Congressman Kucinich is a strong advocate for peace, in the individual and social spheres, and in national and foreign policy. He believes that our government must develop a new broad-based approach to peaceful, non-violent conflict resolution, both domestically and abroad. He supports a government that will hold non-violence as an organizing principle in our society, and help to create the conditions for a more peaceful world.

Department of Peace Bill

Summary of Department of Peace a Legislation

Department of Peace and Nonviolence Act Introduced in the Senate

America: A New Spirit

Legislation Introduced to Create a Department of Peace

On February 3, 2009, Congressman Kucinich introduced H.R. 808 (first introduced July 11, 2001) a bill to create a Cabinet-level Department of Peace and Nonviolence which embodies
a broad-based approach to peaceful, non-violent conflict resolution at both domestic and international levels. The Department of Peace and Nonviolence would serve to promote non-violence as an organizing principle in our society, and help to create the conditions for a more peaceful world.

H.R. 808 is essentially the same bill as it was when first introduced in 2001. Notable changes include the establishment of a “Peace Day,” in which all citizens will be encouraged to observe and celebrate the blessings of peace and endeavor to create peace on that day. Additionally, in the 111th Congress the bill language has been updated to reflect the many advances in the study of conflict resolution and analysis since 2001. Congressman Kucinich has added a “Cultural Diplomacy for Peace Grant” program under which the Secretary shall make grants to schools, non-profits, and non-governmental organizations for the purpose of developing international cultural exchanges, including the arts and sports. Congressman Kucinich is hopeful that this grant program will promote diplomacy and cultural understanding between the United States and members of the international community.

Summary of Department of Peace Legislation

Legislation introduced by Congressman Dennis Kucinich to create a Department of Peace and Nonviolence includes the following:

- Establish a cabinet-level department in the executive branch of the Federal Government dedicated to peacemaking and the study of conditions that are conducive to both domestic and international peace.
- Headed by a Secretary of Peace and Nonviolence, appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.
- The mission of the Department shall: hold peace as an organizing principle; endeavor to promote justice and democratic principles to expand human rights; strengthen nonmilitary means of peacemaking; promote the development of human potential; work to create peace, prevent violence, divert from armed conflict and develop new structures in nonviolent dispute resolution; and take a proactive, strategic approach in the development of policies that promote national and international conflict prevention, nonviolent intervention, mediation, peaceful resolution of conflict and structured mediation of conflict.
- The Department will create and establish a Peace Academy, modeled after the military service academies, which will provide a 4 year concentration in peace education. Graduates will be required to serve 5 years in public service in programs dedicated to domestic or international nonviolent conflict resolution.
- The principal officers of the Department, in addition to the Secretary of Peace and Nonviolence will include; the Under Secretary of Peace and Nonviolence; the Assistant Secretary for Peace Education and Training; the Assistant Secretary for Domestic Peace Activities, the Assistant Secretary for International Peace Activities; the Assistant Secretary for Technology for Peace; the Assistant Secretary for Arms Control and Disarmament; the Assistant Secretary for Peaceful Coexistence and Nonviolent Conflict Resolution; the Assistant Secretary for Human and Economic Rights; and a General Counsel.
- The first day of each year, January 1st will be designated as Peace Day in the United
States and all citizens should be encouraged to observe and celebrate the blessings of peace and endeavor to create peace in the coming year.

**Department of Peace Act Introduced in the Senate**

On September 22, 2005, Senator Mark Dayton introduced a Senate companion bill to Rep. Kucinich's Department of Peace and Nonviolence legislation, S. 1756. This is the first time that this bill has been introduced in the Senate.

**Related Documents:**
- [Press Release - Kucinich Releases His Remarks from September 11, 2001](#)
- [Press Release - Kucinich: Peace is Inevitable](#)
- [Press Release - On Proposal to Fund Military With Cuts to Food Stamps, Kucinich Asks “What Kind of Country Do We Want to Live In?”](#)
- [Press Release - Instead of Nation-Building Abroad, We Should be Nation-Building at Home](#)
- [Press Release - Kucinich: Symptoms of a War that Must End](#)

**More Documents...**

**Related Files:**
- [Kucinich Resolution](#)
- [HR 3760: Department of Peace and Nonviolence](#)
- [Summary of Legislation To Create A Department Of Peace And Nonviolence](#)
- [Kucinich Floor Statement On The Introduction Of The Department of Peace And Nonviolence](#)
- [America: A New Spirit](#)

> ADVANTAGES of PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE DEPT. OF PEACE

According to the USIP, it is “in support of the nation’s commitment to the nonviolent management of international conflict.” Here are some advantages we have discussed but worth repeating, plus a major/minor classification.

I. GENERAL

COMPREHENSIVENESS
Consolidates 8 federal areas(?). Peacemaking requires many disciplines in the sciences, social sciences, humanities, and technology. Only by working together and sharing experience and knowledge will headway be possible.

Foreign:

Domestic:

PREVENTION of VIOLENCE
Saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war, requires removing threats to peace, or taking away the occasions for war, by research, building trust, conflict resolution, mediation, advocacy, early warning, early intervention, encouraging healing and reconciliation, demobilization, reintegration of ex-combatants, championing human rights.

Example of reintegration:
Foreign: ex-combatants need extensive mental and physical medical treatment
Domestic: each prisoner costs $30,000 a year, so rehabilitation in prison and reintegration programs for ex-prisoners produce low recidivism rates

We know prediction is increasingly possible, but the discovery of what will reduce violence, crime, wars requires the kind of cooperative, well-funded research we give to the physical sciences and gave to building the atomic bomb.

Foreign: conflict resolution and exchange programs for high school and college students
Domestic: international cultures programs and anti-bullying/no exclusion programs in elementary schools

INTERNATIONAL RESPECT = REDUCTION OF TERRORISM
Peacemaking as the central national purpose, with war absolutely as a last resort, will create friendship for the US globally, and reduce the threat of violence.

Foreign: close friendship with and imitation of Canada, Sweden, Denmark
Domestic: ethnic/racial/religious harmony

ECONOMICS, MONEY
Wars cost billions of dollars. Peaceful solutions cost fractions of wars in resources and lives.

Foreign: Marshall Plan
Domestic: Kindergartens and after-school programs.

II. SPECIFIC

Upgrading higher education for peacemaking.
Today few academic graduate programs prepare for world peacemaking.

Foreign: Iraq: soldiers are trying to do jobs of linguists, educators, doctors, city planners. Our foreign policy projects us throughout the world, but we have not prepared people to be there.
Domestic: Training police in nonviolent conflict resolution.

Relation to State Department
Partnerships with civil society as a high priority:
Augments State Dept. by developing relations not only with states and other governmental agencies (the domain of the SD), but with all-non-governmental individuals and groups for peace.

Foreign: Doctors Without Borders
Domestic:
Marvin and all,

How about these for possible questions:

1. In a perfect world, we would all get along. This isn't a perfect world. We won't all get along. Will the DoP try to make everyone get along, and if so, why even try since it will never work?

Humans possess a propensity for violence and wars, but it is not inevitable.

Seville Statement.

2. Why does the Department of Peace have to be a cabinet-level position?

Wouldn't it fit as a sub-committee somewhere?

Example of the United States Institute of Peace, which strongly resembles DoP in values and programs, but has had only a research and educational function and therefore little resistance to violence and wars.

3. Are those seeking a DoP seeking to diminish the military, getting rid of all war weapons since they just perpetuate violence?

Two issues here. 1) Yes diminish the arms proliferation, nuclear weapons, etc. 2) No not all because we will need armed peacekeepers, as does the UN.

4. Is peace possible? What does "peace" even mean?

Many examples of successful international and domestic peacemaking have occurred.

Peace means not merely the absence of violence, but the positive actions of social and economic justice, human rights, and protection of the earth and species.

5. Will there be enough support and interest to sustain a DoP if it does come into existence?

1. The Peace Alliance | About the Campaign for a U.S. Department of...

www.thepeacealliance.org/issues../department-of-peace/index.htmlCached
You +1’d this publicly. Undo
There is currently a bill before the U.S. House of Representatives to establish a United States Department of Peace. This historic measure will augment our ...

2. Department of Peace - Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich
   kucinich.house.gov/issues/issue/?IssueID=1564Cached
   You +1’d this publicly. Undo
   On February 3, 2009, Congressman Kucinich introduced H.R. 808 (first introduced July 11, 2001) a bill to create a Cabinet-level Department of Peace and ...

3. Department of Peace - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
   en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Department_of_PeaceCached - Similar
   You +1’d this publicly. Undo
   From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. Jump to: navigation, search. The Department of Peace is a proposed cabinet-level department of the executive branch of ... The history of legislation to ... - Support - Provisions of the Kucinich Bill

4. News for Department of Peace

   Telegraph.co.uk

1. Envoys of peace
   WatertownDailyTimes.com - 2 days ago
   After a stint in the Peace Corps teaching English in Morocco, the ... He was “one of the best of his generation,” retired State Department official ...

5. Americans For Department Of Peace:: Welcome
   www.afdop.org/Cached - Similar
   You +1’d this publicly. Undo
   A citizens' group advocating passage of the Bill to establish a cabinet level U.S. Department of Peace.

6. Department of Peace and Nonviolence Act - GovTrack.us
   www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/110/hr808/textCached
   You +1’d this publicly. Undo
   H.R. 808 (110th): Department of Peace and Nonviolence Act.

7. 'US Department of Peace' may never get its chance -
   Washington Post
   www.washingtonpost.com/..._department-of-peace.../gIQAJg4iYU_sto...
   You +1’d this publicly. Undo
   May 18, 2012 – With Rep. Dennis Kucinich’s departure from the House, the prospects for a “U.S. Department of Peace” are looking even less likely than usual.

8. Peace Department Proposal Rattles Small Town : NPR
   www.npr.org › News › USSimilar
   You +1’d this publicly. Undo
   Mar 24, 2007 – When a Minnesota women's group joined a national campaign to establish a U.S. Department of Peace, they triggered fears in their small, rural ...

9. Welcome to the Maryland Campaign for a U.S. Department of Peace!
   www.dopmd.org/Cached - Similar
   You +1’d this publicly. Undo
   DOPMD.org seeks to inform, inspire, and impel Marylanders to lobby their Congresspersons and Senators to support Department of Peace legislation.

10.
"Eleven years ago today, I introduced legislation to establish a Cabinet-level Department of Peace and Non ..."