

3 Regional Labor Organizations:

AFSCME - (American Federation of State, County, & Municipal Employees)
District Council 33 (Phila.), District Council 47 (Phila.), and District Council 1199 (New Mexico)

77 Local Unions:

American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 704 (Chicago, IL)

34 American Federation of Teachers (AFT) locals: #1 (Chicago Teachers Union); #6 Washington (DC) Federation of Teachers; #28 St. Paul Federation of Educators (MN); #66 (Boston Teachers Union, MA); #231 Detroit Federation of Teachers; #340 (Baltimore Teachers Union); #420 AFT St. Louis (MO); #481, Newark Teachers Unions (NJ); #527 United Teachers of New Orleans; #681 Dearborn Federation of Teachers; #857 Perth Amboy NJ; #1520 (Cincinnati, OH); #1931 (San Diego, CA); #2026 (Phila.); #2121 (San Francisco); # 2190 (United University Professions, NY); #2334 (Professional Staff Congress, NY); #2260 Dallas, TX; #2277 Portland, OR; #2309 (Oklahoma City (OK); #2415 Houston Federation of Teachers (TX); #2525 United Teachers of Buffalo, NY Exec.Com.; #3220 (Madison, WI); #3544 (OR); #3877 Brownsville (TX); #4261 Norfolk Federation of Teachers (VA); #4402 Jackson Federation of Teachers (MS); # 4531 (Phila.); #4848 (WI); #6290 (Phila.); #6323 Rutgers U. Full-time Faculty; #6324 Rutgers Adjunct Faculty; #6345 (Aldine, TX); #6352 (Glendora, CA);

5 AFT/NEA (National Education Association) joint locals: # 59 MN Federation of Educators; # 67 San Antonio Alliance of Teachers and Support Personnel (TX); # 1021 United Teachers Los Angeles (CA); #1420 Albuquerque Federation of Educators; # 7463 United Faculty of Florida (Tallahassee FL);

24 American Postal Workers Union (APWU) Locals: #3 (Milwaukee, WI) #8 (St. Louis, MO); #10 (NY Metro); #47 (East Bay, CA); #72 (Cleveland, OH) #73 (San Jose, CA); # 78 (Oakland, CA); #89 (Darby, PA); #93 (Phoenix, AZ); #130 (Indianapolis, IN) #149 Central New Jersey; #152 (Wilmington, DE); #164 (Cincinnati OH); #195 (San Antonio, TX); #268 (Lehigh Valley, PA); # 281 (W. MI); #303 (Birmingham, AL); # 380 (Albuquerque, NM); # 458 (Portland, ME); #1022 (Queens, NY) #1348 (Tulsa, OK); #3251 (Long Island, NY); # 4553 (Central MA Area); #7048 (Phila.)

8 UNITE-HERE: #7 (Baltimore, MD); #23 (DC, VA, NC, GA, MS, LA, TN, OK,TX, IN, NM, CO, ID,); #25 (Washington, DC); #54 (Atlantic City, NJ); #57 (Pittsburgh, PA);#217 (CT); # 274 (Phila., PA); # 634 (Phila., PA)

3 Communications Workers of America (CWA) Local 1081 (NJ); Local 7765 (UT); Local 9415 (Oakland, CA)

Office & Professional Employees International Union: (OPEIU) Local 153 Swarthmore (PA)

Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 1953 (CT)

Teamsters Local 623 (Phila, PA)

6 Labor Retiree Organizations: AFL-CIO Phila. Labor Council Retirees; APWU Local 89 Retirees (Darby, PA); AFSCME DC 47 Retirees (Phila.); AFT Local 1931R (San Diego); AFT Local 2026R Retirees (Phila. ; AFT Local 2121R Retirees (San Francisco)

14 Regional and Local Labor Constituency Groups:

A. Phillip Randolph Institute, Phila. Chapter
AFRAM Caucus of SEIU Healthcare PA;
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, Phila. Chapter
Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter
5 Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) Chapters: Philadelphia, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Southwestern Pennsylvania
Dorothy Day Labor Forum (Spokane)
Labor/Community Alliance of South Florida
2 Jobs with Justice Chapters: (Santa Rosa, CA); Tomkins County Workers Center (Ithaca, NY)
Tom Paine Brigade (Morristown, NJ)

To learn how to sign up your labor organization, or for more information contact John Braxton (jwbraxton@gmail.com; (215/796-4933) or use this link: https://bit.ly/VL4SP-covermsg

As long as the United States spends *more than half* of its discretionary budget on bloated militarism, there will never be enough money available to solve the climate crisis and to meet the real needs of working people everywhere.

Some of us signing this letter have been leaders of *US Labor Against the War*. We support the call by the 2017 AFL-CIO Convention *"to bring the war dollars home and make our priority as a nation rebuilding this country's crumbling infrastructure, creating millions of living wage jobs and addressing the human needs such as education, health care, housing, retirement security, and jobs."* We would add *addressing climate change* to that list.



Some of us signing this letter are activists in *Veterans for Peace*. We have seen first-hand the terrible costs of war in lives lost, in life-long wounds, and in the money that could be spent for healing our broken society and our damaged ecosystems.

SUPPORT for PEOPLE OVER PENTAGON

- Veterans For Peace Nationally

VFP Chapters:

Chapter 1 - Maine
Chapter 7 - Los Angeles, CA
Chapter 10, Albany, NY
Chapter 14 - Gainesville, FL
Chapter 23 - Rochester, NY
Chapter 25 - SW WI
Chapter 27 - Twin Cities, MN
Chapter 31 - Philadelphia, PA
Chapter 34 - New York, NY
Chapter 42-Hartford/Windham, CT
Chapter 47 - Pittsburgh, PA
Chapter 55 - Santa Fe, NM
Chapter 62 - Southern NH
Chapter 63 - Albuquerque, NM
Chapter 69 – San Francisco, CA
Chapter 71 - Sonoma Co., CA
Chapter 72 - Portland, OR
Chapter 74 – Detroit, MI
Chapter 75 - Phoenix, AZ
Chapter 80 – Duluth, MN
Chapter 90 – Binghamton, NY
Chapter 91 – San Diego, CA
Chapter 92 – Seattle, WA
Chapter 99 – Asheville, NC
Chapter 101 – South Bay/Peninsula, CA
Chapter 102 – Milwaukee, WI
Chapter 106 – Dallas/North TX
Chapter 109 - Olympia, WA
Chapter 112 – Ventura, CA
Chapter 117, Boise, ID
Chapter 120 – Boulder, CO
Chapter 132 – Corvallis-Albany, OR
Chapter 133 - Western Montana
Chapter 157 – North Carolina Triangle
Chapter 178 – No. Colorado
Chapter 180 – Fresno, CA
Chapter 413 - Western Massachusetts

Representatives Mark Pocan (D-WI) and Ilhan Omar (D-MN) will introduce a bill (The People Over the Pentagon Act) to cut the Pentagon budget by $100 billion and use the money saved to help meet people's immediate needs, to strengthen the social safety net, and address the challenges of climate change. Passing a bill like this will require a long-term grassroots effort. *It is time to start building that support now. We have no time to waste.*

Check out our flyer that shows what social programs a $100 billion reduction in Pentagon spending could pay for: **https://bit.ly/100billion-tradeoff**

If you agree that an $886 billion bloated Pentagon budget is riddled with waste, fraud, and abuse, and could be reduced without compromising our national security, we invite you to sign the **Open Letter** drafted by Veterans & Labor for Sensible Priorities, and join us in supporting People Over the Pentagon.

In Solidarity,

Former leaders of US Labor Against the War: *Michael Eisenscher, John Braxton, Kathy Black, Gene Bruskin, Tom Gogan, Bob Muehlenkamp, David Newby, Marcia Newfield, Carl Rosen, Barbara Smith, Brooks Sunkett, Nancy Wohlforth, Mike Zweig*

Endorsed by Veterans for Peace: *Steve Morse, Susan Schnall, Michael MacPhearson, Mike Ferner, Mike Wong, Paul Cox, Gerry Condon, Ellen Barfield, Ken Mayers (dec), Josh Shurley, Patrick McCann, Dan Shea, Greg Miller, Barbara Phinney, Art Ratcliffe, Jeff Goldthorpe, Ken Dursa, Barry Riesch, Gary Butterfield, Cindy Piester, Janet Weil, Vince Dijanich, Ian Mooney, Tarak Kauff, Jim Janko, MIchael Dempsey,*

Sign the Open Letter: bit.ly/VL4SPsignon

If you have questions or want to discuss or endorse this initiative, feel free to contact John Braxton by phone at (215) 796-4933 or write to *labor@veteransforpeace.org*.

You can learn more about this campaign at **https://tinyurl.com/about-VL4SP**

A sample resolution for adoption by labor organizations is posted at **tinyurl.com/sensiblepriorities-resolution**