

# Senators who backed Syria resolution got 83 per cent more defense lobby money than those who voted against it, campaign finance numbers show

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Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [US NATO War Agenda](#)

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**By David Martosko**

Wednesday's 10-7 vote in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee supporting an authorization of military attacks on Syria may have been affected by varying levels of financial support the senators got from political action committees representing the defense industry, and from the companies' employees.

On average, a 'yes'-voting senator received 83 per cent more money from defense contractors than one who voted 'no.'

The resolution in its current form would endorse Obama administration-led strikes against Syria for up to 90 days, following revelations that the regime of dictator Bashar al-Assad used a nerve gas weapon against civilians as part of a brutal civil war.

The resolution would not authorize the deployment of ground forces, but MailOnline reported Wednesday that the Pentagon has already estimated the need for 75,000 troops to secure Syria's vast supplies of chemical weapons and the factories that produce them.



A single Tomahawk cruise missile can cost up to \$1.4 million, making even a limited series of strikes on Syrian targets an expensive proposition. Defense contractors and their lobbyists use campaign cash to persuade lawmakers to spend more and more

**Complete Daily Mail Article:**  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2412709/Senators-backed-Syria-resolution-got-83-cent-defense-lobby-money.html#ixzz2e52eqGWi>

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## WHO GOT THE DEFENSE DOLLARS, AND HOW THEY VOTED ON SYRIA

The Center for Responsive Politics tracks financial donations to political candidates from individuals, companies and political committees. Its data show that over a 5-year period, most of the \$1,006,887 that flowed from the defense lobby to senators who weighed in on Wednesday's war powers resolution went to those who cast 'yes' votes.

On average, those 'yes' votes came after \$72,850 in defense-contractor campaign dollars, while a 'no' vote followed just \$39,270.

Here's how it stacked up.

### YES VOTES

- \$176,300 – John McCain (R-AZ)
- \$127,350 – Dick Durbin (D-IL)
- \$101,025 – Tim Kaine (D-VA)
- \$80,550 – Ben Cardin (D-MD)
- \$70,850 – Bob Corker (R-TN)
- \$60,000 – Bob Menendez (D-NJ)
- \$41,872 – Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
- \$26,900 – Jeff Flake (R-AZ)

\$24,150 – Barbara Boxer (D-CA)

\$19,500 – Chris Coons (D-DE)

## **NO VOTES**

\$86,500 – John Barrasso (R-WY)

\$62,790 – Marco Rubio (R-FL)

\$59,250 – Chris Murphy (D-CT)

\$19,250 – Ron Johnson (R-WI)

\$18,700 – Tom Udall (D-NM)

\$17,900 – Rand Paul (R-KY)

\$14,000 – Jim Risch (R-ID)

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