



Welcome to the Women Legislators' Lobby's (WiLL) April 2013 e-newsletter.

All of the victims of the tragedy in Boston are in our thoughts and prayers. As an organization dedicated to peace and nonviolence, we will continue to work toward a safer world for all. Women leaders bring a critical voice and perspective to issues of safety and security and we encourage you all to raise your voices for a world where tragedies like this don't happen.

WiLL in the News

WiLL members across the country continue to engage in important and timely public policy debates, speaking up for the best interests of their constituents and communities. WiLL Vice President and MN State Senator Sandy Pappas highlighted the impacts of Congressional budgeting and wasteful Pentagon spending on the states in a special Tax Day op-ed.

We urge you to submit your own op-ed or letter to the editor. For assistance contact Maureen Campbell (mcampbell@wand.org, 202/544-5055 ext. 2603).

WiLL Budget Letter to Congress

Add your name to WiLL's [critical message to Congress!](#) States across the country are beginning to recover from the recession, but this progress is threatened by uncertainty about the federal budget. We must call on Congress to make targeted sensible cuts and to ensure that the programs that strengthen our communities are adequately funded.

Year after year, over 50% of our discretionary budget – the budget Congress debates and votes on every year – goes to the Pentagon. It stands to reason that if we're spending huge amounts on the Pentagon, other parts of the budget will feel the squeeze. We should spend what is necessary to keep our nation safe and secure. We also need to keep America economically strong and competitive. We cannot do so if we are squandering money on expensive outdated weapons systems and other Pentagon programs that we don't need.

As state legislators, we want what is best for our constituents, our communities, and our states. Please join us and your colleagues from across the country in signing [this letter](#) to Congress urging a federal budget that reflects our values. Sign on by [emailing Maureen Campbell](#). ***The deadline is Monday, April 22!***

Upcoming Events

Join WAND and WiLL for our annual Mother's Day celebration on May 10 in Cambridge, MA! This year we will be honoring WAND Executive Director Susan Shaer's 20 years with WAND, as well as recognizing several up and coming women leaders. [Purchase your tickets or make a donation today!](#)

Save the Date! 2013 WiLL Conference | Sept. 29-Oct. 1 | Washington, DC

Connect with WiLL

For the latest on WiLL events and news, be sure to follow @WomenLegisLobby on [Twitter](#) and friend WiLL on [Facebook](#).