

Reallocate Military Funding

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3 **WHEREAS** unprecedented budget deficits and national debt threaten the stability of
4 our economic and social systems, and have already resulted in sever cuts to essential
5 government services at every level of government;

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7 **WHEREAS** the U.S. military budget has essentially escaped such cuts and in fact is now
8 more than half of the federal discretionary budget, and accounts for almost half of ALL
9 military spending worldwide;

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11 **WHEREAS** a substantial portion of the military budget is dedicated to weapons
12 programs the Pentagon does not require for current missions and/or which are not in
13 compliance with international strictures against weapons of mass destruction, such as
14 nuclear weapons;

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16 **WHEREAS** the new START Treaty, ratified in 2010, calls for a 50 percent reduction in
17 nuclear launchers within the decade, and international policy since the original
18 ratification of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1969, reaffirmed by President
19 Barack Obama in his Prague speech of April 5, 2009, calls for the total elimination of
20 these weapons as soon as practicable; and

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22 **WHEREAS** the U.S. Navy, in clear contradiction of these policies and treaties, proposes
23 to more than double the size of the explosives handling wharf facilities located at Naval
24 Base Kitsap Bangor to service the Trident nuclear submarine fleet for another 30 years,
25 at a cost estimated at \$783 million;

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27 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the Washington State Democratic Central
28 Committee solicit our federal representatives to reallocate those funds (estimated at
29 \$783 million) to provide for a lasting economic benefit for the local citizens of the area
30 and that no federal funds be allocated for this or any other project which seeks to
31 expand or maintain at current levels the U.S. nuclear launching capacity.
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34 Submitted by the Jefferson County Democrats to the Washington State Democratic
35 Central Committee for consideration at its September 17, 2011 meeting in Bellingham.
36 (Date Submitted 9/6/2011)

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38 The Resolutions Committee recommended that this resolution be "PASSED WITH
39 AMENDMENTS" at its September 17, 2011 Meeting in Bellingham.

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41 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its September 17, 2011 Meeting in Bellingham.