

Our Nation's Checkbook Letter on Economic Recovery

Date _____

Dear Representative/Senator _____:

My name is _____, and I live in _____.

Community activity comment:

I want to thank you for your work in Congress to help rebuild our economy.

Thank you comment:

At this time of economic uncertainty, re-examining our federal budget priorities is crucial to the economic recovery of our nation. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is a good down payment on our economic future and represent a shift in spending priorities toward domestic human needs. Yet this large spending package needs to be balanced by reconsidering our investment in areas that do not promote economic recovery.

Military spending is the largest portion of our federal budget and also the most wasteful. With record high unemployment rates, the U.S. government needs to invest in sectors that will create the most job growth. {add unemployment statistics specific to your state} While investing \$1 billion in the military creates only 8,555 jobs, that same amount invested in health care creates 10,779 jobs, in infrastructure 12,804 jobs, and in education 17,687 jobs.

I acknowledge that military jobs employ thousands of people in the United States and pay relatively well. Yet transferring these jobs to the areas listed above would result in an even higher average wage and create substantially more employment in needed areas.

I look forward to working with you to better invest our tax dollars. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,
