**Alamance county**

**Taxpayers will pay**

**$217.9 MILLION**

**for our share**

**of the FY 2012**

**defense Budget.**

**IF that budget were**

**reduced by just 10%,**

**we could have this:**

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**. . . ALL of the following**

**for one year:**

* **58 Elementary school teachers *and***
* **403 Head Start slots for children *and***
* **1,102 Households converted to all**

 **solar energy *and***

* **448 Military veterans receiving**

**VA medical care *and***

* **578 People receiving low-income healthcare *and***
* **62 Police or Sheriff’s Officers *and***
* **561 Students receiving Pell grants**

 **of $5550**

**BRING THE WAR DOLLAR$ HOME**

**World Military Spending—**

**Do We Need More to be Safe?**

*Source:* http://costofwar.com/en/tradeoffs/

*World Military Spending*

**FUND OUR COMMUNITIES**

***An Alamance County***

***Community Forum***

**April 21, 2012**

**10:30 a.m. – noon**

 **Church of the Holy Comforter, Burlington, NC agenda**

Welcome/Introductions…………………Anne Cassebaum

Bringing the War Dollars Home.............Pastor Robert Walker

Funding Our Community:

*Hunger*…………………………..Brenda Allen

*Jobs*.............................................Frances Walker

*Public Transportation*…………..Patrick Harman

*Homelessness*……………………Leo Welsh

*Education*……………………….Steve Van Pelt

*Veterans’ Benefits*………………William Franklin

*Environment*…………………….Mike Holland

Open Forum

Responses from Elected Officials and Candidates for Office

Next Steps: The Resolution Campaign**Proposed Resolution Calling upon the US Government**

**to Bring Our War Dollars Home and Fund Our Communities**

**Alamance County, North Carolina**

BECAUSE the ongoing economic crisis impacts budgets at every level of government and requires us to re-examine our national spending priorities;

BECAUSE United States military spending, at nearly $700 billion per year, is greater than that of the next 17 countries combined;

BECAUSE over 6,300 US troops have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, more than 47,000 have been wounded, thousands have succumbed to trauma and suicide, and hundreds of thousands of civilian casualties have occurred in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan;

BECAUSE the cost to Alamance County of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001 has been over $547 million; and because military spending represents an average of about $5,800 per year from each US household;

BECAUSE taxpayers in Alamance County will pay $217.9 million to fund the Department of Defense budget for fiscal year 2012; and

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BECAUSE, dollar for dollar, domestic spending creates far more jobs than military spending;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

call upon the US Congress and President Obama to substantially reduce overall military spending and redirect our tax dollars to the pressing educational, employment, health, housing, nutritional, infrastructure, energy, and environmental needs of our communities.

***Sources:***

Cost of War <http://costofwar.com/en/state/NC/county/alamance-county/>

Department of Defense Casualty Statistics <http://www.defense.gov/news/casualty.pdf>

“Military Spending: Defense Costs: The Biggest Military Spenders” *The Economist Online,* June 8, 2011 <http://www.economist.com/blogs/dailychart/2011/06/military-spending>

National Priorities Project <http://nationalpriorities.org/tools/tradeoffs/>

Pollin, Robert & Heidi Garrett-Peltier. *The U.S. Employment Effects of Military and Domestic Spending Priorities: An Updated Analysis*. October 2009: Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts, Amherst <http://www.peri.umass.edu/fileadmin/pdf/published_study/spending_priorities_PERI.pdf>