



## Balanced Security Spending

April 2009

### WOMEN LEGISLATORS' LOBBY

[www.willwand.org](http://www.willwand.org)

[will@wand.org](mailto:will@wand.org)

#### WILL President

Nan Grogan Orrock  
GA State Senator

#### Washington Associate Director

Christina Cernansky

#### Washington Associate

Maureen Campbell

#### Honorary Co-Chairs

U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee (CA)  
U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky (IL)

#### National Office

322 4th St., NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
202 544 5055  
fax 202 544 7612

#### President's Office

250 Georgia Ave. SE, Suite 202  
Atlanta, GA 30312  
404 524 5999  
fax 404 524 7593

#### Endorsing Organizations

American Association of  
University Women  
American Nurses Association  
Legal Momentum  
Ms. Foundation for Women, Inc.  
National Association of Social  
Workers  
National Federation of Business  
and Professional Women's Clubs  
National Women's Political Caucus  
Older Women's League  
Ploughshares Fund  
Progressive States Network  
Unitarian Universalist Association  
Women's Campaign Fund  
Women's Policy Group  
Women USA Fund, Inc.  
YWCA of the USA

**WILL is a program of WAND**  
(Women's Action for New Directions)

[www.wand.org](http://www.wand.org)

#### Executive Director

Susan Shaer

#### National WAND Office

691 Massachusetts Ave.  
Arlington, MA 02476  
781 643 6740  
fax 781 643 6744

Dear Members of Congress:

As women state legislators from across the country, we believe that *security* is our most important priority; and that our *federal budget* is the most important tool we have in realizing a vision of a safe and secure country. We write to you today to urge you to examine and readjust how our federal government spends its security dollars. We are certain that fundamental changes to our defense budget would improve our security, and make our country stronger.

Specifically, we believe that the Department of Defense and the nuclear weapons-related activities of the Department of Energy spend too much money on expensive, unnecessary and over-budget weapons systems. We are still buying systems that were designed in the 1980s to fight the Cold War. **In his speech on February 24, 2009, President Obama pledged to "reform our defense budget so that we're not paying for Cold War-era weapons systems we don't use." We need your help in realizing reforms that will make our country stronger in the reality of today's threats.**

The President's FY10 budget request outline does take steps in the right direction. Vital programs that improve the livelihood and security of our constituents are more adequately funded than they have been in recent years; and the military budget does not grow as quickly. However, we still spend an extraordinary amount on the Pentagon. **The Administration's request for the Department of Defense and the nuclear weapons portion of the Department of Energy is estimated to be \$557 billion for FY10 — which accounts for half of the entire federal discretionary budget.\*** That represents an annual increase of \$9 billion beyond inflation.

But the problem is not simply the amount of money; it is what we're buying. The threats of today do not come from the Soviet Union; they come from terrorist cells and rogue states, as well as our own internal vulnerabilities. We should be directing our security dollars toward these pressure points. **Currently, the budget outline spends seven times as much on military force as on international affairs and homeland security combined.**

It simply doesn't make sense to pour additional billions into the Pentagon alone. Instead, we should invest in the other prongs of a well-rounded defense program: **offense (military forces), defense (homeland security), and prevention (non-military international engagement, including diplomacy, nonproliferation, foreign aid, peacekeeping, and contributions to international organizations).** We should spend a sufficient amount on homeland security services such as rail and transit security, emergency preparedness and public health. We should invest in efforts to remove or secure all vulnerable fissile nuclear materials.

**The good news is that this makes sense for our economic recovery as well.** In the current economic climate, when we are doing all we can to invest in programs that create jobs and stimulate the economy, we should face the truth: we can do better by spending money on public projects other than the military. A groundbreaking economic study from the University of Massachusetts\*\* found that *investing federal funds in public projects (such as transportation and health care) yields more jobs and economic return than investing in the military.*

We know that you, like us, want our communities to be safe and economically secure. We want to provide that assurance in sustainable, measurable, and affordable ways. We ask you to work with us to meet the needs of our citizens.

Sincerely,

*Women State Legislators from across the country (see following pages)*

\*As you know, we continue to pay for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan through separate supplemental appropriations.

\*\**Alternative Public Spending: Effects on Job Creation*, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Economics Department (October 2007)

**Senator Bettye Davis, AK**  
Representative Beth Kerttula, AK  
**Representative Barbara Boyd, AL**  
Representative Merika Coleman, AL  
Representative Laura Hall, AL  
Representative Patricia Todd, AL  
**Senator Joyce Elliott, AR**  
Senator Mary Salmon, AR  
Representative Kathy Webb, AR  
**Senator Paula Aboud, AZ**  
Senator Meg Cahill, AZ  
Senator Linda Lopez, AZ  
Representative Kyrsten Sinema, AZ  
**Honorable Alice Borodkin, CO**  
Honorable Anne McGihon, CO  
Honorable Dorothy Rupert, CO  
Senator Betty Boyd, CO  
Senator Morgan Carroll, CO  
Senator Joyce Foster, CO  
Senator Mary Hodge, CO  
Senator Evie Hudak, CO  
Senator Linda Newell, CO  
Senator Paula Sandoval, CO  
Senator Lois Tochtrop, CO  
Senator Suzanne Williams, CO  
Representative Debbie Benefield, CO  
Representative Kathleen Curry, CO  
Representative Gwyn Green, CO  
Representative Dickie Hullinghorst, CO  
Representative Jeanne Labuda, CO  
Representative Claire Levy, CO  
Representative Beth McCann, CO  
Representative Liane McFadyen, CO  
Representative Karen Middleton, CO  
Representative Cherylin Peniston, CO  
Representative Dianne Primavera, CO  
Representative Su Ryden, CO  
Representative Christine Scanlan, CO  
Representative Sue Schafer, CO  
Representative Judy Solano, CO  
Representative Nancy Todd, CO  
**Senator Toni Harp, CT**  
Senator Edith Prague, CT  
Representative Susan Johnson, CT  
Representative Marie Kirkley-Bey, CT  
Representative Joan Lewis, CT  
Representative Denise Merrill, CT  
Representative Diana Urban, CT  
Representative Toni Walker, CT  
**Senator Dorinda Connor, DE**  
Senator Liane Sorenson, DE  
**Senator Larcenia Bullard, FL**  
Senator Arthenia Joyner, FL  
Senator Nan Rich, FL  
Senator Eleanor Sobel, FL  
Representative Mary Brandenburg, FL  
Representative Gwyndolen Clarke-Reed, FL

Representative Audrey Gibson, FL  
Representative Mia Jones, FL  
Representative Janet Long, FL  
Representative Betty Reed, FL  
Representative Hazelle Rogers, FL  
Representative Maria Sachs, FL  
Representative Elaine Schwartz, FL  
Representative Priscilla Taylor, FL  
Representative Geraldine Thompson, FL  
Representative Michelle Vasilinda, FL  
**Honorable Gail Buckner, GA**  
Honorable Bettieanne Hart, GA  
Senator Gloria Butler, GA  
Senator Nan Orrock, GA  
Senator Valencia Seay, GA  
Senator Freddie Sims, GA  
Senator Horacena Tate, GA  
Representative Roberta Abdul-Salaam, GA  
Representative Stacey Abrams, GA  
Representative Kathy Ashe, GA  
Representative Stephanie Benfield, GA  
Representative Karla Drenner, GA  
Representative Gloria Frazier, GA  
Representative Pat Gardner, GA  
Representative Michele Henson, GA  
Representative Cecily Hill, GA  
Representative Sistie Hudson, GA  
Representative Carolyn Hugley, GA  
Representative Celeste Johnson, GA  
Representative Sheila Jones, GA  
Representative Margaret Kaiser, GA  
Representative Alisha Morgan, GA  
Representative Barbara Reece, GA  
Representative Robbin Shipp, GA  
Representative Pam Stephenson, GA  
**Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, HI**  
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, HI  
Representative Marilyn Lee, HI  
**Honorable Margaret Tinsman, IA**  
Senator Staci Appel, IA  
Senator Becky Schmitz, IA  
Representative Mary Gaskill, IA  
Representative Elesha Gayman, IA  
**Senator Nicole LeFavour, ID**  
Representative Elaine Smith, ID  
**Representative Annazette Collins, IL**  
Representative Sara Feigenholtz, IL  
Representative Mary Flowers, IL  
**Senator Jean Breaux, IN**  
Senator Sue Errington, IN  
Senator Earline Rogers, IN  
Senator Vi Simpson, IN  
Senator Connie Sipes, IN  
Senator Karen Tallian, IN  
Representative Sheila Klinker, IN  
Representative Linda Lawson, IN  
**Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau, KS**

Representative Sydney Carlin, KS  
Representative Geraldine Flaharty, KS  
Representative Delia Garcia, KS  
**Representative Joni Jenkins, KY**  
Representative Mary Lou Marzian, KY  
**Representative Regina Barrow, LA**  
Representative Karen Carter Peterson, LA  
**Honorable Carol Donovan, MA**  
Honorable Anne Paulsen, MA  
Senator Patricia Jehlen, MA  
Senator Susan Tucker, MA  
Representative Willie Allen, MA  
Representative Gloria Fox, MA  
Representative Kay Khan, MA  
Representative Elizabeth Malia, MA  
Representative Denise Provost, MA  
Representative Ellen Story, MA  
Representative Alice Wolf, MA  
**Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez, MD**  
Delegate Sue Hecht, MD  
Delegate Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, MD  
**Honorable Marilyn Canavan, ME**  
Honorable Mary Cathcart, ME  
Honorable Carol Grose, ME  
Senator Margaret Craven, ME  
Senator Lisa Marrache, ME  
Senator Elizabeth Schneider, ME  
Senator Nancy Sullivan, ME  
Representative Andrea Boland, ME  
Representative Sheryl Briggs, ME  
Representative Emily Cain, ME  
Representative Joan Cohen, ME  
Representative Patsy Crockett, ME  
Representative Anne Haskell, ME  
Representative Teresa Hayes, ME  
Representative Melissa Innes, ME  
Representative Lisa Miller, ME  
Representative Ann Peoples, ME  
Representative Leila Percy, ME  
Representative Hannah Pingree, ME  
Representative Margaret Rotundo, ME  
Representative Diane Russell-Natera, ME  
Representative Linda Sanborn, ME  
Representative Sharon Treat, ME  
Representative Pamela Trinward, ME  
**Senator Deborah Cherry, MI**  
Senator Irma Clark-Coleman, MI  
Senator Gilda Jacobs, MI  
Senator Martha Scott, MI  
Representative Deb Kennedy, MI  
Representative Ellen Lipton, MI  
Representative Alma Smith, MI  
Representative Rebekah Warren, MI  
**Honorable Becky Lourey, MN**  
Senator Ellen Anderson, MN  
Senator Linda Berglin, MN  
Senator Terri Bonoff, MN

Senator Lisa Fobbe, MN  
Senator Linda Higgins, MN  
Senator Ann Lynch, MN  
Senator Mee Moua, MN  
Senator Mary Olson, MN  
Senator Sandy Pappas, MN  
Senator Patricia Ray, MN  
Senator Ann Rest, MN  
Senator Sharon Ropes, MN  
Senator Kathy Sheran, MN  
Senator Katie Sieben, MN  
Senator Yvonne Solon, MN  
Representative Robin Brown, MN  
Representative Kathy Brynaert, MN  
Representative Karen Clark, MN  
Representative Mindy Greiling, MN  
Representative Alice Hausman, MN  
Representative Debra Hilstrom, MN  
Representative Melissa Hortman, MN  
Representative Gail Johnson, MN  
Representative Phyllis Kahn, MN  
Representative Margaret Kelliher, MN  
Representative Kate Knuth, MN  
Representative Carolyn Laine, MN  
Representative Ann Lenczewski, MN  
Representative Tina Liebling, MN  
Representative Diane Loeffler, MN  
Representative Mary Murphy, MN  
Representative Erin Murphy, MN  
Representative Kim Norton, MN  
Representative Mary Otremba, MN  
Representative Sandra Peterson, MN  
Representative Jeanne Poppe, MN  
Representative Maria Ruud, MN  
Representative Brita Sailer, MN  
Representative Bev Scalze, MN  
Representative Nora Slawik, MN  
Representative Jean Wagenius, MN  
**Senator Joan Bray, MO**  
Senator Jolie Justus, MO  
Senator Yvonne Wilson, MO  
Representative Shalonn Curls, MO  
Representative Tishaura Jones, MO  
Representative Beth Low, MO  
Representative Jeanette Oxford, MO  
Representative Sharon Pace, MO  
**Representative Mary Coleman, MS**  
**Senator Carol Juneau, MT**  
Senator Christine Kaufmann, MT  
Representative Arlene Becker, MT  
Representative Mary Caferro, MT  
Representative Sue Dickenson, MT  
Representative Julie French, MT  
Representative Teresa Henry, MT  
Representative Michele Reinhart, MT  
Representative Diane Sands, MT  
Representative Franke Wilmer, MT

**Senator Katie Dorsett, NC**  
Senator Ellie Kinnaird, NC  
Representative Beverly Earle, NC  
Representative Susan Fisher, NC  
Representative Pricey Harrison, NC  
Representative Annie Mobley, NC  
Representative Earline Parmon, NC  
**Senator JoNell Bakke, ND**  
Senator Carolyn Nelson, ND  
Representative Lois Delmore, ND  
Representative Kathy Hawken, ND  
Representative Shirley Meyer, ND  
**Senator Gwen Howard, NE**  
**Senator Martha Fuller Clark, NH**  
Representative Susan Almy, NH  
Representative Catriona Beck, NH  
Representative Suzanne Butcher, NH  
Representative Barbara French, NH  
Representative Anna Harding, NH  
Representative Pamela Hubbard, NH  
Representative Naida Kaen, NH  
Representative Susan Kepner, NH  
Representative Mary Knowles, NH  
Representative Evalyn Merrick, NH  
Representative Marcia Moody, NH  
Representative Barbara Richardson, NH  
Representative Carla Skinder, NH  
Representative Marjorie Smith, NH  
Representative Joy Tilton, NH  
**Senator Loretta Weinberg, NJ**  
Assemblywoman Bonnie Coleman, NJ  
Assemblywoman Linda Stender, NJ  
**Senator Dede Feldman, NM**  
Senator Mary Jane Garcia, NM  
Senator Linda Lopez, NM  
Senator Lynda Lovejoy, NM  
Senator Cynthia Nava, NM  
Senator Nancy Rodriguez, NM  
Representative Gail Chasey, NM  
Representative Mimi Stewart, NM  
**Senator Maggie Carlton, NV**  
Senator Valerie Wiener, NV  
Senator Joyce Woodhouse, NV  
Assemblywoman Sheila Leslie, NV  
Assemblywoman Peggy Pierce, NV  
**Senator Velmanette Montgomery, NY**  
Senator Suzi Oppenheimer, NY  
Assemblywoman Barbara Clark, NY  
Assemblywoman Rhoda Jacobs, NY  
Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton, NY  
**Senator Teresa Fedor, OH**  
Senator Shirley Smith, OH  
Representative Edna Brown, OH  
Honorable Catherine Barrett, OH  
Honorable Charleta Tavares, OH  
**Honorable Laura Boyd, OK**  
Senator Constance Johnson, OK

Representative Jeannie McDaniel, OK  
**Senator Ginny Burdick, OR**  
Senator Margaret Carter, OR  
Senator Jackie Dingfelder, OR  
Senator Diane Rosenbaum, OR  
Senator Vicki Walker, OR  
Representative Carolyn Tomei, OR  
**Senator LeAnna Washington, PA**  
Representative Babette Josephs, PA  
Representative Rosemarie Swanger, PA  
**Honorable Linda Kushner, RI**  
Senator Elizabeth Crowley, RI  
Senator Hanna Gallo, RI  
Senator Maryellen Goodwin, RI  
Senator Beatrice Lanzi, RI  
Senator Erin Lynch, RI  
Senator Rhoda Perry, RI  
Representative Edith Ajello, RI  
Representative Elaine Coderre, RI  
Representative Elizabeth Dennigan, RI  
Representative Joanne Giannini, RI  
Representative Eileen Naughton, RI  
Representative Amy Rice, RI  
Representative Deborah Ruggiero, RI  
Representative Patricia Serpa, RI  
Representative Donna Walsh, RI  
Representative Anastasia Williams, RI  
**Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter, SC**  
Representative Cathy Harvin, SC  
Representative Denny Neilson, SC  
**Senator Julie Bartling, SD**  
Senator Sandy Jerstad, SD  
Senator Nancy Turbak Berry, SD  
Representative Joni Cutler, SD  
**Senator Ophelia Ford, TN**  
Senator Thelma Harper, TN  
Senator Beverly Marrero, TN  
Representative Barbara Cooper, TN  
Representative Lois DeBerry, TN  
Representative Sherry Jones, TN  
**Representative Carol Alvarado, TX**  
Representative Valinda Bolton, TX  
Representative Jessica Farrar, TX  
Representative Terri Hodge, TX  
Representative Dora Olivo, TX  
Representative Senfronia Thompson, TX  
**Senator Patricia Jones, UT**  
Representative Carol Moss, UT  
Representative Jennifer Seelig, UT  
**Senator L. Louise Lucas, VA**  
Senator Patricia Ticer, VA  
Senator Mary Whipple, VA  
Delegate Kristen Amundson, VA  
Delegate Roslyn Tyler, VA  
Delegate Jeion Ward, VA  
**Senator Susan Bartlett, VT**  
Representative Johannah Donovan, VT

Representative Sarah Edwards, VT  
Representative Patsy French, VT  
Representative Helen Head, VT  
Representative Kathleen Keenan, VT  
Representative Sue Minter, VT  
Representative Donna Sweaney, VT  
Representative Suzi Wizowaty, VT  
**Honorable Diane Woody, WA**  
Senator Rosa Franklin, WA  
Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles, WA  
Representative Sherry Appleton, WA  
Representative Maralyn Chase, WA  
Representative Jeannie Darneille, WA  
Representative Mary Dickerson, WA  
**Representative Terese Berceau, WI**  
Representative Kristen Dexter, WI  
Representative Tamara Grigsby, WI  
Representative Sandy Pasch, WI  
Representative Sondy Pope-Roberts, WI  
Representative Kelda Roys, WI  
Representative Donna Seidel, WI  
Representative Christine Sinicki, WI  
Representative Barbara Toles, WI  
Representative Annette Williams, WI  
**Delegate Bonnie Brown, WV**  
Delegate Barbara Fleischauer, WV  
Delegate Nancy Guthrie, WV  
Delegate Barbara Hatfield, WV  
Delegate Tiffany Lawrence, WV  
Delegate Linda Longstreth, WV  
Delegate Virginia Mahan, WV  
Delegate Charlene Marshall, WV  
Delegate Linda Phillips, WV  
Delegate Mary Poling, WV  
Delegate Sharon Spencer, WV  
Delegate Margaret Staggers, WV  
Delegate Sally Susman, WV  
Delegate Carrie Webster, WV  
**Senator Kathryn Sessions, WY**