

the Public Dialogue



photo: October2011.org



photo: John Quigley

Medicare so it covers everyone.

The Occupy Movement is causing fear in members of Congress and corporate executives. The super committee chose not to issue any report and did not even hold a press conference or hearing at the time their report was due. Corporate executives are taking measures to increase security so that Occupiers do not attend their board meetings.

There have been efforts to stop the Occupy Movement. Law enforcement and state officials are holding national conference calls and coordinating crackdowns on the Occupations. They are finding that these efforts, some involving real police brutality, make the movement grow stronger and that you can't evict the ideas of the Occupy Movement. People have found their political voices, see their political power and will not give them up.

We anticipate that the occupation of Freedom Plaza has been left alone because officials do not want to see it grow. There are added problems in that many of the police in DC, who are definitely part of the 99% with slashed pensions and forced overtime, support the goals of the Occupy Movement.

This may be one reason that the National Defense Authorization Act currently contains language that would allow loose definitions of terrorist groups, allow indefinite detention and allow the US military to be used against citizens on our own soil. The post-civil war era law, Posse Comitatus Act which prevented domestic use of the military, has been ended by the 2011 Defense Authorization.

Despite these attacks, the Occupy Movement will continue to grow. Economic insecurity affects every American. We are planning an American Spring and invite all Occupiers to come to the National Occupation of Washington, DC (NOWC.org) beginning on March 30 for a massive encampment that will show that we have the power to change the government through using nonviolent civil resistance and noncooperation. Both parties will be pressured by this independent movement that recognizes the corruption of the system and the complicity of both parties.

We seek to end corporate rule and change the political system to a participatory democracy in which our voices are heard and our resources are used for human needs and protection of the planet. Join us. The people have the power. We just need to recognize it, organize and mobilize to create the world we wish to see. Visit www.October2011.org for more information.

Kevin Zeese and Margaret Flowers are organizers of Occupy Washington, DC (www.October2011.org) and co-directors of It's Our Economy (ItsOurEconomy.US).

The Super Committee Failed. WE HAVE A SOLUTION.

The 99%'s Proposal

How to Create Jobs, Reduce the Wealth Divide & Control Spending

On November 17, 2011.

Occupy Freedom Plaza presented a plan to address the deficit to the 12 members of the US Congressional Super Committee.

We can re-start our economy and avoid placing financial burdens on future generations. For the most part these ideas are not new. They represent mainstream economic analysis and are consistent with the views of the majority of Americans on key issues.

More than three-quarters of U.S. citizens say the country's economic structure is out of balance and "favors a very small proportion of the rich over the rest of the country." They are right. The solutions to our economic crisis are evident but they are blocked by those who profit from the status quo.

The 99% deficit solution:



Raises \$500 billion in annual revenues thereby achieving the deficit reduction goals in two years, shrinks the wealth divide by taxing wealth more and labor less, restores a progressive tax system, tames speculation by investors, and tames wealth held overseas.



Cuts hundreds of billions in annual spending through reducing the bloated military budget and ending the wars, stopping corporate welfare and negotiating better pharmaceutical drug prices.



Creates millions of jobs by solving the housing crisis, creates public sector jobs for much-needed work on infrastructure, transit, education and other areas, creates health care jobs as part of improving Medicare and expanding it to cover everyone in the United States, invests in the more efficient civilian economy rather than the expensive military economy, and stimulates the economy by erasing student loan debt.



Saves and strengthens the safety net by restoring the amount of income covered by Social Security to 30% of all income as was always intended, ends poverty entitlement by rewording Social Security, reduces spending on health care by expanding Medicare to cover everyone in the United States.



Presents steps to create a democratized economy that will replace the failed, economic unfairness of corporate capitalism.

Read the complete report and sign the petition
OccupywashingtonDC.org

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