

RESOLUTION NO. 12
AFGHANISTAN EXIT STRATEGY

Congress has appropriated \$106 billion more for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq while our states and cities face deep cuts in social services and unemployment grows.

In Afghanistan, one of the world's poorest countries, about 3 million people have fled their homes (pop. 29 million) and over 20,000 have died. According to the United Nations, Afghanistan is 174th of 178 countries in its human development index.

As of July, 2009, the Dept. of Defense reported that 716 U.S. troops have died and over 3000 are wounded. Unmanned U.S. Drone attacks (controlled from Nevada) are killing many Afghan civilians, creating deep anger, and making our nation less secure. It is unrealistic to believe that Predators, Drones, Special Forces, detention camps and foreign occupation are solutions to Taliban fundamentalism.

A Carnegie Foundation study finds “that the mere presence of foreign soldiers fighting in Afghanistan is probably the single most important factor in the resurgence of the Taliban.”

The conservative Rand Corporation, which advises the Pentagon, has concluded that there is no military solution to terrorism.

The U.S. Government, even after eight years has no exit strategy for disengaging our military from Afghanistan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The Coalition of Labor Union Women supports Congressman Jim McGovern's (D-MA.) HR 2404 (99 co-sponsors) that requires that not later than Dec. 31, 2009, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report outlining the U.S. Exit Strategy for U.S. Military forces in Afghanistan.

CLUW urge diplomacy, negotiations, and a deadline date for withdrawal, including U.S. bases from Afghanistan, and those funds from such military operations are redeployed to boost our Main Street economy and help the people of Afghanistan rebuild their lives.