

National Legislation Report – Trumpeter, June – July - August 2025 – Submitted by Gail Headley Farrace - Co-Chair National Legislation –

Due to Break for several months – A fair amount of this information starting in June is old news - and still considered of interest.

For Links - Use “Control” key plus click on link.

One Big Beautiful Bill 'A First Step' to Tackling Waste, Fraud, and Abuse: Panel Experts framed the legislation not just as a policy win, but as a strategic breakthrough with long-term implications.

NTD News Today – Transcript/Excerpt of NTD video.

https://www.ntd.com/a-first-step-panel-discusses-big-beautiful-bill_1077512.html

The Winners are President Trump who deserves credit for pushing the bill through by his July 4th deadline with J. D. Vance’s tie breaking vote and also the American Taxpayers who did not lose their 10% tax cut that Trump got for them in 2018 during his first term.

Those benefits were and are significant – fair across the board, everyone treated the same. In addition to that, low-income people, like hospitality workers relying on tips for income, can get those tips tax free.

People working overtime sometimes refrain from working overtime because the extra overtime income then pushes them into a higher tax bracket – overtime income will now be tax free.

Social security recipients’, 90% of them pay less than \$6,000, a year in taxes now, as a result of this bill, those people will not have to pay any taxes on their social security income.

People who are on Medicaid - There are 70 million people who are collecting Medicaid. When President Trump hired Elon Musk to form DOGE, Elon said there were about ten million people who are not eligible to collect, or who are collecting but they are physically able to work. The new bill says if you are not eligible to collect, then you will not be allowed to collect anymore and if you are physically and mentally able to work, you have got to work at least 20 hours a week. Suppose you cannot find a job, then you can do volunteer work for 20 hours a week. So, this will mean for the 60 million people eligible

for Medicaid, the program is now protected, getting rid of the waste, fraud, and abuse in that program.

In addition, the coming debt ceiling (which in the past has been a crisis, having shut down the government in 2011) there has been a compromise, and the debt ceiling has been raised.

From a security angle, we cannot afford to lose the progress we have made under President Trump on the border. There is now money for the building of the border wall and border patrol, which will help stop illegal immigrants from coming into the country. Under Biden's control, there were 20 million illegal immigrants. We are still dealing with the problem of deportation. This bill will add more to ICE which is incredibly important. Now we have 7,000 ice agents, we have tens of millions of illegal immigrants who are here. We need more ice agents, we need more border patrol.

The Golden Dome – a vision that Ronald Reagan had back in the 1980's called Star Wars. We did not have the technology in those days, now we do. We have rogue actors who want to get their hands on a nuclear weapon, this plan will help us protect the American people from attack. Israel and other countries in the world have this protection. So, opinion is that the most advanced military in the world (us) should protect our people from attack.

The biggest factor is the tax cuts for the American people. The opinion is that economists, who think when taxes are cut, it will increase the debt, are wrong. Whenever we cut taxes, and we have seen it with Kennedy, Reagan, Bush, Trump, more revenue comes into the government. We incentivize people to work harder and to be more productive and revenue increases for the federal government.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, this bill is going to add trillions of dollars to the country's budget. Opinion is the Budget Office is virtually never right about anything. But, Elon Musk has criticized the bill due to the fact that it does not cut spending to the degree he feels is necessary. Physical conservative Congress members are wary of cutting any significant spending due to the fact that it might hinder the midterm election. With the majority so extremely close, almost nonexistent, the fear of losing the slight majority has held back many physical conservatives from supporting Musk's position, thus the reason for Musk's strong anger, to the degree where he is threatening to start another party, the American Party, to compete with the Democrats and Republicans.

Supreme Court Temporarily Shields DOGE From Freedom of Information Requests *From The Epoch Times-*

By Matthew Vadum - Published: 5/23/2025, 5:37:48 PM EDT – *Excerpt NTN*

The block will remain in effect for the time being, Chief Justice John Roberts ruled.

https://www.ntd.com/supreme-court-temporarily-shields-doge-from-freedom-of-information-requests_1069304.html?utm_source=ref_share&utm_campaign=email_share

The Supreme Court on May 23 temporarily blocked lower court orders requiring the Department of Government Efficiency (**DOGE**) to respond to freedom of information requests in a pending lawsuit.

President Donald Trump issued Executive Order 14158 on Jan. 20, implementing DOGE, an advisory body that recommends cost-cutting measures for federal agencies. The executive order directed the entity to “implement the President’s DOGE Agenda, by modernizing Federal technology and software to maximize governmental efficiency and productivity.”

Chief Justice John Roberts issued what’s called an administrative stay that puts lower court orders on hold while the justices consider how to handle the case. Roberts did not provide reasons for his decision.

The orders issued by the federal district court in Washington “are hereby stayed pending further order of the undersigned or of the Court,” Roberts wrote in his new order.

The case is US DOGE Service v. Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington. In the legal proceeding, **CREW** argued that it needs to know more about DOGE’s operations because DOGE allegedly wields “unprecedented” authority over the government and is doing so under conditions of “unusual secrecy.”

U.S. Solicitor General D. John Sauer filed an emergency application with the Supreme Court in the case on May 21.

DOGE is an advisory body located in the executive branch—as opposed to an agency—so it “is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA),” Sauer wrote.

The Freedom of Information Act, which took effect in 1966, allows individuals “to obtain access to government information in executive branch agency records,” subject to certain exceptions.

“FOIA applies to records created by federal agencies and does not cover records held by Congress, the courts, or state and local government agencies,” a government website says.

Sauer wrote that despite DOGE’s status as an advisory body, the district court ordered it “to submit to sweeping, intrusive discovery just to determine if USDS is subject to FOIA in the first place.” Discovery is a process in which parties in a lawsuit obtain evidence from other parties.

Sauer said the district court’s order “turns FOIA on its head, effectively giving [CREW] a win on the merits of its FOIA suit under the guise of figuring out whether FOIA even applies.”

Moreover, he wrote, the court order “clearly violates the separation of powers, subjecting a presidential advisory body to intrusive discovery and threatening the confidentiality and candor of its advice, putatively to address a legal question that never should have necessitated discovery in this case at all.”

Separation of powers is a constitutional doctrine that divides the government into three branches to prevent any single branch from accumulating too much power.

CREW opposed the government’s emergency application to halt the district court order earlier in the day on May 23 and argued that what the Trump administration “is really seeking is not relief from the district court’s narrowly-tailored discovery order, but rather a ruling on the merits of whether the United States DOGE Service, a new component of the Executive Office of the President, is operating as an ‘agency’ subject to the Freedom of Information Act.”

The brief stated that to obtain information about DOGE’s “secretive structure and operations, CREW submitted an expedited FOIA request to DOGE on January 24, 2025,” but DOGE failed to respond in a timely manner.

CREW then sued, arguing that DOGE is wielding “substantial independent authority,” which effectively makes it an “agency” that is subject to FOIA and the Federal Records Act, according to the brief.

DOGE Official Says They've Found Illegal Immigrants Who Have Voted in US Elections

'My opinion is that this is the tip of the iceberg,' Antonio Gracias says.

By Jack Phillips - Published: 5/23/2025, 9:24:05 AM EDT - *NTD Excerpt*

https://www.ntd.com/doge-official-says-theyve-found-illegal-immigrants-who-have-voted-in-us-elections-1069145.html?utm_source=ref_share&utm_campaign=email_share

A member of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) said in an interview this week that the task force has discovered illegal immigrants who have voted in U.S. elections.

"We have found [illegal immigrants] who actually voted - we already had three arrests in Florida and one indictment," DOGE official Antonio Gracias, an investor who is worth about \$2.2 billion and who also founded Valor Equity Partners, said on the podcast "**All-In.**"

Earlier this year, Gracias was tapped by DOGE and tech billionaire Elon Musk to look into Social Security records and other government data, Musk said in an event last month alongside Gracias. Musk served as an adviser to President Donald Trump and was the de facto head of DOGE, although his time in the government was limited by his status as a special government employee.

"Yes, this is actually true," Gracias said on May 21, responding to a question about whether DOGE has discovered illegal immigrants who were registered to vote in U.S. elections. He cited DOGE's efforts in sampling "a handful of states" and their voter rolls and noted that those records were cross-referenced with the Department of Homeland Security's investigatory arm.

DOGE found that there were illegal immigrants "registered to vote" and that those "people have actually voted," Gracias said. Those people were able to register because they were given Social Security numbers, Gracias said.

"My opinion is that this is the tip of the iceberg," he said, referring to their findings on voter fraud. "How big the iceberg is, I don't know."

Trump established DOGE in January in a bid to root out fraud, waste, and abuse inside the federal government. The task force has a deadline to complete its work by July 4, 2026, but Musk said this month that it may remain for the president's entire second term. While the task force has gone from agency to agency issuing recommendations, it has been blocked in court orders from accessing data and records from several federal entities, including the Social Security Administration and the Treasury Department. Earlier in May, the Trump administration submitted a petition to the U.S. Supreme Court asking it to permit DOGE to access Social Security's systems after a U.S. district judge earlier this year blocked the organization from doing so.

Meanwhile, DOGE said in an April post on social media platform X that nearly 11 million Social Security records for people aged 120 or older have been updated in what it described as a "major cleanup" effort.

Trump in, March, signed an executive order to overhaul how U.S. elections are run, including requiring documentary proof of citizenship to register to vote in federal elections. The order prompted lawsuits from a number of groups, and a federal judge in April blocked portions of his order.

The order said that the Department of Justice in recent years "has failed to prioritize and devote sufficient resources for enforcement of these provisions" or had "actively prevented states from removing aliens from their voter lists."

The Associated Press contributed to this report. - From The Epoch Times

Expert on China's Global Infiltration: 'This Is What World War III Looks Like'

By Fiona Ji - Published: 5/22/2025, 6:41:34 PM EDT – *NTN News Excerpt*

https://www.ntd.com/expert-on-chinas-global-infiltration-this-is-what-world-war-iii-looks-like-1068974.html?utm_source=ref_share&utm_campaign=email_share

Casey Fleming, CEO of BlackOps Partners Corporation, warns that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)'s global espionage and propaganda efforts represent a significant threat, characterizing them as a form of modern warfare.

Fleming's Background and Expertise:

Fleming is the CEO of BlackOps Partners Corporation, a firm specializing in intelligence, strategy, and cybersecurity. He is a recognized expert on national security, asymmetrical

hybrid warfare, and cybersecurity. Fleming advises various entities, including the private sector, government agencies, military, Congress, and academia.

CCP's Global Espionage and Propaganda Efforts:

Fleming highlights the CCP's use of unconventional tactics, including espionage and propaganda, as a means of exerting influence and undermining adversaries. These efforts aim to weaken targeted nations through various means, such as economic espionage, intellectual property theft, and the spread of disinformation. The CCP's strategy encompasses a broad range of activities, from traditional espionage methods to sophisticated cyber operations and influence campaigns.

Espionage:

China's Ministry of State Security (MSS) is considered one of the largest and most active spy agencies globally. The MSS engages in various forms of espionage, including recruiting individuals in the US, as reported by CBS News. The FBI has noted that a significant portion of economic espionage and trade secret theft cases involve conduct benefiting China.

Propaganda:

The CCP utilizes propaganda to promote its narratives, suppress dissenting voices, and exert influence abroad. This includes expanding the reach of state-owned media, disseminating propaganda through foreign outlets, and conducting disinformation campaigns. Social media platforms are used to amplify CCP narratives and spread disinformation, according to the Hudson Institute.

Modern Warfare:

Fleming argues that the CCP's multifaceted approach, including espionage and propaganda, constitutes a form of modern warfare. Modern warfare is characterized by advanced technology, globalization, and asymmetric strategies. It often involves cyber warfare, information warfare, and influence operations alongside conventional military actions.

Concerns and Implications:

Experts, including Fleming, express concerns about the CCP's growing influence and the potential consequences for targeted nations. The CCP's actions raise concerns about the erosion of democratic values, intellectual property theft, and economic destabilization. Countering the CCP's espionage and propaganda efforts requires a comprehensive approach involving intelligence gathering, cybersecurity measures, and public awareness campaigns.

US to Ban Chinese Purchases of US Farmland

Officials from the Department of Agriculture say it's a national security issue

https://ntd.com/us-to-ban-chinese-purchases-of-us-farmland-1077834.html?utm_source=ntddailynoe&src_src=ntddailynoe&utm_campaign=ntd-2025-07-10&src_cmp=ntd-2025-07-10&utm_medium=email

The Trump administration is working to ban Chinese nationals and other adversaries from purchasing U.S. farmland, citing national security concerns. The effort is being led by Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins, who made the announcement on Tuesday. Officials are also working to reclaim land currently owned by Chinese companies. The main concern is not having an American ownership of the domestic food supply. Purchases have also been noted as near U.S. Military bases.

MAHA Scores Big Wins Below Radar (Make America Healthy Again)

Jennifer Galardi | May 22, 2025 – *Excerpt – The Daily Signal*

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<https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/05/22/drama-shadows-recent-maha-wins/>

The past couple of weeks have seen a lot of drama within the Make America Healthy Again movement. Much of the commotion surrounds President Donald Trump's new surgeon general nominee, Dr. Casey Means along with her brother, Calley Means, a special adviser to Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

A few members of the wider MAHA coalition have cited concerns over their involvement in biotech companies, while others condemn their lack of emphasis on vaccines. Predictably, the far-left media is having a field day, running stories better suited to the E! network than serious media outlets.

Amidst all the distractions, however, major MAHA wins are flying under the radar.

FDA Wins

Not only did the Food and Drug Administration mandate that three of the most controversial food dyes be removed from processed food, but the agency will also be conducting a post-market review of all added food chemicals.

In a recent press release, the FDA announced measures to "increase transparency and ensure the safety of chemicals in food." According to the press release, the FDA will roll out a modernized, evidence-based prioritization scheme for reviewing existing chemicals,

initiate a final, systematic post-market review process, and expedite its review of chemicals currently under review.

Barely any legacy media outlet covered these stories, much less applauded them. In a contentious hearing before the House last week, Kennedy had to toot his own horn to Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., who was blasting Kennedy for his consolidation efforts at the Department of Health and Human Services. “Congressman DeLauro, you say that you’ve worked for 20 years on getting food dye out. Give me credit! I got it out in a hundred days!” He repeated his now popular charge, “There’s no such thing as Republican children or Democratic children. There’s just kids and we should all be concerned with them.”

In response to the changes at the FDA, many companies are fast-tracking efforts to comply with new standards. Recently, Tyson Foods announced it will be eliminating petroleum-based dyes by the end of the month. In addition, last week Kennedy ordered the FDA to conduct a complete review of the popular abortion pill mifepristone. According to insurance data, 1 in 10 women experienced a serious adverse event within 45 days of taking the pill, including sepsis, infection, and hemorrhaging.

According to the report, “the real-world rate of serious adverse events following mifepristone abortions is at least 22 times as high as the summary figure of ‘less than 0.5 percent’ in clinical trials reported on the drug label.”

Vaccine Recommendation Changes

The FDA plans to introduce a new review system for future vaccines that would require placebo testing, a huge victory for MAHA supporters.

FDA Commissioner Dr. Marty Makary signaled his support for the move. “We want to see vaccines that are available for high-risk individuals,” Makary said. “And at the same time, we want some good science. We want some good clinical data.”

The agency is focusing on the good data it already has. Years of failed COVID-19 policy preceded years of under reported mRNA side effects and needless injections. Finally, health officials are doing something about it. On May 20, Makary, along with Dr. Vinay Prasad, announced that federal agencies will no longer recommend COVID-19 shots for children and teenagers.

Furthermore, officials have limited recommendations for ongoing shots to high-risk and older individuals. It’s a small step, but it represents a historic reversal of the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention vaccine schedule for kids, which, with only one exception, always grows and never shrinks.

For many years, Trump touted his first-term health campaign, Operation Warp Speed, as a huge success. As a result, many speculated that the president would stymie efforts by Kennedy and others to re-assess the COVID-19 vaccines. But every relevant public statement by the president supports Kennedy's efforts, even if it means rethinking past policies in light of new evidence. Earlier this year, Kennedy also suggested HHS would review the entire childhood vaccine schedule, though, at the moment, this remains a promissory note.

End of Gain-of-Function Research

Another MAHA success came on May 5, when Trump signed an executive order to ban federally funded gain-of-function research on biological agents and pathogens in foreign "countries of concern." Kennedy called the move "a milestone and historic development."

Though the executive order was quite narrow, it's clear that leading health officials recognize the problems with this research wherever it is conducted. "There's no laboratory that does this right, there's no laboratory that's immune from leaks," the HHS secretary commented during the signing.

National Institutes of Health Director Jay Bhattacharya stated, "The conduct of this research does not protect us against pandemics as some people might say. Any nation that engages in this research endangers their own population as well as the world as we saw during the COVID pandemic."

"Gain-of-function is an area of science where scientists really play God," Kennedy told "The Record With Greta Van Susteren." "They're taking pathogenic viruses and they're making them more transmissible, they're making them more virulent, and they're making them more deadly."

Some in the MAHA movement have complained that these policies are too modest—and that may be true. But each represents a reversal of policies that, until recently, elite influencers treated as settled. Among fans of MAHA, the more charitable interpretation is that Kennedy, Makary, and Bhattacharya are wisely choosing an incremental approach. It's easy to forget that they have held their positions for only a few months.

Like much of Trump's agenda, it's been hard to keep pace with these major health policy reforms. However, if the MAHA coalition can stay focused and disciplined, we have every reason for hope that the Trump-Kennedy vision of making America healthier will succeed.

Is Elon Musk 'right' about 'magic money computers': Myth, misunderstanding, or a hidden truth?

Excerpt Epic Times Online Last Updated: Mar 20, 2025

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/magazines/panache/is-elon-musk-right-about-magic-money-computers-myth-misunderstanding-or-a-hidden-truth/articleshow/119264335.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=txt&utm_campaign=cppst

Elon Musk recently claimed that the U.S. government operates 14 'magic money computers' to create money. While experts say his statement is misleading, it raises awareness about government financial systems and Modern Monetary Theory. Authorities assure that there are strict regulations and checks and balances in place to manage inflation and ensure responsible monetary policy.

Elon Musk, the ever-controversial billionaire, has once again ignited a debate—this time, about the very foundation of the U.S. financial system. In a recent podcast appearance with Senator Ted Cruz, Musk claimed that the U.S. government has “14 magic money computers” that create money out of thin air. His comments, delivered with characteristic bluntness, suggest a fundamental flaw in government accounting, comparing it to a company so mismanaged it would be “delisted immediately” if it were public.

The claim set the internet ablaze, with social media users scrambling to decipher whether Musk was exposing a financial conspiracy or simply misrepresenting how government money works.

Is Musk Right About ‘Magic Money Computers’?

The phrase "magic money computers" paints an image of secret government servers conjuring dollars with the push of a button. While that's a compelling narrative, financial experts argue that the reality is far less mystical.

Trump Rightly Defunded PBS and NPR's Long History of Anti-Conservative, Pro-Leftist Content

Carrie Sheffield | May 02, 2025 – *The Daily Signal Excerpt*

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<https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/05/02/trump-rightly-defunded-pbs-nprs-long-history-anti-conservative-leftist-content/>

It was a day that couldn't come soon enough. Thursday night, President Donald Trump signed an executive order ending taxpayer subsidies for National Public Radio and the Public Broadcasting Service—media outlets receiving tens of millions of dollars in taxpayer funds each year to spread biased propaganda falsely labeled as “news.”

I made the case for defunding in The Daily Signal in January, two days after Trump's second inauguration—a celebration that included a speech by Elon Musk expressing his love for America and its people with his hand raised in the air in victory in what PBS falsely labeled “a fascist salute.”

PBS and NPR have a long pattern of biased, anti-American, anti-conservative, and pro-woke slants in their stories. For example, in 2021, NPR declared the Declaration of Independence to be a document with “flaws and deeply ingrained hypocrisies.” In 2022, NPR scrapped its decades-long Independence Day tradition of reading the Declaration of Independence on air to instead discuss “equality.” NPR also slapped an “editor's note” warning that the Declaration of Independence is “a document that contains offensive language.”

The radio giant also once reported on the “cousin of diet culture” known as “healthism, which is the idea that we have to be healthy”—claiming healthy living was a negative. In a project completely unworthy of taxpayer funding, NPR once assigned three reporters to investigate how the thumbs-up emoji is racist. Similarly, NPR suggested doorway sizes are based on “latent fatphobia” and speculated about “the racial origins of fat phobia.”

And flying in the face of mounds of evidence, NPR laughably claimed there is “limited scientific evidence of physical advantage” between male and female athletes. NPR management also reportedly pressured its editors to nix the term “biological sex” in stories on transgender issues. NPR ran an article, complete with cartoon illustration, on “What ‘queer ducks’ can teach teenagers about sexuality in the animal kingdom.” NPR disparagingly referred to pro-life Americans at the March for Life with the slanted description of “anti-abortion rights activists.”

Meanwhile, PBS devoted a panel to what it “mean[s] to be woke” and “white privilege.” Then-PBS White House Correspondent Yamiche Alcindor biasedly described a 2020 patriotic speech by Trump at Mount Rushmore as a love letter to “white resentment” that promoted the “myth of America.”

In 2023, PBS' "Washington Week" roundtable covered up then-President Joe Biden's cognitive decline, with Jeffrey Goldberg of The Atlantic claiming Biden was actually "quite acute." PBS also produced a documentary advocating for reparations for black people.

NPR and PBS practically maintain zero tolerance policies for non-leftist viewpoints. For example, in 2020, NPR refused to cover the Hunter Biden laptop scandal in the run-up to the presidential election, falsely claiming the assertions that the laptop was Biden's "don't amount to much" and the managing editor patronizing its audience with claims that they "don't want to waste the listeners' and readers' time on stories that are just pure distractions." This despite the fact that polling showed if the contents of the laptop were more widely known by the American people, the story could have led to a different outcome in the 2020 election.

When Uri Berliner, a 25-year veteran NPR reporter and editor spoke out about how the network lost America's trust by favoring liberal slants, NPR suspended him. Berliner found that registered Democrats outnumbered Republicans 87 to zero in the NPR newsroom. NPR gave much coverage to the Trump Russian collusion hoax, with Berliner characterizing "[Democratic Rep. Adam] Schiff talking points" as "the drumbeat of NPR news reports."

If that's not bad enough, NPR CEO Katherine Maher claimed Trump was "a racist," posted a photo on X of herself wearing a "Biden for President" campaign hat, serves on the board of a George Soros-funded activist group, and shockingly described "reverence for the truth" as a "distraction."

In 2023, a study found that congressional Republicans saw 85% negative coverage while congressional Democrats saw 54% positive coverage on PBS' flagship news program. According to a 2024 study, PBS news staff used 162 variations of the term "far-right" but only six variations of "far-left."

Media bias rating agency All Sides—which surveyed nearly 24,000 NPR listeners—found NPR's bias aligns with "liberal, progressive, or left-wing thought and/or policy agendas." NPR repeatedly dismissed the theory that COVID-19 originated in a lab - a conclusion now deemed likely by the FBI, CIA, and Department of Energy.

A 2024 Media Research Center study found that PBS' coverage of the Republican National Convention was 72% negative while coverage of the Democratic National Convention was 88% positive.

While the Left will howl about these funding cuts, it is important to note that cutting public funding is not the same thing as restricting the First Amendment. Trump is not stopping these outlets from producing content, which is even more heavily subsidized through private donations, including from individuals and foundations.

Rubio to Slash or Consolidate More Than 300 State Department Offices

By Bradley Devlin | May 29, 2025 – *Excerpt – The Dailey Signal*

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/05/29/rubio-to-slash-or-consolidate-more-than-300-state-department-offices/>

Secretary of State Marco Rubio is moving quickly on President Donald Trump's directive to overhaul the State Department and has notified Congress of plans to eliminate or consolidate more than 300 offices.

Rubio notified Congress of some of the plan's particulars. The elimination or consolidation of more than 300 department offices amounts to nearly 45% of the State Department's stateside offices, according to a document shared with The Daily Signal by a senior State Department official.

The document outlines that these bureaus will focus on energy and technology, humanitarian affairs, internal operations, foreign assistance, strategy, and security, respectively. Some offices that have authorities spread across these domains will be broken up and absorbed by other offices within the respective bureaus. Cybersecurity and defense issues and digital freedom issues, for example, will be moved out of the Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy.

Rubio released a statement after transmitting the plan to Congress. "Over the past quarter century, the domestic operations of the State Department have grown exponentially, resulting in more bureaucracy, higher costs, and fewer results for the American people," Rubio said. "Since my first day as Secretary, I have said that this Department must move at the speed of relevancy and, in April announced a broad reorganization of the Department to better achieve that goal. Today, we took the next step in that process by notifying Congress of how we plan to do that."

"The plan submitted to Congress was the result of thoughtful and deliberative work by senior Department leadership," Rubio's statement continued. "We have taken into account feedback from lawmakers, bureaus, and long-serving employees. The

reorganization plan will result in a more agile Department, better equipped to promote America's interests and keep Americans safe across the world."

As Rubio suggests in his statement, he announced the "comprehensive reorganization plan" in April, which the secretary characterized at the time as an aggressive effort to "bring the department into the 21st Century."

Before Rubio's time in Foggy Bottom, the State Department had nearly 750 offices. These offices often had duplicative or overlapping authorities and responsibilities. In April's preliminary plans, the State Department was aiming to close 132 offices and consolidate 137 more. The closure or consolidation of these offices would come with massive staffing changes as well: Rubio ordered undersecretaries and other top officials to develop plans to cut their respective staff by 15%.

With the closure and consolidation of more than 300 offices, Rubio's reorganization overshot its April target.

Rubio's effort looks to rightsize a department that has tripled in size over the last 25 years.

Judge blocks Harvard student ban

By Jake Perez, Editor at *LinkedIn News*

<https://www.linkedin.com/news/story/judge-blocks-harvard-student-ban-6879009/>

A Federal judge in Boston temporarily blocked the Trump administration's move to ban foreign students from enrolling at Harvard University on Friday, shortly after the school filed a lawsuit against the measure. The Department of Homeland Security declared Thursday that "Harvard can no longer enroll foreign students and existing foreign students must transfer or lose their legal status." The order by Judge Allison Burroughs prevents the DHS revocation from taking effect until a court hearing is held. Harvard President Alan Garber said the administration's "unlawful" action "imperils the futures of thousands of students."

BOOKMARK – Epoch Times

The Trump administration is giving Harvard University 30 days to submit evidence refuting allegations that it collaborated with the Chinese Communist Party, or else it will no longer be allowed to enroll foreign students. Among other allegations, the government says Harvard "hosted and trained" members of the Chinese paramilitary groups it says were "complicit in the Uyghur genocide" in China's Xinjiang region.

Jonathan Turley says Trump admin ‘going to prevail’ in legal ‘war of attrition’ against Harvard

May 29, 2025 | Harold Hutchison | *Excerpt - BPR Business and Politics – Dailey Caller News Foundation.*

<https://www.bizpacreview.com/2025/05/29/jonathan-turley-says-trump-admin-going-to-prevail-in-legal-war-of-attrition-against-harvard-1547283/>

George Washington University law professor, Jonathan Turley, predicted that Harvard University would eventually lose its legal battles with the Trump administration, Thursday on “Fox and Friends.”

Secretary of Education, Linda McMahon, announced May 6 that Harvard would not receive future grants, saying the Ivy League university displayed a “systemic pattern of violating federal law,” citing its failure to address the antisemitic harassment, and its efforts to continue using race as a factor for admissions. Turley said the sheer number of actions taken by the university would eventually allow the Trump administration to “prevail.”

The thing to remember about higher education is, a foreign student, is something of a meal ticket for universities,” Turley told “Fox and Friends” co-host Brian Kilmeade, “Most of them pay the full rate, full tuition, so universities have been eager to get them because they represent a significant financial component for them. When you are also squeezing grants, even a university of size of Harvard begins to feel that on the bottom line.”

The Department of Homeland Security terminated Harvard University’s Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) certification May 22, citing the Ivy League school’s failure to address antisemitism and its failure to provide accurate data on funds from foreign sources.

“I think that the administration is going to prevail on much of this, if not all of it,” Turley added. “I have been critical of some of the moves of the administration towards Harvard. But, the administration does have discretion in these areas on grants. They have discretion on granting these visas, but more importantly this is a war of attrition and in that war, Harvard could win a lot of these court cases and still lose. They are not in a good position to go toe-to-toe with the administration over the next three years when they’re being drained of these resources.”

Since the Oct. 7, 2023, attack by the radical Islamic terrorist group Hamas that killed over 1,200 people in Israel, pro-Hamas protesters have occupied buildings, chanted a slogan that has connotations of wiping out Israel and blocked Jewish students from parts of campus at multiple universities, including Harvard.

The Trump administration is also moving to end all contracts with Harvard as of Tuesday. A letter from the General Services Administration pointed to ongoing issues with antisemitism and race-based policies on campus as grounds for terminating grants and federal contracts.

Tariffs Temporarily Reinstated by Appeals Court, Reversing Lower Court Order

The ruling is a reversal of a lower court order a day earlier.

https://www.theepochtimes.com/us/trumps-tariffs-temporarily-reinstated-by-appeals-court-reversing-lower-court-order-5865184?utm_campaign=socialshare_email&utm_source=email

A federal appeals court on Thursday temporarily paused a lower court ruling that struck down President Donald Trump's tariffs on a wide range of countries.

In its decision, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit granted the federal government's request for an immediate administrative stay of the U.S. Court of International Trade's order on Wednesday "while this court considers the motions papers."

Both the plaintiffs and defendants in the case were directed by the appeals court "to immediately inform this court of any action taken by the Court of International Trade on the United States's pending stay motions," it said.

The Trump administration earlier in the day told the federal appeals court in a filing that it would seek emergency relief with the US. Supreme Court as soon as Friday if it did not act quickly to pause the lower court decision. On Wednesday, a panel of three judges with the International Trade Court ruled that Trump had exceeded his authority by issuing sweeping tariffs under an emergency-powers law, siding with plaintiffs in a lawsuit filed against the administration.

"The Worldwide and Retaliatory Tariff Orders exceed any authority granted to the President by IEEPA to regulate importation by means of tariffs," Wednesday's court

decision stated, making reference to the 1977 International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

The U.S. Court of International Trade is a federal court that deals specifically with civil lawsuits involving international trade law. While tariffs must generally be approved by Congress, Trump has said that he has the power to act to address the trade deficits he calls a national emergency.

The lawsuit was filed by a group of small businesses, including a wine importer, V.O.S. Selections, whose owner has said the tariffs are having a major impact and his company may not survive. A dozen states also followed suit, led by Oregon.

In response to the lower court order, lawyers for the government said in papers Thursday the decision is an “unprecedented and legally indefensible injunction permanently barring the United States from implementing tariffs involving dozens of countries, from the United Kingdom to the People’s Republic of China to the European Union.”

Those tariffs, the government contended, “are central to the President’s foreign-policy and economic agendas” and added the order would block “efforts to eliminate our exploding trade deficit and reorient the global economy on an equal footing.”

“America cannot function if President Trump—or any other president, for that matter—has their sensitive diplomatic or trade negotiations railroaded by activist judges,” White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt told reporters on Thursday. “Ultimately, the Supreme Court must put an end to this for the sake of our Constitution and our country.”

Leavitt added that it’s up to the Supreme Court to “put an end to this for the sake of our Constitution and our country.”

On April 2, Trump imposed tariffs on most countries in the world in an effort to reverse America’s massive and long-standing trade deficits. He earlier placed levies on imports from Canada, China, and Mexico to combat the illegal flow of immigrants and the synthetic opioids across the U.S. border.

Many of the higher, reciprocal tariffs were placed on hold for 90 days, although the rates were increased for China to 145 percent. Earlier in May, he announced that Beijing and Washington had come to an agreement to lower their respective tariff rates by 115 percent each.

Last week, Trump announced he would implement a 50 percent tariff on EU imports starting in June but announced that decision was delayed until July while discussions are being held.

Despite what the courts decide in the case, investment bank Goldman Sachs said that the Trump administration could still implement tariffs under different sections of the 1977 trade law.

“The administration could quickly replace the 10 percent across-the-board tariff with a similar tariff of up to 15 percent under” another section, Goldman Sachs analysts said Thursday.

Michael Zezas, Morgan Stanley’s global head of fixed income and thematic research, told Bloomberg News that Trump can use another legal means to implement a new tariff regime.

“The tariff levels that we had yesterday are probably going to be the tariff levels that we have tomorrow, because there are so many different authorities the administration can reach into to put it back together,” Zezas said.

Defendants in the case were directed by the Federal Circuit Appeals Court to respond by June 9, while the plaintiffs were asked to reply to the Trump administration’s motions for a stay in the case no later than June 5.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

David Hogg caught in undercover sting spilling on the one ‘shadowy’ figure who controlled Biden’s WH

May 29, 2025 | Nicole Haas *Excerpt BPR Politics*

<https://www.bizpacreview.com/2025/05/29/david-hogg-caught-in-undercover-sting-spilling-on-the-one-shadowy-figure-who-controlled-bidens-wh-1547327/>

The DNC is preparing to give David Hogg the boot, and he’s out there spilling the beans. The former DNC vice chair was chatting it up with Deterrian Jones, a former Biden staffer, when the two were caught in undercover footage by Project Veritas.

“Jill Biden’s chief of staff had an enormous amount of power,” Hogg allegedly told a Project Veritas undercover reporter, referring to Anthony Bernal. “He’s a shadowy, Wizard of Oz-

type figure ... He wielded an enormous amount of power. I can't stress to you how much power he had at the White House," added Jones.

The allegations come as the Trump administration investigates who was behind Joe Biden's infamous "autopen" and as several books are released slamming Biden's shadowy presidency.

The undercover clip garnered plenty of eyes and reaction from those who "love to see" the corrupt Democrat Party implode.

Commentary

Why Did the Liberal Justices Write Unanimous Conservative Rulings at the Supreme Court?

Tyler O'Neil | June 05, 2 – *Excerpt The Dailey Signal*

|

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/06/05/why-did-liberal-justices-write-unanimous-conservative-rulings-supreme-court/>

The Supreme Court handed down three blockbuster rulings Thursday focused on hot-button cultural issues, and all three of them went in the conservative direction.

That's not exactly a surprise—the court has a conservative majority, after all. The first real surprise was that the rulings were unanimous. The second real surprise? Each of the court's three liberal justices wrote one of the opinions.

Justice Elena Kagan, a Barack Obama appointee, wrote the opinion in *Smith & Wesson v. Mexico*, upholding the rights of U.S. gun manufacturers from Mexico's attempt to sue them, blaming them for abetting cartel violence.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor, another Obama appointee, wrote the opinion in *Catholic Charities v. Wisconsin Labor and Industry Review Commission*, defending a Catholic nonprofit from Wisconsin's attempt to tax it.

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, the Joe Biden appointee, wrote the opinion in *Ames v. Ohio Department of Youth Services*, upholding the rights of a straight woman (Marlene Ames) who claimed her employer discriminated against her because she wasn't gay.

The Supreme Court's decision to release this trifecta of heartening rulings, each one unanimous and each one written by a different liberal justice, seems an intentional statement of solidarity, but I fear something else might be happening behind the scenes.

The justices don't always see eye-to-eye, but in these cases, at least, they all agreed to uphold the plain text of the law, following the tenets of judicial originalism—or so it seems.

According to originalism, judges should interpret the law based on the original public meaning of the law's text at the time it was passed. This theory conflicts with the "living Constitution" framework, where judges interpret the law based on their modern interpretation of the intentions of the original law. That loose framework led to court rulings such as *Roe v. Wade*, the now-overturned 1973 case in which the court claimed the Constitution protected abortion.

For instance, the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals had ruled against the straight woman in the Ames case, applying a "background circumstances" rule that required a higher threshold for members of "majority groups" (versus minority groups) to prove that they had faced discrimination. This "background circumstances" rule wasn't part of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Justice Clarence Thomas, in his concurrence, noted that judges had created the rule, and Jackson's opinion Thursday rightly struck it down.

Judges applying the "living Constitution" model would say that so-called reverse discrimination—where someone discriminates against a straight person for being straight at a time when most people in the society identify as straight—is a wrongful application of laws initially meant to grant more rights to minorities.

The court's three liberal justices have routinely twisted the law to favor leftist causes, straining to find any excuse to uphold the claims of women, racial minorities, LGBTQ+ people, or whichever leftist group is most relevant at the time.

Heritage Foundation Senior Legal Fellow Giancarlo Canaparo recently highlighted Jackson's double standard when it came to participation in the political process.

In the case *Allen v. Milligan*, Jackson vociferously defended people's right to participate in the political process. During oral arguments, she slammed the state of Alabama for failing to create an additional majority-black congressional district.

Yet in *Libby v. Fecteau*, Jackson voted against granting relief to Laurel Libby, a conservative member of the Maine House of Representatives. The Democrat majority had barred Libby from voting on any bills because she condemned a transgender policy

allowing a boy to compete on a girls' sports team. Jackson voted against granting Libby relief because she had "not asserted that there are any significant votes scheduled in the coming weeks [or] that there are any upcoming votes in which Libby's participation would impact the outcome."

In other words, Jackson seems to consider participation in the political process a fundamental right for a black group of voters but not a fundamental right for someone concerned about women's sports. After all, this is the justice who strained to support racial preferences and refused to answer the question, "What is a woman?" during her Senate confirmation hearing.

While the Supreme Court issues many unanimous rulings, it is rare to see unanimous rulings on hot-button issues like guns and "reverse" discrimination.

Perhaps the Democrat-appointed justices truly believe that the gun companies, Catholic Charities, and Marlene Ames were in the right. Perhaps these rulings suggest those justices are finally willing to consider the law rather than use it to force their leftist preferences on us. Color me skeptical on that point.

I consider it far more likely that Kagan, the craftiest of the three, orchestrated this trifecta of rulings as a strategy. The next time conservatives fault Sotomayor, Jackson, or her for an ideologically skewed ruling, Kagan can point to these opinions as evidence of their "fairmindedness."

Either that, or the liberal justices traded their votes in these cases in order to derail one or more of the remaining hot-button case decisions coming down the pike. I celebrate these cases, but they also make me nervous. What's really going on behind the scenes?

‘BLATANTLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL’: Mike Lee Takes Action to Restrain ‘Whims’ of Judges Blocking Trump Orders

Tyler O'Neil | March 25, 2025 – *Excerpt The Dailey Signal*

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/03/25/blatantly-unconstitutional-mike-lee-takes-action-restrain-whims-judges-blocking-trump-orders/>

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Tyler O'Neil is senior editor at The Daily Signal and the author of two books: "Making Hate Pay: The Corruption of the Southern Poverty Law Center," and "The Woketopus: The Dark Money Cabal Manipulating the Federal Government."

Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, filed a new bill Monday aiming to restrain the district court judges that have been issuing restraining orders blocking President Donald Trump's agenda.

"America's government cannot function if the legitimate orders of our commander-in-chief can be overridden at the whim of a single district court judge," Lee said in a statement on the bill's introduction.

Left-leaning activist groups have filed lawsuits blocking Trump's executive orders and other actions, and critics say the groups effectively pick the judges in the cases by selecting favorable jurisdictions in which to sue. In the name of providing temporary relief to injured parties, judges have issued temporary restraining orders and injunctions, ordering the administration not to implement the executive orders.

Critics say this process stymies the president from carrying out his constitutional duties and effectively places judges in control of the executive branch. Lee said the judges "have presumed to run the military, the civil service, foreign aid, and HR departments across the Executive Branch—blatantly unconstitutional overreach."

Judges have stayed Trump's executive actions freezing foreign aid, firing executive branch employees, changing civil service rules, declaring people with gender dysphoria (the painful and persistent condition of identifying with the gender opposite one's biological sex) unfit for military service, and more.

"This legislation will create a judicial panel to expedite Supreme Court review of these blanket injunctions, preventing unelected radicals in robes from sabotaging the separation of powers," Lee added. The Restraining Judicial Insurrectionists Act of 2025 establishes a three-judge panel to swiftly review injunctions or other forms of declaratory relief against the president and the executive branch, with a quick appeal process to the Supreme Court.

The bill, first reported on by the Washington Examiner, amends 28 USC 2284 to state that any action seeking injunctive or declaratory relief against the executive branch will go to a three-judge district court. The district judge who received the complaint or motion for preliminary injunction will refer the matter to the chief justice, who oversees the judiciary. The chief justice will select three judges to preside over the case.

A majority of the judges must agree to issue any form of relief, preliminary or permanent. All orders of this temporary court would be directly appealable to the Supreme Court without discretion—the nation's highest court would be required to take up the case.

Trump's opponents have criticized the president and other Republicans for calling for judicial impeachment as a remedy for the injunctions, but Lee's bill would provide a solution from within the judicial branch. Furthermore, Congress has the authority to make changes to the judicial branch like the ones Lee has proposed, so this bill arguably does not represent a threat to the separation of powers.

Biden White House Had Third Autopen Signature, Oversight Project Finds

Fred Lucas | June 05, 2025 - *Excerpt – The Dailey Signal*

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/06/05/biden-white-house-had-third-autopen-signature-oversight-project-finds/>

The Oversight Project has discovered a third autopen signature used to sign presidential proclamations for former President Joe Biden, the watchdog group's president, Mike Howell, said Thursday. "We previously disclosed there were two autopen signatures," Howell said in an interview with "The Sean Hannity Show" on talk radio. "So, think about it as two versions of the same signatures, applied over and over again. Now today, we've discovered a third autopen signature that was used on proclamations."

The discovery comes as President Donald Trump has directed the Justice Department to investigate the autopen matter. The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee is also investigating.

Biden was in apparent cognitive decline during his presidency, as journalists Jake Tapper and Alex Thompson document in their book "Original Sin," and as suggested by former special counsel Robert Hur's report in early 2024. If people who worked under Biden signed his name without his authorization, it would be the usurpation of authority of a duly elected president.

"We've listed the statutes that are implicated. They basically revolve around forgery, impersonation of a government official; in some instances, potentially bribery, because there is a lot of money flying around these issues," Howell told Hannity. He added, "I think President Trump will ultimately waive executive privilege in this investigation so those officials cannot hide behind it. It's going to be a lengthy legal battle."

Howell further said that the anonymous sources in the Tapper and Thompson book will likely have to be revealed, noting that the Supreme Court ruled in the 1972 case of

Branzburg v. Hayes that the First Amendment does not protect a reporter's confidential sources. "I've got news for Jake Tapper and Alex Thompson. They are going to have to give up that information and those names," Howell said. "There is no right to hide sources in a criminal conspiracy. That is what we are talking about here." The Office of Joe and Jill Biden did not immediately respond to an inquiry from The Daily Signal for this report.

Elon Musk leaving Trump administration, capping turbulent tenure.

By Nandita Bose, David Shepardson and Gram Slattery -
May 29, 2025 – **Excerpt Reuters**

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us/elon-musk-leaving-trump-administration-white-house-official-confirms-2025-05-29/>

WASHINGTON, May 28 (Reuters) - Billionaire Tesla (TSLA.O), opens new tab CEO Elon Musk is leaving the Trump administration after leading a tumultuous efficiency drive, during which he upended several federal agencies but ultimately failed to deliver the generational savings he had sought.

His "off-boarding will begin tonight," a White House official told Reuters late Wednesday, confirming Musk's departure from government. Musk earlier on Wednesday took to his social media platform X to thank President Donald Trump as his time as a special government employee with the Department of Government Efficiency draws to an end. His departure was quick and unceremonious. He did not have a formal conversation with Trump before announcing his exit, according to a source with knowledge of the matter, who added that his departure was decided "at a senior staff level."

While the precise circumstances of his exit were not immediately clear, he leaves a day after criticizing Trump's marquee tax bill, calling it too expensive and a measure that would undermine his work with the U.S. DOGE Service.

Some senior White House officials, including Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller, were particularly irked by those comments, and the White House was forced to call Republican senators to reiterate Trump's support for the package, a source familiar with the matter said. While Musk remains close to the president, his exit comes after a gradual, but steady slide in standing.

After Trump's inauguration, the billionaire quickly emerged as a powerful force in Trump's orbit: hyper-visible, unapologetically brash and unfettered by traditional norms. At the

Conservative Political Action Conference in February, he brandished a red metallic chainsaw to wild cheers. "This is the chainsaw for bureaucracy," he declared.

On the campaign trail, Musk had said DOGE would be able to cut at least \$2 trillion in federal spending. DOGE currently estimates its efforts have saved \$175 billion so far, a number Reuters was not able to independently verify. Musk did not hide his animus for the federal workforce, and he predicted that revoking "the COVID-era privilege" of telework would trigger "a wave of voluntary terminations that we welcome."

But some cabinet members who initially embraced Musk's outsider energy grew wary of his tactics, sources said. Over time, they grew more confident pushing back against his job cuts, encouraged by Trump's reminder in early March that staffing decisions rested with department secretaries, not with Musk.

Musk clashed with three of Trump's most senior cabinet members - Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy and Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent. He called Trump's trade adviser Peter Navarro a "moron" and "dumber than a sack of bricks." Navarro dismissed the insults, saying, "I've been called worse."

At the same time, Musk began to hint that his time in government would come to a close, while expressing frustration at times that he could not more aggressively cut spending. In an April 22 Tesla conference call, he signaled he would be significantly scaling back his government work to focus on his businesses.

"The federal bureaucracy situation is much worse than I realized," Musk told The Washington Post this week. "I thought there were problems, but it sure is an uphill battle trying to improve things in D.C., to say the least."

DOGE GOES ON

Musk's 130-day mandate as a special government employee in the Trump administration was set to expire around May 30. The administration has said DOGE's efforts to restructure and shrink the federal government will continue.

Several cabinet secretaries are already discussing with the White House how to proceed without further alienating Congressional Republicans. But even as department heads will keep some DOGE infrastructure in place, they will likely move to reassert control over budgets and staffing, sources have told Reuters. "The DOGE mission will only strengthen over time as it becomes a way of life throughout the government," Musk said.

Trump and DOGE have managed to cut nearly 12%, or 260,000, of the 2.3 million-strong federal civilian workforce largely through threats of firings, buyouts and early retirement offers, a Reuters review of agency departures found.

At the same time, DOGE has hit a number of roadblocks, with federal courts at times propping back up agencies shortly after DOGE had moved to eliminate them. In some cases, staff and funding cuts have led to purchasing bottlenecks, increased costs and a brain drain of scientific and technological talent.

The most recent source of friction came on Tuesday when Musk criticized the price tag of Republicans' tax and budget legislation making its way through Congress. "I was disappointed to see the massive spending bill, frankly, which increases the budget deficit, not just decreases it, and undermines the work that the DOGE team is doing," Musk told CBS News.

One source said the billionaire's decision to trash Trump's bill on television deeply upset senior White House aides. His political activities have drawn protests and some investors have called for him to leave his work as Trump's adviser and more closely manage Tesla, which has seen falls in sales and its stock price.

Musk, the world's richest person, has defended his role as an unelected official who was granted unprecedented authority by Trump to dismantle parts of the U.S. government. Having spent nearly \$300 million to back Trump's presidential campaign and other Republicans last year, he said earlier this month he would substantially cut his political spending. "I think I've done enough," Musk said at an economic forum in Qatar. Reporting by Nandita Bose, David Shepardson and Kanjyik Ghosh.

Trump-Musk Feud Escalates Over Spending Bill: 5 Things to Know - A public war of words erupted over the Trump-backed One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

By Jack Phillips - Published: 6/5/2025, 4:26:51 PM EDT – *Excerpt The Epic Times*

https://www.ntd.com/trump-musk-feud-escalates-over-spending-bill-5-things-to-know-1071908.html?utm_source=ref_share&utm_campaign=email_share

A public feud between Tesla CEO Elon Musk and President Donald Trump took a turn for the worse on Thursday, with the tech billionaire claiming that the president wouldn't have won without him and the president suggesting that Musk's subsidies could be pulled.

Just moments before, President Trump told reporters in the White House that he was disappointed in Musk's comments about the One Big Beautiful Bill, which the Tesla CEO has harshly criticized on social media.

Trump Says Musk Subsidies Could be Terminated

Hours after the Oval Office comments, in a post on Truth Social, Trump wrote that "the easiest way to save money in our Budget, Billions and Billions of Dollars, is to terminate Elon's Governmental Subsidies and Contracts."

He added that he "was always surprised that [President Joe] Biden didn't do it!"

While the president didn't go into detail, Musk's companies including Tesla and SpaceX have received billions of dollars in government subsidies, tax credits, contracts, and loans over the years. A report from the Washington Post earlier this year said around \$38 billion in government funding stretching back nearly 20 years has been given to Musk's companies.

In comments last year, Musk said subsidies make up only a small portion of Tesla's revenue and that SpaceX doesn't get any. "Do some research - SpaceX gets no subsidies and received half as much as Boeing for astronaut transport, but did 100 percent of the work," Musk wrote in response to an account that claimed those companies receive significant government funding.

"As for Tesla, take a minute to read our public filings and you will see that EV incentives represent a minor part of our revenue," he added. "On the other hand, oil & gas companies get massive tax breaks that exceed those given to the EV industry by several orders of magnitude. Wake up."

Musk Says He Propped up Trump, GOP

That prompted a comment from Musk, who said that "without me, Trump would have lost the election, Dems would control the House and the Republicans would be 51-49 in the Senate" in a post on X. "Such ingratitude," he added.

Musk poured tens of millions of dollars into the 2024 presidential race after endorsing Trump, appearing alongside the Republican nominee in the closing weeks of the contest. President Trump named Musk to lead the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) to slash billions of dollars in what the administration says is fraud, waste, and abuse in the federal government.

Trump-Musk Relationship Up in the Air

At one point during his comments to reporters, President Trump said that he "always liked Elon and so I was very surprised" by his comments on the bill, which the president

supports. “You saw the words he had for me, and he hasn’t said anything about me that’s bad. I’d rather have him criticize me than the bill. Because the bill is incredible,” the president said. Then he asserted that “Elon and I had a great relationship” and added, “I don’t know if we will anymore.” He later told reporters he was “very disappointed in Elon” and that “I’ve helped Elon a lot.” The president’s comment comes after Musk has been sharply critical of the bill on social media for the past several days, at one point calling the measure a “disgusting abomination” that drew pushback from congressional Republicans and House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.).

Trump Suggests Criticism Based on EV Credits

On Thursday, Trump told reporters that he believes Musk was not happy about a portion of the bill that would slash federal subsidies for electric vehicles, which would possibly create problems for Musk’s electric vehicle company. He also suggested that Musk wasn’t happy with his decision to remove the nomination of Jared Isaacman to lead NASA after Musk had recommended him for the role. But the president said that he wanted someone else to lead the space agency because Isaacman “happened to be a Democrat, like totally Democrat.”

President Trump also said Musk was familiar with the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which Musk said was a false statement on X. He added that he was never shown the bill.

Musk, who called it the “Big Ugly Bill,” added that officials could “keep the EV/solar incentives cuts in the bill, also cut all the crazy spending increases in the Big Ugly Bill so that America doesn’t go bankrupt.”

Earlier in the week, Johnson told reporters that Musk may be opposed to the bill because it contains language that terminates electric vehicle tax credits. “I know that the EV mandate is very important to him; that is going away because the government should not be subsidizing these things as part of the Green New Deal,” Johnson said. “I know that has an effect on his business and I lament that. We talked about the ramp down period on that and how that should be duly considered by Congress.”

Musk Says Bill Will Cause Deficit to Skyrocket

In a post on X Tuesday, Musk said the bill will cause the U.S. budget deficit to skyrocket. “I’m sorry, but I just can’t stand it anymore,” he wrote in a post on X. “This massive, outrageous, pork-filled Congressional spending bill is a disgusting abomination. Shame on those who voted for it: you know you did wrong. You know it.”

In a follow-up post, Musk said that the budget reconciliation package, which is called the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, “will massively increase the already gigantic budget deficit to \$2.5 trillion (!!!) and burden America citizens with crushingly unsustainable debt.”

The White House on Tuesday offered a response to Musk’s comment, saying Trump is sticking to supporting the bill and that his opinion won’t be changed.

From The Epoch Times

Here’s Why There Are So Many Mexican Flags at the LA ICE Riots - Jarrett Stepman | June 12, 2025 – *Excerpt The Daily Signal*

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<https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/06/12/heres-why-there-are-so-many-mexican-flags-at-the-la-ice-riots/>

If you are protesting and rioting to remain in the United States, why wave a Mexican flag?

That’s the question frequently being asked as Los Angeles continues to be wracked by violent protests that began in opposition to Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids in Southern California. As many have noted, it’s probably not the best look for any protest group demanding to remain in America to wave the flag of a foreign country.

But reality is that the mass Mexican flag-waving isn’t just a PR blunder. They aren’t just waving those flags because they don’t want to be deported back to Mexico. The message they are sending is often not even pro-immigration, but bizarrely nativist.

Mexico’s Senate president made a somewhat more measured argument that Los Angeles and the American Southwest should be a part of Mexico.

Even the noted public intellectual and acclaimed astronaut Katy Perry took to social media to exclaim how Los Angeles was “founded by Mexican settlers in 1781” and that it was “Mexican land.” That’s curious since Mexico didn’t exist until 1821 when it declared independence from Spain.

This is all reflective of a viewpoint that’s common in California and south of the border. They don’t want to go back to Mexico; they want California to be Mexico or perhaps become part of some kind of larger ethnostate based on Aztlan—the mythical nation of the Aztecs. This general ethos about California being Mexican land goes by many names, though it’s often referred to as “La Reconquista.” The idea being that Mexicans and Latin

Americans have an Indigenous right to California and other Western states annexed during the Mexican-American War. They have a right to take it back, the thinking goes. It's in part an ethnic solidarity movement that's often been fused with socialist or Marxist ideology.

Take, for instance, Ron Gochez, one of the prominent organizers of the LA protests. As prominent X user "Data Republican" posted, Gochez is a "self-proclaimed revolutionary who called for a revolution to take land back from 'white racist people.'" Gochez is not just a community organizer; he is a teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District who quite openly pushes far-left ideas in his classrooms. He's also a member of the Union del Barrio, a Marxist revolutionary group. Gochez was interviewed by Democracy Now! about the LA protests and he said that this is "ancestral land" of "Indigenous people" that was unjustly taken by the United States. "For us as Indigenous people to these lands, to this continent, this is nothing new," Gochez said to Democracy Now! "The military going after us is nothing new. The United States in this part of the country is the result of a military invasion of Mexico." The Daily Signal reached out to Union del Barrio about Gochez's views but they didn't respond.

It's true that the U.S. did acquire California and other Western states during the Mexican American War, which was domestically quite controversial. But it wasn't so simple as the U.S. just taking land because it could. There were genuine border disputes between the countries after the U.S. annexed Texas, which had already rebelled and declared independence from the dysfunctional Mexican government.

Mexico was in deep financial distress, had withheld debt payments to American citizens, and had outright defaulted in many cases. The U.S. actually paid for the states it acquired from Mexico after winning the war and in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo even agreed to pay the debts they owed American citizens. Mexico continued to spiral into financial chaos after the war. In fact, several European countries militarily intervened in Mexico during the 19th century to get Mexico to pay what it owed.

The bottom line is that Mexico has been politically troubled since it went independent from Spain. On that note, if Mexico—a country that controlled what is now the U.S. part of the Southwest for 20 years—has some kind of timeless claim to California, why doesn't Spain have a claim to all of Mexico? As Substack writer Chad Crowley noted, Mexico's claim to California is shallow, at best.

"California was never Mexican in any meaningful civilizational or ethnonational sense," Crowley noted. "It existed as a peripheral holding of the Spanish Empire, a distant and neglected frontier governed less by law than by the limitations of geography. A sparse

network of missions, presidios, and tenuous coastal settlements took shape in the late eighteenth century, but the interior remained tribal, unincorporated, and largely untouched.”

The idea that the U.S. should now suddenly give it up is preposterous. People don’t have a right to break U.S. immigration laws or riot based on some tenuous ethnic land claims. Mexico doesn’t have a right to U.S. land because it lost a war over 150 years ago. Land, again, that we paid for.

The Reconquista types are demanding the United States become what many chose with their feet to leave. And that gets to the absurdity of their demands. Perhaps Mexico’s problem wasn’t that it lost land to the United States but that the whole country wasn’t annexed at the end of the war. One way or another, it’s a ridiculous argument. California doesn’t belong to Mexico. Foreign nationals don’t have a right to stay in the United States. Most Americans, including self-described Latinos, don’t want to live in a lawless Marxist ethno-state. They want order to be restored, the border to be secured, lawbreakers to be deported, and cartels to be eradicated.

‘NOT A GRAY ISSUE’: Why the 9th Circuit Upheld Trump’s Use of the National Guard

Tyler O’Neil | June 13, 2025 – *Excerpt The Daily Signal*

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/06/13/heres-why-9th-circuit-struck-down-justice-breyers-brother-trumps-use-national-guard-la-riots/>

It took the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals only a few hours to block a lower court’s ruling against President Donald Trump’s federalization of the California National Guard in the Los Angeles riots.

The appeals court acted expeditiously because Trump was so clearly in the right, according to Hans von Spakovsky, a senior legal fellow at The Heritage Foundation.

“Look, what the president did is something he is statutorily authorized to do, much less looking at his constitutional authority as commander-in-chief,” von Spakovsky told The Daily Signal in an interview Friday.

He cited [10 U.S.C. 12406](#), which allows the president to call the National Guard—which ordinarily falls under the purview of state governors—into federal service in three circumstances: invasion or threat of invasion, rebellion or threat of rebellion, and if the president cannot execute U.S. law with regular forces.

Trump invoked the third reason when he ordered the California National Guard to assist federal law enforcement in Los Angeles amid the riots. Immigration and Customs Enforcement had carried out raids to detain and deport illegal aliens, and agitators physically blocked them from doing so. Protests against the raids devolved into violence, as agitators attacked ICE agents, set vehicles ablaze, and looted retail stores.

After Trump activated the California National Guard, Gov. Gavin Newsom, D-Calif., filed a lawsuit challenging the action.

U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer, an appointee of President Bill Clinton and brother to former Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, issued an order Thursday demanding that Trump turn control of the National Guard back to Newsom by Friday afternoon. The president appealed, however, and later that afternoon, a three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit granted his request to stay the order. (Trump appointees Mark J. Bennett and Eric D. Miller agreed with Jennifer Sung, an appointee of President Joe Biden.)

Von Spakovsky said it would have “shocked” him if Judge Breyer had rule for Trump.

“Knowing Charles Breyer and his previous history, there’s no way he would’ve ruled for Donald Trump, no matter what the law says,” the legal fellow argued.

Von Spakovsky noted that Breyer ruled Trump violated the 10th Amendment to the Constitution, which reserves certain powers to the states and to the people.

“When was the last time a liberal judge paid any attention to the 10th Amendment?” the legal fellow asked, laughing. “I mean, liberal judges believe the federal government has the power to do anything, right?”

“The 9th Circuit moved almost immediately to stay the decision while they take a look at the case,” he noted.

Von Spakovsky also mentioned that the 9th Circuit is “very liberal,” but he insisted, “This is really not a gray issue. The statute’s very clear.”

Newsom argued that, as governor, he had the authority to block Trump from federalizing the National Guard. Yet if that were true, a major civil rights battle nearly 70 years ago would have gone very differently.

Von Spakovsky recalled that in 1957, after the Supreme Court desegregated schools in *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus attempted to use the National Guard to prevent black students from entering a Little Rock high school. President Dwight D. Eisenhower federalized the Arkansas National Guard and protected the “Little Rock 9” as they entered the school.

The legal fellow noted the second provision of the law in question, enabling the president to federalize the guard if there’s a rebellion.

“It wouldn’t make any sense to say the president has to get the permission of the governor,” von Spakovsky said. “What if it’s the governor who’s rebelling, right?”

“What did Dwight D. Eisenhower do? He sent in federal troops to protect those black students and to make sure they were not assaulted,” the legal fellow noted. “I guess it’s a good thing that Charles Breyer wasn’t a judge in Arkansas at that time.”

Commentary

Lurking in the Shadows of the Leaderless Biden White House

Joseph E. Schmitz | June 16, 2025 – Excerpt – **The Daily Signal** – Victor David Hanson – **The Hoover Institution**

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<https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/06/16/lurking-in-the-shadows-leaderless-biden-white-house/>

On June 18, the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on the concealment of former President Joe Biden’s cognitive decline. This hearing will start to shed a congressional light on the apparent misuse of the presidential autopen. According to President Donald Trump’s June 4, memorandum, “This conspiracy marks one of the most dangerous and concerning scandals in American history.”

The chief speechwriter for President Ronald Reagan, Kenneth Khachigian, published an article on May 30 in *The Wall Street Journal*, which concludes that Americans have been “cynically hoodwinked,” so much so that “Mr. Biden’s using an autopen”—assuming he actually knew about it—“and Attorney General [Merrick] Garland’s declining to release the audio of the president’s interview with Robert Hur are small potatoes amid this vast whitewash of history.”

Small potatoes amid a vast whitewash of false narratives by “domestic enemies” need to be exposed to the public—because those small potatoes will lead to bigger potatoes of deceit.

The Senate Judiciary Committee and Martin need to shed a bright light on the truth for the American people. Any person who committed a crime in the cover-up of Biden’s cognitive impairment should be prosecuted.

One crime that needs to be investigated is who, by name, directed that Biden’s autopen signature be affixed to pardons without the president’s full knowledge. Whoever did that violated 18 U.S. Code §912, which makes it a crime whenever anyone “pretends to be an officer or employee acting under the authority of the United States.”

In any event, “We the People” deserve to know what happened in our White House during the Biden administration. We have a right to know who was running the country when Biden was so clearly not up to the task. We have a right to know who ruled in the president’s stead so that our elected leaders can take steps to prevent it from happening again.

Speaking of taking steps to prevent bad things from happening again, as we begin our yearlong celebration of the 250th birthday of our nation, July 4, 1776, it is fitting to acknowledge that 250 years ago this year, on July 6, 1775, our Continental Congress issued its lesser-known “Declaration on the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms.”

News/Commentary -

Biden’s doctor pleads the fifth to avoid self-incrimination and that pretty much says it all - July 9, 2025 | Sierra Marlee

<https://www.bizpacreview.com/#home>

The 5th Amendment guarantees the right to avoid self-incrimination. While this cannot be held against you in a court of law, the court of public opinion is a different matter entirely.

Especially when the person who is pleading the fifth happens to be former President Joe Biden’s physician, who had declared him “fit for duty” in February 2024, while failing to mention anything about his prostate or the metastatic cancer that would later be announced.

Rep. James Comer was among those present at the closed door House Oversight Committee hearing where Dr. Kevin O'Connor had been subpoenaed to testify. Rather than give a detailed testimony so that the American people can feel better about the process, he reportedly invoked his 5th Amendment rights. This leads Comer to believe, now more than ever, that there was a concerted effort to keep the president's health concerns away from the very people who voted him into office.

"President Joe Biden's physician, Dr. Kevin O'Connor, just pleaded the fifth at his deposition before Congress today. It's now clear there was a conspiracy to cover up President Biden's cognitive decline after Dr. Kevin O'Connor, Biden's physician and family business associate, refused to answer any questions and chose to hide behind the fifth amendment. The American people demand transparency but Dr. O'Connor would rather conceal the truth," the congressman wrote. "Dr. O'Connor took the fifth when asked if he was told to lie about President Biden's health and whether he was fit to be President of the United States. Congress must assess legislative solutions to prevent such a coverup from happening again. We will continue to interview more Biden White House aides to get the answers Americans deserve."

Trump vows to make US 'crypto capital of the planet,' signs GENIUS Act into law –

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-vows-make-us-crypto-capital-planet-signs-genius-act-law>

The House passed the GENIUS Act on Thursday by a 308-122 margin
By Diana Stancy Fox News - Published July 18, 2025 3:26pm EDT – White House - Fox News Excerpt - Fox News' Liz Elkind contributed to this report

A landmark piece of legislation that establishes federal regulations surrounding digital currency. - President Donald Trump signed into law the Guiding and Establishing National Innovation for U.S. Stablecoins (GENIUS) Act Friday — a landmark piece of legislation that establishes federal regulations surrounding digital currency.

Ahead of signing the bill, Trump recalled how he previously vowed to make the U.S. the "crypto capital of the planet" during a keynote address during a bitcoin conference in Nashville, Tennessee, in July 2024, where he said that regulations his administration would implement would be "written by people who love your industry, not hate your industry."

"I pledged that we would bring back American liberty and leadership and make the United States the crypto capital of the world," Trump said Friday. "And that's what we've done. And under the Trump administration, this is only going further."

Stablecoins are a form of digital currency tied to a stable asset like gold or the U.S. dollar, which aims to keep their prices more consistent.

"Just as I promised last year, the GENIUS Act creates a clear and simple regulatory framework to establish and unleash the immense promise of dollar-backed stablecoin," Trump said Friday. "This could be perhaps the greatest revolution in financial technology since the birth of the internet itself."

Included in the GENIUS Act are provisions requiring monthly public disclosure of reserve competition, as well as annual audited financial statements for issuers with more than \$50 billion in market capitalization, according to the Senate Banking Committee, which spearheaded the legislation.

The House passed the GENIUS Act Thursday by a 308–122 vote, after the measure cleared the Senate in June by a 68–30 margin.

"For far too long, America's digital assets industry has been stifled by ambiguous rules, confusing enforcement and the Biden administration's anti-crypto crusade," Majority Whip Tom Emmer, R-Minn., said during a press conference on Thursday. "But President Trump and this Congress are correcting course and unleashing America's digital asset potential with historic, transformative legislation."

Despite the bipartisanship and support from a host of Democrats, the legislation didn't pick up votes from all members of the president's party.

Twelve Republicans voted against the measure, which has attracted scrutiny from lawmakers like House Financial Services Committee ranking member Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., due to conflict-of-interest concerns as Trump has promoted a digital currency called \$TRUMP.

"By passing this bill, Congress will be telling the world that Congress is OK with corruption, OK with foreign companies buying influence, and OK with criminals buying Trump coins to seek pardons and beneficial treatment," Waters said on the House floor Thursday.

In addition to the GENIUS Act, the House passed two other measures related to cryptocurrency Thursday: Digital Asset Market Clarity Act (CLARITY Act) to install some additional regulatory framework for digital assets, and the Anti-CBDC Surveillance State Act, which aims to stop the Federal Reserve from central bank digital currency (CBDC) directly to individuals and jeopardize their privacy.

Lawmakers fear AI data centers will drive up residents' power bills

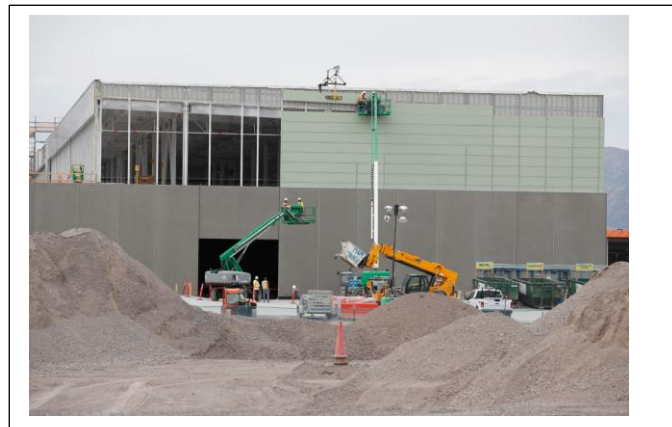
Some states are seeing a massive spike in electricity demand.- Excerpt – Stateline.org

By: Alex Brown - April 10, 2025 5:00 am

<https://stateline.org/2025/04/10/lawmakers-fear-ai-data-centers-will-drive-up-residents-power-bills/>

For the first time in decades, America needs to produce more electricity.

In many places, a sharp uptick power demand has been driven data centers, the industrial buildings that house huge banks of computer servers and support our increasingly digital society.



in
by

State lawmakers have long sought to attract such operations with generous tax breaks and incentives. But now, some are concerned that the infrastructure needed to add all those data centers to the electric grid will drive up residents' utility bills. The growing use of artificial intelligence, which requires massive amounts of computing power, has added to that worry.

"We're going to have tremendous stress from AI," said New Jersey state Sen. Bob Smith, a Democrat who chairs the Environment and Energy Committee. "We have a crisis coming our way in electric rates. These outrageous increases are going to be put on the citizens. Why should they bear the rate increases?"

Smith has authored a bill that would require new AI data centers in New Jersey to arrange to supply their power from new, clean energy sources, if other states in the region enact similar measures.

The bill is among roughly a dozen proposals in state legislatures nationwide seeking to ensure that data centers don't result in increased rates for other electric customers, according to the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, a forum for state lawmakers. Smith and lawmakers in other states with clean energy targets also say the demand for AI could derail their climate goals.

Those goals are also under attack from President Donald Trump, who this week directed Attorney General Pam Bondi to block enforcement of all state climate policies. Trump also issued orders seeking to boost coal production, in part to meet the energy demands from AI operations.

Tech companies note that their data centers are crucial for everything from credit card transactions to remote work to streaming Netflix. And the centers create tax revenue and jobs in the states that host them, the companies argue.

Data centers are just the first wave in a new era of increased electricity demand. Electric vehicles, a growing manufacturing sector and the electrification of household appliances are all expected to use more power in the years to come.

Industry leaders say it's unfair to single out data centers, when more power will be needed for a variety of sectors.

"[Targeting data centers] risks creating unjustified distinctions amongst similar customers," said Dan Diorio, senior director of state policy with the Data Center Coalition, a membership association for tech companies.

Ground zero: Virginia

Virginia hosts the world's largest concentration of data centers, and is at the epicenter of debates over the industry's future.

State lawmakers commissioned a study, published last year, to outline the industry's impacts. Researchers found that data centers are currently paying their fair share for electricity. But the immense energy demands they're forecasted to create in the coming years "will likely increase system costs for all customers, including non-data center customers," the report concluded.

The study found that unconstrained demand largely from data centers would drive up Virginia's energy usage 183% by 2040. With no new data centers, energy use would only

grow 15%. In addition to the costs of building more power plants, the report said, utilities will also need to install more substations, transformers and distribution lines.

“They sounded an alarm that the steep increase — if this is unchecked — would quickly [raise consumers’ rates],” said state Del. Rip Sullivan, a Democrat who has been at the center of discussions over the industry’s future in Virginia.

Sullivan sponsored a bill that would have required data centers to meet energy efficiency standards to qualify for certain tax exemptions, but the measure did not advance this session. Virginia lawmakers passed a measure this session directing state regulators to determine whether utilities should create a special rate that certain customers such as data centers must pay.

Several other states are considering similar bills that aim to put data centers — or large electricity users more generally — in their own “rate class.” Proponents say that would prevent the costs of generating enough electricity for those centers from being spread to household customers.

Data center proponents have argued that regulators are best suited to set the rules, not lawmakers.

“The industry is committed to ensuring it continues to pay its full cost of service to ensure that other customers are protected from any unnecessary costs,” said Aaron Tinjum, vice president of energy for the Data Center Coalition.

Sullivan noted that data centers are critical to our digital society, and that the Virginia study found that the industry creates construction jobs and local tax revenue. But Virginia also aims to produce 100% of its electricity from sources without any carbon emissions by 2050 — a goal that will become more difficult if power demands skyrocket. The state urgently needs a comprehensive strategy to manage all those interests, Sullivan said.

‘You get good and bad’

For years, states have tried to lure data centers with tax incentives or exemptions. At least 36 states, both conservative and liberal, offer such incentives. But now, some of the states that have been most successful at attracting the industry are having second thoughts.

Georgia state Sen. Chuck Hufstetler, a Republican, noted that electric customers in the state have seen six rate increases in less than two years. Data centers, he said, use immense amounts of power and water, while creating few long-term jobs. On the other hand, he noted that they have proven to be a substantial source of property tax revenue.

“You get good and bad with the data centers, but I just want to make sure they pay their way,” he said.

Hufstetler authored a bill that would have barred regulators from raising rates because of the costs of serving data centers. While the bill did not pass this session, the Georgia Public Service Commission approved a new rule with similar protections, forcing data centers to cover those costs.

The move is a good start, Hufstetler said, but legislation is still needed because regulators can quickly roll back their own rules. Meanwhile, Georgia lawmakers passed a measure last year that would have paused the state’s sales tax exemption for data centers. Republican Gov. Brian Kemp vetoed the bill, arguing that an abrupt change would undermine companies’ planned investments in Georgia.

Consumer advocates say more states should rescind their incentives.

Many data centers don’t bring in enough tax revenue to cover their tax breaks, said Kasia Tarczynska, senior research analyst at Good Jobs First, a policy group that tracks government subsidies related to economic development.

“It’s not a winning program for state budgets,” she said.

Oregon has seen a rapid increase in data centers in the eastern part of the state, said state Rep. Pam Marsh, a Democrat.

“Data center growth is outstripping every other kind of conventional user category,” she said. “There’s lots of evidence that the demand of those data centers has already been shifted onto residential ratepayers.”

Marsh has sponsored a bill that would require data centers and other large energy users to be assigned to a separate rate class that accounts for the added costs of their power demands.

In a letter to Oregon lawmakers, Amazon Web Services — the computing subsidiary of the retail giant — said it has worked with utilities to ensure its costs aren’t being passed to other ratepayers. The company noted its commitments to purchase large amounts of renewable energy, and said major grid upgrades are needed to enable more clean power and the deployment of technologies like electric vehicles.

Amazon Web Services did not grant an interview request. Two other industry leaders, Google and OpenAI, did not respond to Stateline inquiries.

Utah enacted a law this year that allows “large load” customers such as data centers to craft separate contracts with utilities. It’s intended to ensure that household ratepayers don’t get hit with additional costs to power those facilities. Republican state Sen. Scott Sandall, who sponsored the bill, did not respond to a Stateline interview request.

“This new demand requires billions of dollars of capital investment,” said Tyson Slocum, energy program director at Public Citizen, a consumer advocacy nonprofit. “The normal model is you spread that investment cost across all consumers. That’s not reasonable here.”

Slocum said data center users have been shying away from previous commitments to use clean energy sources, at the same time Trump has pushed to increase fossil fuel production.

Some lawmakers have noted that many data centers are being built to meet forecasted demand from AI. They worry that overhyped projections could force utilities to build expensive infrastructure that never gets used.

Industry leaders say the build-out of data centers is driven by consumer demands and note that such facilities have made computing far more efficient.

They also argue that digital infrastructure is important for national security, ensuring that Americans’ data is not passing through overseas facilities with weak security. And they warn that companies may be wary of investing in states with legislation seen as disruptive.

“This is an industry that is trying to build out to meet unprecedented demand,” said Diorio, of the Data Center Coalition. “[State legislation] can send a market signal that there’s going to be friction in that market.”

AI Overview

Virginia, particularly Northern Virginia, is a major hub for data centers, often referred to as “Data Center Alley”. This region boasts the world’s largest concentration of data centers, with [Ashburn](#) being a primary location. The area’s appeal stems from its proximity to major population centers, robust connectivity, favorable tax incentives, and a skilled workforce.

Here’s a more detailed look:

Key Locations:

- **Ashburn:** The heart of Data Center Alley, hosting a vast number of data centers.
- **Sterling:** Another significant location in Loudoun County, close to Ashburn and part of the [Dulles Technology Corridor](#).
- **Herndon & Reston:** Located in Fairfax County, these areas are home to numerous tech companies and data centers.
- **Chantilly & South Riding:** These areas in Fairfax County offer more land and infrastructure for data centers.
- **Manassas:** A growing area with several large data center campuses.
- **Gainesville, Haymarket & Bristow:** These areas are also experiencing growth in data center development.

Why Virginia?

- **Connectivity:**

Northern Virginia has a highly developed fiber network, making it a strategic interconnection hub.

- **Power Availability:**

The region has a reliable and affordable power supply, with expanding renewable energy options.

- **Tax Incentives:**

Virginia offers tax exemptions for data center equipment and tenants, attracting significant investment.

- **Proximity to Major Markets:**

Its location provides access to major population centers in the Eastern US and a gateway to Europe.

- **Low Risk of Natural Disasters:**

Northern Virginia's inland location minimizes the risk of natural disasters like hurricanes or earthquakes.

Key Players:

- **Amazon AWS:** A major provider with numerous facilities in Virginia, including in Ashburn and Sterling.
- **Microsoft Azure:** Also a significant presence with facilities in multiple counties.
- **Equinix:** A major colocation provider with multiple facilities in Ashburn and Sterling.

- **Digital Realty:** A large provider with a significant presence in Ashburn.
- **Aligned Data Centers:** Operates in the region with a focus on sustainability.
- **Iron Mountain:** Has a large campus in Prince William County with multiple data centers.

Frederick County quashes two data center proposals

[The Northern Virginia Daily - Excerpt](#)

https://www.nvdaily.com/nvdaily/frederick-county-quashes-two-data-center-proposals/article_1021d4f1-e8d2-5cd5-8b90-747884ff48c3.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share

Jun 22, 2025 — The **Frederick County** Board of Supervisors rejected via a consensus vote the further study of two Comprehensive Plan amendment applications for potential **data center** facilities during a joint work session with the Planning Commission on Wednesday night.

One application was for a 644-acre data center campus called Meadow Brook Technology Park between Valley Pike (U.S. 11) and Hites Road just south of Stephens City. The other was for Winchester Gateway 2, which proposed a 105-acre data center development at the southern corner of Va. 37 and Middle Road south of Winchester.

A joint session of the two panels is held every June to review applications for potential amendments to the county's Comprehensive Plan. Unlike in previous years, county planning staff sought a consensus vote from the supervisors on each application to determine if the proposals would require further research.

More than a few commissioners and supervisors had questions regarding the applications, more so with Meadow Brook Technology Park. Most concerns centered around the appropriateness of the location and water usage. The discussion sparked conversations about big-picture county issues as well.

Those who were opposed to the proposed data centers were aided by a board room packed with concerned residents, many of whom wore green ribbons handed out by members of Hands Off the Valley, a local volunteer group that is looking to preserve the rural nature of the county and the Shenandoah Valley.

Meadow Brook Technology Park was the first application to be considered at the joint work session. The applicant, Denver-based Tract Capital, was seeking a Comprehensive Plan amendment and a rezoning to be concurrently forwarded.

Planning Commissioner Charles DeHaven questioned what criteria the company used to select the location, which is in a residential and rural area.

Jacob Bock, Tract Capital's vice president of land strategy, explained that the scale of the property was an important factor that he thought would help prevent multiple smaller data centers from popping up in the area.

"[I] tirelessly looked around the county to try and find a site here, and there was really only one that could support the modern hyper-scale data center footprint to allow [it] to grow sustainably in one location without having to grow piecemeal across the community," Bock said.

Opequon Supervisor Bob Wells said that while this may work for Tract, having a data center campus next to farms and homes made no sense to him.

"If you took out the word 'data center' and said you just want to build a brick building out there, I don't think that's the proper place for it," Wells said.

Red Bud Supervisor Blaine Dunn was the only supervisor who voted for the data center proposals during a consensus vote. He expressed many reasons for doing so, and he agreed with Bock's strategy to centralize one large data center instead of having multiple smaller ones pop up, like what happened in Loudoun County.

"This county has approximately 240 square miles of farms, this here would take up, ballpark, 1 to 1.5 square miles," Dunn said. "But the trade off on that is that you have a data center, power, water, electric all coming in one spot as opposed to multiple spots across the county."

Planning Commissioner Mollie Brannon expressed opposition to data centers in general and argued that Dunn's point is moot because she has heard that there are multiple other data center proposals planned for Frederick County. Her remarks drew claps of approval from the audience.

"There's already three others coming in the pipeline. They don't come just one," Brannon said.

Tract Development Director Daniel Becht shared that the projected water usage for the Meadow Brook site would be around 700,000 gallons a day.

Across the country, localities are now requiring water used in data centers to be treated before being discharged into sewer systems, because the water often contains dissolved solids and chloride, according to an article from the American Society of Civil Engineers. Tract officials did not touch on how they would handle this, and Planning Commissioner Vaughn Whitacre noted how existing sewer systems in parts of the county aren't presently in great shape, most notably in Stephens City.

"Our infrastructure cannot handle this. The DEQ's already sent warnings to our waste facilities that they're not in compliance," Whitacre said.

After the consensus vote, Board of Supervisors Chairman Josh Ludwig also touched on the wastewater treatment problems.

"We've had lots of problems with wastewater treatment. We don't understand where that could go, could Middletown handle it?" Ludwig asked about water waste from data centers.

Those were among the reasons why the supervisors voted to not further study Meadow Brook Technology Park. Back Creek Supervisor John Jewell, Shawnee Supervisor Bob Liero, Gainesboro Supervisor Heather Lockridge and Wells all voted against forwarding the Comprehensive Plan amendment application and rezoning application. Dunn was the only vote in favor. Ludwig and Vice Chair Judith McCann-Slaughter didn't need to vote because it was a consensus vote.

The consensus vote for the Winchester Gateway 2 application had the same results. Ty Lawson, the attorney representing the applicant, was not able to provide information on potential water and electricity usage for the proposal, which raised red flags for some commissioners and supervisors.

In rejecting the applications, the supervisors questioned where the county goes from here in generating much-needed revenue.

In April, the supervisors passed an ordinance to regulate data centers in the county, and the Frederick County Economic Development Authority lists data centers as a target industry for the tax revenue they produce.

In each of the last three years, the county has needed to draw from its capital fund to balance the budget, meaning the county had less revenue than expenses in each of those years.

So while it seems like the county is preparing for the possibility of data centers, actions may speak louder than words. There is currently only one data center in the county, which has been operating near Middletown for over a decade. Over the past 12 months, multiple data center rezoning applications have been denied by the supervisors, and public opinion at Wednesday's meeting suggests that many county residents don't want to see them pop up.

McCann-Slaughter, who serves on the EDA board, pointed out that the supervisors should make up their minds about data centers so the EDA doesn't keep trying to attract them for no reason.

"This board has continually endorsed those plans that we are interested in having data centers," McCann-Slaughter said. "So if this board is no longer interested in that, then we need to make that message to the EDA so that we're not just spinning our wheels doing the work and putting in the leg work to attract these businesses."

Lockridge talked about wanting to find out what residents really want to be built in the county, saying the county needs to find a way to balance the budget. Attracting businesses or shrinking the government are the two best options, in her opinion. She did not mention raising taxes.

"[If] we feel the need to keep spending, we have to find a way to lessen government, or industry is the way to solve that," Lockridge said.

Ludwig asked Frederick County Planning Director Wyatt Pearson if the decisions made during the Wednesday's meeting would signal to developers in the data center industry that the county is not interested at this point.

"I think you answered your own question as it relates to signaling to the industry by the denial of two [data centers] at the planning stage," Pearson said.

Epoch Times: Constitution Ave 8-6-25

– Emel Akan

[<newsletter@theepochtimes.com>](mailto:newsletter@theepochtimes.com)

President Donald Trump's second term is reshaping U.S. foreign policy—this time with tariffs as the centerpiece. No longer just an economic tool, tariffs are now the administration's primary diplomatic lever, used to end conflicts, secure trade concessions, and pressure rivals.

Trump has touted how his tariff strategy—resulting in trade concessions from allies such as the European Union and South Korea, along with breakthroughs in conflicts—is delivering results. His trade threats have helped end several conflicts, including the recent border skirmish between Thailand and Cambodia and the crisis between India and Pakistan. On June 27, Trump hosted the foreign ministers of Congo and Rwanda at the White House as they signed a peace deal to end their 30-year war.

Michael Walsh of the Foreign Policy Research Institute said the administration believes that economic incentives can resolve conflicts. Trump's approach in Africa—prioritizing trade over aid—has been more effective than strategies pursued by former administrations, he said.

Trump has also been pressuring China and India to stop purchasing sanctioned Russian oil to weaken the Kremlin and end its war in Ukraine.

In July, he targeted the BRICS alliance —led by Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa—warning members against their efforts to challenge the U.S. dollar's global dominance.

Most recently, he threatened Brazil with a 50 percent tariff, accusing the country of becoming an “international disgrace” because of the ongoing trial of former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, a close Trump ally.

Trump's tariff strategy is already showing results. In June, Canada backed off its plan to implement a 3 percent digital services tax on large tech firms after Trump halted trade talks and threatened to impose higher tariffs on Canadian imports.

Trump also introduced a 40 percent tariff on transshipments to block cheap Chinese goods from coming to the United States through other trading partners. The U.S. government has collected more than \$150 billion in tariff revenue over the past six months.

Keith Krach, former under secretary of state, said tariffs are now “the linchpin” of Trump's economic statecraft.

Trump struck a deal with the EU that included a 15 percent tariff on its goods, \$600 billion in investments in the United States, and a commitment to purchase \$750 billion in American energy over the next three years.

Japan and South Korea reached similar deals, with major investments and energy purchases committed.

The administration has already secured trade deals with eight key partners covering about 55 percent of world GDP.

Despite higher tariffs, broad retaliation from major trading partners has been avoided. Some companies are relocating production to the United States to avoid tariffs and serve the domestic market, according to Chris Tang, a professor at the University of California—Los Angeles Anderson School of Management. However, many still depend on cheaper overseas labor for international sales, creating a split in global supply chains, he said. Uncertainty remains about the long-term durability of these trade deals and tariffs, many of which rest on executive authority.

Analysts also question whether investment pledges will be fully delivered. For instance, some doubt the United States' ability to sell \$750 billion worth of energy products, citing export infrastructure bottlenecks.

Despite caution from business leaders about persistent high tariffs, markets have largely shrugged off concerns. The S&P 500 has rebounded more than 25 percent since early April, reflecting investor optimism about Trump's trade diplomacy.

BOOKMARKS

NASA's acting administrator Sean Duffy says the United States is looking to build a nuclear reactor on the moon to power a permanent base on the lunar surface. The project, called Artemis, will be implemented in stages, with a moon landing planned for mid-2027.

The U.S. economy "is on the precipice of recession," according to an economist at credit rating agency Moody's Analytics. "Consumer spending has flatlined, construction and manufacturing are contracting, and employment is set to fall," Moody's Chief Economist Mark Zandi said on X this week.

Trump plans to allow some illegal immigrant farm workers to return to the United States, but legally this time. The move is intended to avoid a manual labor shortage and prevent harm to farmers, Trump said in an interview on Tuesday.

International sanctions against Iran's nuclear program might be less effective because of outside assistance from China. Check out Leo Timm's latest report to find out more.

Attorney General Pam Bondi and U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York Jay Clayton are asking federal judges to unseal grand jury testimony related to Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell. The Department of Justice is also planning to notify victims that the records are being unsealed, according to a letter written by the two officials.

Deputy FBI Director Promises ‘Dignified Effort at Truth’ With Ongoing Investigations –

Excerpt Epoch Times

Jack Phillips - Breaking News Reporter - 7/27/2025 | Updated: 7/27/2025

Link - [EXECUTIVE BRANCH](#) –

‘We cannot run a Republic like this,’ Dan Bongino said. ‘I’ll never be the same after learning what I’ve learned.’

FBI Deputy Director Dan Bongino said in a social media post on July 26 that the agency is conducting multiple investigations related to alleged public corruption and weaponization of government.

“The Director and I are committed to stamping out public corruption and the political weaponization of both law enforcement and intelligence operations,” Bongino said in a lengthy post on X.

“It is a priority for us. But what I have learned in the course of our properly predicated and necessary investigations into these aforementioned matters, has shocked me down to my core. We cannot run a Republic like this. I’ll never be the same after learning what I’ve learned.”

“As with any investigation, I cannot predict where it will land, but I can promise you an honest and dignified effort at truth,” he wrote.

Bongino, a former Secret Service agent and podcast host, did not provide a timeline for the results of the investigations, noting that “things are happening” that may not be “immediately visible” to the public.

Although Bongino did not go into details, he said earlier this year that the FBI would be conducting new investigations into “public corruption,” the cocaine found at the White House in July 2023, the leak of the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision overturning *Roe v. Wade* in 2022, and the pipe bombs that were left outside the Republican and Democratic

national committee buildings in Washington a day before the U.S. Capitol breach on Jan. 6, 2021.

The FBI said in 2024 that a \$500,000 reward is still in effect for information leading to the arrest of the pipe bomb suspect. Earlier this year, David Sundberg, former assistant director in charge of the FBI Washington Field Office, told CNN that officials are seeking new leads.

“Maybe allegiances have changed or relationships have changed, and it’s time to report [on the suspect],” Sundberg told the outlet.

On May 26, Bongino said in a post on X that his office will investigate what he said are a “number of cases of potential public corruption that, understandably, have garnered public interest.”

Bongino’s most recent post before July 26 had a more upbeat tone. He wrote on July 25 that “there is no doubt [the] country is safer today than it was in January” because of “the leadership of this administration and the work of [the] men and women of law enforcement.”

In the update, he said the FBI has carried out more than 12,000 violent crime arrests and has seized more than 3,000 pounds of fentanyl, more than 136,000 pounds of cocaine, 11,000 pounds of methamphetamine, and 27,000 pounds of marijuana. Meanwhile, the FBI has assisted in more than 21,900 immigration enforcement-related arrests since January, he noted.

Separately, on July 23 the Justice Department announced that it was forming a task force following the declassification of documents by the director of national intelligence (DNI) that shed light on the origins of false claims that then-candidate Donald Trump won the 2016 election with Russia’s help.

In a statement, the Justice Department said the task force would “assess the evidence publicized by Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard and investigate potential next legal steps which might stem from DNI Gabbard’s disclosures.”

“This Department takes alleged weaponization of the intelligence community with the utmost seriousness,” the statement reads.

Joseph Lord contributed to this report.

One of the Most Corrosive Abuses of Power in American History

Armstrong Williams | July 25, 2025 – *Excerpt - The Daily Signal*

| <https://www.dailysignal.com/2025/07/25/rotten-core-manufactured-scandal-russia-collusion/>

Armstrong Williams - Columnist for The Daily Signal and host of "The Armstrong Williams Show," a nationally syndicated TV program.

Did former President Barack Obama play a role in the fabrication of the Russia collusion narrative? According to National Intelligence Director Tulsi Gabbard—once a rising star within the Democratic Party and now a gadfly for political truth—the answer is unequivocally yes. More than that, Gabbard suggests the Obama administration orchestrated a “treasonous conspiracy” in 2016, one that weaponized the intelligence community and buried exculpatory findings that contradicted their desired political outcome.

Let us not pretend this charge is light. A “treasonous conspiracy” suggests not merely malfeasance but a betrayal of the public trust at the highest levels of government. If these allegations are true—and the declassified documents and testimonies increasingly suggest they are—then we are dealing with one of the most corrosive abuses of power in American history. And yet, predictably, the usual suspects in the Democratic Party and their allies in corporate media have denounced these revelations not with evidence but with noise.

Men like Sen. Adam Schiff, the architect and chief propagandist of the Russia hoax, have long enjoyed the luxury of consequence-free deception. Schiff assured the nation, repeatedly and confidently, that he had “direct evidence” of collusion between President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin’s government. No such evidence ever materialized. None. Instead, what we received was a yearslong investigation—one that disrupted a presidency, undermined international credibility, and cost the American taxpayers tens of millions of dollars—only to conclude there was no collusion.

The Mueller report confirmed it. The Durham investigation exposed the rot. Yet the architects of the lie remain untouched, their reputations defended by a press that long ago abandoned its role as watchdog in favor of partisan priesthood.

What Gabbard alleges, however, takes this abuse of power a step further. According to her review of intelligence findings - now echoed by former National Intelligence Director

John Ratcliffe - the original assessments from our intelligence community clearly stated that Russia's efforts had no material effect on the outcome of the 2016 election. In other words, while Russia may have engaged in cyber-meddling and online influence operations (as every major power does), it had no decisive impact on voting outcomes. That should have been the headline. Instead, it was buried.

Why? Because truth was inconvenient to power. Because the narrative of Russian interference served a political end: to delegitimize Trump's presidency before it even began. What followed was not a sober investigation into foreign threats but a coordinated disinformation campaign by our own intelligence apparatus at the urging of political elites. It was, as the late Justice Antonin Scalia might have argued, an affront not merely to the legal process but to the very idea of republican government.

In *Morrison v. Olson*, Scalia famously dissented alone, warning against the creation of a fourth branch of government—unaccountable bureaucracies with the power to influence political outcomes. “A government of laws, and not of men,” he wrote, means that our rulers are bound by the law, just as the governed are. Yet here we are, in 2025, looking back at a moment when our rulers were the law—when intelligence agencies were pressured into revising their own conclusions to align with political imperatives.

This is not a conspiracy theory. This is the documented history of the modern American state. It is what happens when ideology becomes the lens through which evidence is interpreted, and when political expediency outweighs constitutional restraint.

And now, with Trump back in the White House, the fear among Democrats is palpable. Not because of what Trump might do in the future but because of what he might uncover from the past. This is the nightmare scenario for the Left—not a second Trump term but a reckoning with the truth. The emails, the memos, the redacted reports—they may not remain buried for much longer.

Gabbard is right to call it treasonous. Whether that charge meets the legal standard or not is almost beside the point. What matters is that Americans were lied to by their own government—systematically, persistently, and with great sophistication. As Thomas Sowell has often warned, “It is hard to imagine a more dangerous way of making decisions than by putting those decisions in the hands of people who pay no price for being wrong.”

The question now is whether anyone will be held accountable. Or whether, once again, we will look the other way while the powerful write a different version of history—one where the truth is not merely inconvenient but disposable.

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Secretary Noem Unveils No Age Limit for Patriotic Americans to Join ICE Law Enforcement to Help Remove Worst of the Worst from U.S. - Release Date: August 6, 2025

In less than one week since DHS launched its recruitment campaign, more than 80,000 Americans applied to join ICE

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/08/06/secretary-noem-unveils-no-age-limit-patriotic-americans-join-ice-law-enforcement#:~:text=Site%20Links-,Secretary%20Noem%20Unveils%20No%20Age%20Limit%20for%20Patriotic%20Americans%20to,federal%20law%20enforcement%20incentives%2C%20including:>

WASHINGTON — U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem today announced U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will waive age limits for new applicants so even more patriots will qualify to join ICE in its mission to arrest murderers, pedophiles, gang members, rapists, and other criminal illegal aliens from America's streets.

All ICE law enforcement recruits will be required to go through medical screening, drug screening, and complete a physical fitness test.

"We are ENDING the age cap for ICE law enforcement," said Secretary Noem. "Qualified candidates can now apply with no age limit. JOIN.ICE.GOV."

In the wake of Biden's open borders disaster, our country needs dedicated Americans to join ICE to remove the worst of the worst out of our country.

Backed by significant new funding through the recently signed One Big Beautiful Bill, ICE is offering a robust package of federal law enforcement incentives, including:

A maximum \$50,000 signing bonus

Student loan repayment and forgiveness options

25% Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP) for HSI Special Agents

Administratively Uncontrollable Overtime (AUI) for Enforcement Removal Operations (ERO)

Deportation Officers

Enhanced retirement benefits

ICE encourages Americans with a commitment to public safety, national service, and upholding the rule of law to apply today to jumpstart a fulfilling career in federal law enforcement.

For more information or to apply, visit: join.ice.gov.

FUNNIES

