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Letter to the editor

Pentagon has become biggest welfare program

If President Bush and Sen. Judd Gregg are really serious about reducing entitlement spending in the federal budget, a good place to start would be with the world's largest entitlement program, the Pentagon.

Once again the president has proposed a budget that gives the Pentagon \$60 billion to spend on obsolete Cold War weapons and maintaining an excessive number of nuclear warheads. These are weapons that will not find bin Laden, will not protect soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, and will not make America safer. . . . The fact is that this \$60 billion has nothing to do with our national defense and everything to do with enriching military contractors and their enablers in Congress.

It's time to get the Pentagon off welfare. Please support the PrioritiesNH campaign, which is working to create sensible budget priorities. And when the presidential candidates come to your community, ask them what their budget priorities will be.

**Caroline Bogart
Litchfield.**

