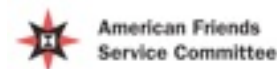




Cut Military Spending, Protect Human Needs Spending.



Budget deficits were a big topic of discussion during the 2010 fall elections, with [polls showing](#) that a majority of Americans think reducing the deficit is more important than stimulus spending. Economists like [Ben Bernake](#), [Timothy Geithner](#), [Paul Krugman](#), and many others disagree, insisting that that short term deficit spending is the only way to move us out of the recession and create jobs.

In any case, the focus on deficits gives us a unique opportunity to achieve real cuts to the military budget while we work to make sure that funds for programs that address vital human needs are protected. The National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform (known as the the Deficit Commission) is set to put out recommendations to Congress on December 1st. The co-chairs of the committee have already released their recommendations which include cuts to the military budget as well as destructive and dangerous cuts to social services. Other recommendations will come out between now and December 1st, and then the discussion will shift to Congress.

Our job has got to be to send our message loud and clear:

- We cannot seriously talk about fiscal responsibility without cutting the military budget
- At the same time, we need to protect funding to meet vital human needs and reduce unemployment.

You can use these tools to take action in the next couple of weeks as the deficit discussion takes center stage.

Tools for Action

- Write a letter to the editor using our [electronic template](#)
- Write an op-ed to your local newspaper by using [our template](#) and customizing with local information.
- Take advantage of the Thanksgiving recess to make a visit to your legislator. You can use our [talking points](#) to help you plan your visit.
- Make a sign like the ones above but with your own slogan and take a photograph of it. Post it on our [facebook page](#) and spread it around your social networks.

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