

Tax Day 2017 Mobilization

A Call to all Patriots to stand up for our country in dangerous times

Saturday, April 15 @ 1pm

Cambridge Common

Tax Day & Patriots Day Weekend

If ever patriots were needed to address threats to the country, that time is now.

Trump's lies, corruption and his new budget proposal pose a clear and present danger to the nation

- **We Demand that Donald Trump release his tax returns!** Expose Trump's conflicts of interests and business connections. As a billionaire, he will directly benefit from his proposed tax breaks.

- **We Demand that big corporations and people with very high incomes pay their fair share of taxes.** Oppose the hundreds of billions of dollars in even more "big, big" tax giveaways promised by the president.

- **Oppose Trump's March 16 "Death Budget"**
 - Stand up for our families: the president's budget poses a mortal threat to affordable housing, job training, senior programs, education, public transportation, job safety, rural development programs and services of all kinds, and emergency food, housing and heating support.
 - Oppose the all-out attack on our climate, environment, and health that lie at the center of Trump's budget proposal.
 - Redirect Pentagon spending to meet our human needs. Instead of increasing military spending by \$54 billion a year—fueling wars, lining the pockets of the military-industrial-congressional complex, and building "The Wall", fund critical domestic programs and our states and towns
 - Support the *People's Budget* as a positive alternative

Join us for a great gathering of patriots on Cambridge Common on April 15, the site where George Washington first took command of the army of the continental congress to fight for our independence from empire and tyranny.

Info: Massachusetts People's Budget Campaign info@budget4allmass.org • Massachusetts Alliance of HUD Tenants michaelkane@saveourhomes.org • Massachusetts Peace Action info@masspeaceaction.org
American Friends Service Committee pshannon@afsc.org • New England Independence Group

For information contact us at 617-354-2169

Taxes: who pays them?

Already large corporations and billionaires pay far below their fair share of taxes. Hundreds of profitable corporations on the Fortune magazine list of the biggest companies pay significantly below the legal tax rate. One hundred of these profitable companies – like Exxon, Boeing, Goldman Sachs, General Electric -- paid no taxes at all in at least one year from 2008 to 2015. Some of them paid no total federal tax at all over that entire period! The new “big, big cuts” proposed by the White House would mean that corporate taxes would shrink to a miniscule portion of the national tax burden. Already they only pay 9% of total federal taxes. Guess who’s going to make up the difference in one way or another?

Who reaps the benefits from how tax revenues are spent?

Already the U.S. war budget is over 50% of the discretionary Budget. President Trump’s budget would bring military spending to about 60% of all discretionary spending. In order to build his Wall, fight more disastrous wars, and line the pockets military contractors, the president is cutting tens of billions of dollars from programs that support our families. Just the annual increase in the military budget recommended by the president is far larger than Russia’s entire war budget for 2017!

Who loses?

Hefty cuts to the National Institute Health, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Labor Department, the Office of Energy Efficiency and the elimination of the Chemical Safety Board and payments to the U.N. Green Climate Fund all constitute an immediate attack on our climate, environment and health. In addition, the president’s budget slashes funding for renewable energy research and for climate and earth science programs at NASA.

The budget eliminates the Home Energy Assistance Program, the Appalachian Regional Commission, The Legal Services Corporation, and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. Together with other large cuts to the Departments of Agriculture, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, Labor and Education, the White House budget seriously undermines rural development projects, affordable housing efforts, senior programs, emergency food relief, job training programs, education, transportation, safety at work, homeless programs – and completely eliminates legal assistance and emergency heating programs. Together with moving all the money withdrawn from these programs into the Pentagon Budget, it spells great suffering and even death for many thousands at home and abroad.

The White House Budget then eliminates all future federal funding for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

We need an alternative to this death budget from the president and the upcoming budget from speaker Paul Ryan.

The ***People’s Budget*** created by the Congressional Progressive Caucus is just the alternative we need. It significantly reduces the federal deficit while instituting fair taxes. It provides \$200 billion a year to repair our bridges, schools, transportation systems and build a renewable energy infrastructure – all creating millions of new jobs. It relieves the burden of student debt and holds the core military budget steady, while cutting funds for new nuclear weapons and zeroing out slush funds used to get us into wars without congressional approval. And it seriously addresses the very real and imminent danger of climate change. See for yourself. Info: <http://peoplesbudget.org/> and <https://cpc-grijalva.house.gov/the-peoples-budget-prosperity-not-austerity-invest-in-america-fy-2017/>