

**New Hampshire News Connection  
October 24, 2007**

**War Tax: NH Pays \$1.5 Billion Per Year - and Rising**

Concord, NH - Each New Hampshire taxpayer is paying more than \$6000 for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan - an amount that will rise as military spending increases next year. Comments from Steve Varnum with Priorities New Hampshire.

Suggested script: With the President asking Congress for an extra 42 billion dollars to pay for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan next year, a new report (from the National Priorities Project) shows New Hampshire already pays one-point-five billion tax dollars a year for military spending. That translates into more than six thousand dollars a year from each taxpayer.

The national average is even worse - over seven thousand six hundred dollars per taxpayer. Steve Varnum is with Priorities New Hampshire...

Actuality Cut 39777 (TRT :12): "The amount of money New Hampshire residents send to the military is nearly 30 times what they send to the Environmental Protection Agency, more than 6 times what the federal government spends on education."

Suggested Tag: Varnum says it's an example of "upside-down priorities" in the federal budget.

\* \* \*

Second Cut: Varnum says that last week, Congress upheld the President's veto of expanded health insurance for children, yet the nation will spend two hundred billion dollars on war next year...

Actuality Cut 40777 (TRT :08) "For less than ten billion dollars a year, we could supply health care to every child in America who doesn't have it."

(ends)

OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP - uses first soundbite:

LEAD: How much of your taxes go to the Pentagon? John Robinson reports.

Actuality Cut 41777 TRT :44 Q "...the federal budget."

Editor's note: Varnum is at (603) 224-3800. The full report is available at: <http://www.nationalpriorities.org/Publications/What-Came-to-Your-State-in-2005.html>

