***We the undersigned residents of Canterbury, New Hampshire, petition to place the following resolution on the warrant for the 2018 Town Meeting.***

WHEREAS, the U.S. spends in excess of $600 billion a year on its military programs, which is well over half of federal discretionary spending, and which in 2016 cost the average New Hampshire taxpayer $3,069; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. spends more on its military forces than the next eight countries combined, and five of them are close U.S. allies; and

WHEREAS, research shows that tax dollars spent on health care, education, clean energy, and infrastructure create more jobs per dollar than does spending on military programs; and

WHEREAS, the United States has a stockpile of 6,250 nuclear warheads and is in the process of spending $1.2 trillion on a whole new generation of nuclear weapons that would have the ability to annihilate life on earth; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. is the wealthiest nation on earth but trails many other nations in life expectancy, infant mortality, education-level, housing, and clean air and water;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the town of Canterbury, New Hampshire calls on the United States Congress to cut the Pentagon budget and to use that money to fund education, public and private sector family-sustaining job creation, environmental and infrastructure restoration, care for veterans and their families, and human services that our communities and state desperately need, and create tax cuts for working families. And further, that our Board of Selectmen will send copies of this resolution with a record of its adoption to our Congressional Delegation.