



# Budget Problems in Westport?



- \* Less money is available from the State of Connecticut ...
- \* Because less money is available from Washington DC ...
- \* Because money is being diverted to the war in Iraq and Afghanistan ...

**By July 2011, Connecticut's 'de facto' contribution to wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is \$29.8 BILLION!**

**Note: The term 'de facto' is used because all this money was borrowed, adds to the deficit and restricts our ability to fund needed services**

The 'de facto' contribution for your town and some of the major metropolitan areas are shown below:

| All Connecticut | \$29.8 Billion   |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Greenwich       | \$ 981.1 Million |
| Hartford        | \$ 489.0 Million |
| New Haven       | \$ 593.1 Million |
| New London      | \$ 140.6 Million |
| Stamford        | \$1148.9 Million |
| Waterbury       | \$ 596.0 Million |

## Westport's

De-facto contribution to these wars, since 2001, is estimated to be:

# \$ 455.9 Million!

Note: This town specific may vary from National Priorities Project estimates

In Fiscal Year 2011, Connecticut's share of cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is estimated at \$4.1 Billion. Instead of war, we could have:

- 1,600,000 Children Receiving Low-Income Healthcare for One Year OR
- 51,647 Elementary School Teachers for One Year OR
- 64,703 Firefighters for One Year OR
- 508,938 Military Veterans Receiving VA Medical Care for One Year OR
- 539,721 People Receiving Low-Income Healthcare for One Year OR
- 58,267 Police or Sheriff's Patrol Officers for One Year OR
- 418,467 Scholarships for University Students for One Year OR
- 745,399 Students receiving Pell Grants of \$5550



*Estimates of the cost of the War in Iraq for towns, cities and counties across the U.S are based on those from [www.nationalpriorities.org](http://www.nationalpriorities.org).*

- 1) Total costs of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan allocated by Congress to date – which include funding through the end of the current fiscal year on September 30, 2011 – are **\$1.26 trillion, with \$797.3 billion to Iraq and \$459.8 billion to Afghanistan**. These figures include both military and non-military spending such as reconstruction. Spending includes only incremental costs – those additional funds that are expended due to the war. For example, soldiers' regular pay is not included but combat pay is included. **Potential future costs, such as future medical care for soldiers and veterans wounded in the war, are not included.** These figures also do not include additional interest payments on the national debt that will result from higher deficits due to war spending.
- 2) The state share of the total is based on how much each state contributes in tax revenues, according to IRS data. **This is 2.5% for Connecticut.**
- 3) The local-level costs are based on **allocating the state share to towns based on median local-level town, city or county income.**

Estimated Cost of War in Iraq (Million \$) = (Median Household Income for Town) \* (Number of Households in Town) / 1,000,000 \* 0.397  
**Westport: Median Household Income for Town = \$119872 and 9565 Households**

**Flyers for all other Connecticut towns at: <http://www.hopeoutloud.org/towncost.html>**

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**Prepared by: The Connecticut Coalition for Peace and Justice (CCPJ)**