

Resolution to Stop the Trump-Musk Coup

WHEREAS Trump has empowered Elon Musk and others to dismantle, disrupt, undermine, and compromise government agencies and services, including by firing independent inspectors general and replacing them with Trump cronies, purging the DOJ and FBI of senior leaders and preparing to further purge those and other agencies of thousands of career public servants, defunding and “closing” the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), dismantling efforts to fight discrimination and achieve equity and inclusion throughout our government and firing or preparing to fire career public servants involved in such work, purporting to freeze nearly all federal funding, and handing over to Musk and his unvetted tech bros access to the U.S. Treasury Department systems to control and securely manage payments, among other actions; and

WHEREAS Congress has not been consulted in any of the above, despite the specific grant of spending power only to Congress via the Spending Clause of the U.S. Constitution and the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, which prevents the Executive branch from substituting its judgment or preference as to which Congressionally approved funds should be disbursed or spent, and the Courts have not yet been effective in stopping Trump; and

WHEREAS Trump’s actions have sown chaos, confusion, and distrust and will have grave consequences for countless people in our country and beyond;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party (SCCDP) calls on Congress to stand up for itself and the American people by using every legal and procedural tool available to them to stop Trump’s administrative coup and reassert its Constitutional authority under the Spending Clause and elsewhere in the Constitution and to fulfill its duty as a co-equal branch to provide a check and balance against Trump’s overreach; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SCCDP stands with our Democratic leaders in the House and Senate and will support them in any and all efforts to stop Trump’s coup.

Author: SCCDP Chair Bill James