

Bring the War Dollars Home

Since 2001, the United States has spent at least \$1.2 trillion (\$1,200 billion) on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The National Priorities Project calculates that New York State's share of this spending is \$108 billion (both wars), with \$37.9 billion of this going to the war in Afghanistan. The ongoing war spending, broken down by states and cities, can be seen at www.costofwar.com.

These figures do not include future medical care for injured military personnel, interest on war-related debt, or underlying military spending not specifically due to the wars. As dollar amounts, they do not include any measure of the suffering and loss of life experienced by Americans, Iraqis or Afghans.

Meanwhile, New York is cutting back on education and local government services, is demanding concessions from public employees, and is faced with deteriorating infrastructure.

The National Priorities Project's web site (www.nationalpriorities.org) contains additional information on the federal budget, including the trade-offs between military spending and various domestic programs. The money is there, but the political will to divert it from wars is not.

Please contact Pres. Obama (202-456-1111), Sen. Schumer and Sen. Gillibrand (202-224-3121) and urge them to end the war in Afghanistan.

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