**Resolution Calling on Members of Congress to Obstruct Trump**

**WHEREAS**, President Donald J. Trump has repeatedly put forth cabinet nominees who are unfit for offices they seek and unwilling to uphold the rule of law, including Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who has [promoted anti-vaccine misinformation](https://time.com/7210943/rfk-confirmation-hearing-vaccines/)1; Attorney General Pam Bondi, who [spread falsehoods about the results of the 2020 election](https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/pam-bondis-recent-history-troubling-doj)2; and Office of Management and Budget Director Russell Vought, who has [refused to follow the](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/15/business/russell-vought-budget-office-confirmation-hearing.html) [Impoundment Control Act](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/15/business/russell-vought-budget-office-confirmation-hearing.html)3, which requires the executive branch to spend funds appropriated by Congress.

**WHEREAS,** Senator Maria Cantwell voted to confirm [four](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2025/02/06/us/politics/cabinet-confirmation-votes.html) of President Donald J. Trump’s 20 Cabinet nominees thus far and Senator Patty Murray voted to confirm one of them4; and

**WHEREAS,** any Senator may place a [blanket hold](https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IN/IN12200)5 on a category of nominations, withholding unanimous consent from those nominations and requiring them to be considered individually, as [Senator Brian Schatz has done](https://www.schatz.senate.gov/news/press-releases/schatz-announces-blanket-holds-on-trumps-state-department-nominees-until-attack-on-usaid-is-reversed)6 for President Donald J. Trump’s State Department nominees in order to protest cuts to USAID; and

**WHEREAS,** the Justice Department, under President Donald J. Trump, has fired attorneys who [investigated Trump](https://apnews.com/article/justice-department-special-counsel-trump-046ce32dbad712e72e500c32ecc20f2f)7 and [prosecuted January 6th rioters](https://www.politico.com/news/2025/01/31/doj-purges-prosecutors-january-6-cases-00201904)8; and

**WHEREAS**, two of President Donald J. Trump’s Department of Justice nominees have [refused](https://www.cnn.com/2025/02/26/politics/justice-trump-court-orders-sauer-reitz/index.html)9 to clearly state that the executive branch is bound by court orders; and

**WHEREAS,** the [Appropriations Clause](https://constitution.congress.gov/browse/essay/artI-S9-C7-1/ALDE_00001095/)10 of the United States Constitution grants Congress control over federal spending, and the [Impoundment Control Act](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/what-you-need-to-know-about-impoundment-and-how-trump-vows-to-use-it)11 prohibits the executive branch from withholding congressionally appropriated funding without Congress’ explicit approval; and

**WHEREAS,** Elon Musk has, [without any clear legal authority](https://www.politifact.com/article/2025/feb/07/what-powers-do-musk-and-doge-have-to-close-agencie/)12, enacted cuts and layoffs that endanger [humanitarian aid](https://static01.nyt.com/newsgraphics/documenttools/2dbddd9a823b8824/168a9032-full.pdf)13, [medical research](https://apnews.com/article/trump-science-medicine-research-cancer-funding-university-0ef3fa47694784e47b0ecd51680410ba)14, [aviation safety](https://apnews.com/article/faa-firings-trump-doge-safety-airlines-27390c6a7aac58063652302df5a243d3)15, and the [Northwest’s power](https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/climate-lab/trump-plays-with-fire-in-cutting-bonneville-power-administration-insiders-say/) [grid](https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/climate-lab/trump-plays-with-fire-in-cutting-bonneville-power-administration-insiders-say/)16, among other critical programs.

**WHEREAS,** multiple courts have [blocked](https://www.npr.org/2025/03/06/nx-s1-5312069/trump-federal-funding-freeze-court-order)17 the Trump administration’s sweeping spending freezes, and a court found Trump administration was [failing to comply](https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.rid.58912/gov.uscourts.rid.58912.96.0_5.pdf)18 with the orders to unfreeze funds; and

**WHEREAS,** the budget blueprint passed by House Republicans and endorsed by Donald Trump would [cut hundreds of billions of dollars from Medicare or Medicaid](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2025/03/05/gop-budget-medicaid-cuts/)19;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the 32nd LD Democrats call on Senator Patty Murray and Senator Maria Cantwell to oppose all of Donald Trump’s nominees; and

**BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 32 LD Democrats applaud Senator Patty Murray’s and Senator Maria Cantwell’s efforts thus far to block Donald Trump’s Cabinet nominees, particularly Senator Murray’s consistently voting against all but one of them and [holding the Senate floor](https://www.murray.senate.gov/senator-murray-joins-colleagues-in-holding-senate-floor-all-night-to-send-stark-warning-against-confirming-russ-vought-to-lead-omb/)20 for 30 hours against Russell Vought’s confirmation; and

**BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 32nd LD Democrats call on Senator Patty Murray and Senator Maria Cantwell to place a blanket hold on all Department of Justice nominees until, first, all such nominees publicly affirm that they will follow court orders, and second, the Justice Department stops retaliating against its employees who investigated President Donald J. Trump and his supporters; and

**BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 32nd LD Democrats demands Senator Patty Murray, Senator Maria Cantwell, Representative Pramila Jayapal, and Representative Adam Smith oppose any spending bill that cuts Medicaid or Medicare or codifies Elon Musk’s illegal cuts to essential services, and oppose any further spending until Trump complies with court orders to unfreeze existing funds; and

**BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 32nd LD Democrats demands Senator Patty Murray, Senator Maria Cantwell, Representative Pramila Jayapal, and Representative Adam Smith use all available rules-based procedural methods, including filibuster in the Senate and denying all requests for unanimous consent, to delay all Congressional business until Republican legislators join to reassert Congress’ authority; and

**BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to the offices of Senator Patty Murray, Senator Maria Cantwell, Representative Pramila Jayapal, and Representative Adam Smith; and

**BE IT THEREFORE FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Secretary of the 32nd LD Democrats report back on the response from the aforementioned recipients of this resolution at the 32nd LD Democrats General Meeting immediately following its adoption.

1 RFK Jr. Denied He Is Anti-Vaccine During His Confirmation Hearing. Here’s His Record, *Time*

2 Pam Bondi’s Recent History Is Troubling for the DOJ, *Brennan Center for Justice*

3 Russell Vought Poised to Expand Power of White House Budget Office, *The New York Times*

4 How Each Senator Has Voted on Trump’s Nominees So Far, *The New York Times*

5 Holds on Nominations, *Congressional Research Service*

6 Senator Brian Schatz. *Schatz Announces Blanket Holds on Trump’s State Department Nominees Until Attack on USAID Is Reversed* [Press Release].

[https://www.schatz.senate.gov/news/press-releases/schatz-announces-blanket-holds-on-trumps-state-de](https://www.schatz.senate.gov/news/press-releases/schatz-announces-blanket-holds-on-trumps-state-department-nominees-until-attack-on-usaid-is-reversed) [partment-nominees-until-attack-on-usaid-is-reversed](https://www.schatz.senate.gov/news/press-releases/schatz-announces-blanket-holds-on-trumps-state-department-nominees-until-attack-on-usaid-is-reversed)

7 Trump Justice Department says it has fired employees involved in prosecutions of the president. *AP News*

8 DOJ fires dozens of prosecutors who handled Jan. 6 cases, *Politico*

9 At Senate hearing, Trump Justice Department nominees are cagey on whether they’d follow court orders, *CNN*10 U.S. Const. art. I, § 9, cl. 7.

11 “H.R. 7130 — 93rd Congress: Congressional Budget Act of 1974.” [www.GovTrack.us.](http://www.GovTrack.us/) 1973. March 8,

2025. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/93/hr7130>

12 Can DOGE Close Agencies, Cut Spending without Congress? *Politifact*

13 Enrich, Nicholas. “Risks to U.S. National Security and Public Health: Consequences of Pausing Global Health Funding for Lifesaving Humanitarian Assistance.” Memo to the USAID administrator and deputy administrator, March 5, 2025.

14 NIH research cuts threaten the search for life-saving cures and jobs in every state, *AP News*

15 Some of the 400 jobs that were cut at the FAA helped support air safety, a union says, *AP News*

16 Trump ‘plays with fire’ in cutting Bonneville Power Administration, insiders say, *The Seattle Times*

17 A second federal judge has ruled to block the Trump administration's spending freeze, *NPR*

18 *New York v. Trump*, Civil Action No. 1:25-cv-39, U.S. District Court of Rhode Island, Court Order, Feb 10, 2025

19 GOP must cut Medicaid or Medicare to achieve budget goals, CBO finds, *The Washington Post*

20 Senator Patty Murray. *Senator Murray Joins Colleagues in Holding Senate Floor All Night to Send Stark Warning Against Confirming Russ Vought to Lead OMB* [Press Release].

Adopted by the 43rd LD Democrats at the March 18, 2025 General Meeting.Submitted by:

 Nora Sandler, Jacob Hanson (King County Alt Representative, 43rd LD), Justan Peterson (Communications Chair, 43rd LD) and Frédéric Dubut (Secretary, 43rd LD) to the March 18, 2025 General Meeting of the 43rd LD Democrats.