

4/14/2017

37-R-17

A RESOLUTION

**Urging the United States Congress to Move Our Tax Dollars from
Militarism to Human and Environmental Needs**

WHEREAS, President Trump proposes to move \$54 billion from human and environmental spending at home and abroad to military spending, bringing military spending to well over 60% of federal discretionary spending; and

WHEREAS, to help alleviate the refugee crisis the United States should be ending, not escalating, wars that create refugees; and

WHEREAS, President Trump admits that the enormous military spending of the past 16 years has been disastrous and made us less safe; and

WHEREAS, fractions of the proposed military budget could provide free, top-quality education from pre-school through college, end hunger and starvation on earth, convert the U.S. to clean energy, provide clean drinking water everywhere it is needed on the planet, build fast trains between all major U.S. cities, and double non-military U.S. foreign aid rather than cutting it; and

WHEREAS, one hundred and twenty-one retired U.S. generals have written a letter opposing cutting foreign aid; and

WHEREAS, a December 2014 Gallup poll of 65 nations found that the United States was considered the largest threat to peace in the world; and

WHEREAS, by providing clean drinking water, schools, medicine, and solar panels to others the United States would be more secure and face far less hostility around the world; and

WHEREAS, our environmental and human needs are desperate and urgent; and

WHEREAS, the military is itself the greatest consumer of petroleum we have; and

WHEREAS, economists at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst have documented that military spending is an economic drain rather than a jobs program.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

SECTION 1: The foregoing recitals are hereby found as fact and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2: The City of Evanston, Illinois, urges the United States Congress to move our tax dollars in exactly the opposite direction proposed by the President, from militarism to human and environmental needs.

SECTION 3: Copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, members of the U.S. Congress representing Evanston, and any other appropriate elected officials.

SECTION 4: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval, in the manner provided by law.


Elizabeth B. Tisdahl, Mayor

Attest:


Rodney Greene, City Clerk

Adopted: April 24, 2017