

Republican Governors Endorsed the Balanced Budget Amendment campaign.

Republican governors sent a letter to Congress on January 11th offering to help Elon Musk and President Trump – in their cost-cutting efforts – reach the ultimate goal of a balanced federal budget.

The letter to Congress is available on the page below.

The Republican Governors Association's (RGA) original plan was to send Congress a letter directly endorsing the state-led Balanced Budget Amendment campaign. That decision was approved by the RGA after a pitch by Gov. DeSantis, Gov. Sununu and Gov. Stitt on behalf of the non-profit *Balanced Budget Now*. Two months later, Elon Musk announced his desire to cut \$2 trillion from our yearly deficit to balance the federal budget. President Trump, intent on reducing the size of government, created DOGE to give Musk a vehicle to pursue these cuts.

This prompted the Republican Governors Association to alter its letter to Congress by applauding President Trump and Elon Musk for their cost-cutting efforts, and offering to help them reach the ultimate goal of a balanced federal budget. That was the RGA's indirect way of endorsing the Balanced Budget Amendment campaign because amending the U.S. Constitution to require a balanced federal budget is literally the only way that the states can help in this regard.

** It should be noted that all 26 Republican governors signed this letter which is a rare occurrence.



January 10, 2025

Senator John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Speaker Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leaders of Congress,

We are writing today to express our overwhelming support for President Trump’s Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) Initiative and request that Congress work alongside him to solidify the efficiencies that are found into law. As chief executives for our states, we know a thing or two about streamlining government, removing unnecessary bureaucracy, and bringing efficient, result-driven solutions to state government. We stand by President Trump as he works to do the same with the federal government.

As governors, we are responsible for balancing our state budgets and living within our means. As a result, our states are thriving. The data speaks for itself. Eight out of the top ten states for inbound migration are led by a Republican governor.¹ When it comes to housing affordability, nine out of ten of the top states with the most affordable housing are led by a Republican governor, while nine out of ten of the states with the least affordable housing are led by a Democrat governor.²

These results don’t just happen overnight. Our states are successful because we live within our means. We balance our budgets, lower taxes, leverage surpluses, pay down debt, improve the efficiency of state governments, and create an environment where our constituents can build a prosperous future for themselves, their family, and their community.

¹ <https://www.nar.realtor/sites/default/files/2024-11/2024-migration-trends-report-11-26-2024.pdf>

² <https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/rankings/opportunity/affordability>

It is past time for Washington to live within its means too. We support President Trump's appointment of Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy and agree with their assertion that the federal government needs to be cut down to size.³ We stand ready to help.

Finding inefficiencies in the federal government is an important first step towards the ultimate goal of balancing the federal budget. Washington needs to remove wasteful spending and balance its budget to achieve long-term fiscal stability, promote economic growth, and protect our national security.

We applaud President Trump for prioritizing government efficiency and stand ready to help DOGE—and Congress—be successful.

Sincerely,



Governor Kay Ivey
State of Alabama



Governor Mike Dunleavy
State of Alaska



Governor Sarah Sanders
State of Arkansas



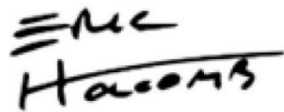
Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida



Governor Brian Kemp
State of Georgia



Governor Brad Little
State of Idaho



Governor Eric Holcomb
State of Indiana



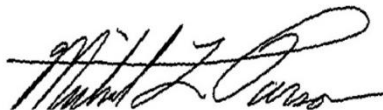
Governor Kim Reynolds
State of Iowa



Governor Jeff Landry
State of Louisiana



Governor Tate Reeves
State of Mississippi



Governor Mike Parson
State of Missouri



Governor Greg Gianforte
State of Montana

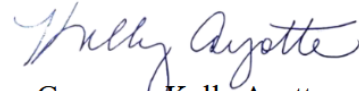
³ <https://www.wsj.com/opinion/musk-and-ramaswamy-the-doge-plan-to-reform-government-supreme-courtguidance-end-executive-power-grab-fa51c020>



Governor Jim Pillen
State of Nebraska



Governor Joe Lombardo
State of Nevada



Governor Kelly Ayotte
State of New Hampshire



Governor Kelly Armstrong
State of North Dakota



Governor Mike DeWine
State of Ohio



Governor Kevin Stitt
State of Oklahoma



Governor Henry Dargan McMaster
State of South Carolina



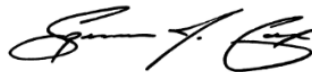
Governor Kristi Noem
State of South Dakota



Governor Bill Lee
State of Tennessee



Governor Greg Abbott
State of Texas



Governor Spencer Cox
State of Utah



Governor Glenn Youngkin
Commonwealth of Virginia



Governor Jim Justice
State of West Virginia



Governor Mark Gordon
State of Wyoming