DEMOCRATS AT WORK

In the House of Representatives



How are Democrats fighting back against the Trump Administration?

House Democrats are deploying every procedural, legal, and oversight tool at their disposal.

1. **DIRECT ACTIONS** — Task Force, Party Unity
2. **IN THE COURTS** — 200+ legal blocks of Trump actions
3. **LEGISLATION** — Bills passed and ready to move
4. **OVERSIGHT TOOLS** — Forcing Republicans on the record
5. **DEFENDING DEMOCRACY** — Defending elections
6. **IMPEACHMENT**— Building the evidentiary record now
7. **DAY 1 PLANS** — Retaking the House majority

1. Direct Actions

- In January 2025, in response to the election, House Democrats formed the **Rapid Response Task Force and Litigation Working Group** to coordinate all efforts across **legislation, litigation, and oversight.**

- **Showing Party Unity**
  - Every House and Senate Democrat voted against the One Big Beautiful Bill Act
  - Impeachment support has grown from 78 to 140 House Democrats in under a year
  - War Powers Resolution on Iran forced to the Senate floor 8 times; most recent vote advanced 50-47
  - 22 Democratic State AGs and D.C. filed 71 coordinated lawsuits covering immigration, environmental, and labor violations

- **Individual Members Taking Visible Stands**
  - Sen. Cory Booker delivered 25 hour filibuster, the longest in Senate history
  - Sen. Chris Van Hollen flew to El Salvador to check on a constituent wrongfully deported to CECOT prison
  - Congressional delegation of New Jersey Democrats conducted an oversight visit to Delaney Hall Immigration Detention Center

- **Improving Party Messaging**

2. In the Courts

The Litigation Task Force files amicus briefs in support of cases brought by state AGs, nonprofits, and affected parties. Democrats have filed briefs in 14+ major cases with member signatures ranging from 148 to 208 per brief, and have been cited in rulings across the country. 19 states are actively litigating the federal election administration Exec Orders alone.

There have been 200+ court blocks of Trump administration actions

2a. IN THE COURTS:

- **Birthright citizenship** — Executive Orders (EO) blocked at every court level; now before the Supreme Court; **Democrats filed briefs with 208 member signatures**
- **Department of Education** — dismantling blocked; terminated staff ordered reinstated; **Democrats filed briefs with 192 member signatures**
- **DOGE/Treasury** — federal judge barred DOGE from accessing Treasury payment systems containing financial data on every American who receives federal payments
- **NIH research grants** — court temporarily blocked administration's cuts to research funding; **Democrats filed briefs with 152 member signatures**
- **USAID** — court ruled dismantling likely unconstitutional; staff ordered reinstated; **Democrats filed briefs with 202 member signatures**
- **CFPB** — court blocked administration's attempt to shut the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; Democrats filed briefs with 200+ member signatures
- **IEEPA tariffs** — three-judge panel unanimously blocked Trump's unilateral "Liberation Day" tariffs; Supreme Court struck them down as well; **Democrats filed briefs with 179 member signatures**

2b. IN THE COURTS, con't.

- **Transgender military ban** — preliminary injunction issued; court found administration's justification unsupported by evidence
- **Harvard/$2.2B funding freeze** — court ruled funding freeze unconstitutional First Amendment retaliation; permanent injunction issued restoring all grants
- **FTC independence** — Democrats mobilized 163 House and 44 Senate Democrats in legal challenge to Trump's unlawful removal of FTC Commissioner Rebecca Slaughter
- **OMB appropriations freeze** — 157 House Democrats filed amicus brief challenging the unlawful freezing of congressionally appropriated funds
- **DEI executive orders** — partial blocks in place; cases ongoing
- **Election administration EO** — DNC, DCCC, DSCC, and DGA sued to block federal overhaul of state-administered elections; portions blocked
- **IRS/$10B self-dealing settlement** — Litigation Task Force filed motion to block Trump's attempt to settle a sham $10B lawsuit he filed against the IRS — an agency he himself oversees

3a. Legislation

Bills are written and ready to pass the moment the Democrats retake the House.

Already passed or advancing, with bipartisan support:

War Powers Resolution on Iran — advanced 50-47 in Senate

Collective bargaining bill — passed 231-195 with 20 Republicans via discharge petition

ACA subsidies extension — House-passed 230-196

Trade Review Act — advancing with bipartisan Senate support

- **MERIT Act (H.R. 1835)** — reinstates DOGE-fired federal workers with back pay
- **Protect Veteran Jobs Act (H.R. 1637)** — reinstates veterans terminated without cause
- **Protect Our Probationary Employees Act (H.R. 1989)** — first bipartisan anti-DOGE bill; 3 Republican cosponsors
- **Nobody Elected Elon Musk Act (H.R. 1145)** — establishes DOGE liability for unlawful federal actions
- **CLEAR Act (H.R. 1099)** — subjects DOGE to FOIA transparency requirements
- **Taxpayer Data Protection Act (H.R. 1101)** — prohibits unauthorized access to Treasury payment systems
- **Ending DOGE Conflicts Act (H.R. 1321)** — requires special government employees with federal contracts to file public financial disclosures
- **ELOP Act (H.R. 2824)** — bars special government employees from holding concurrent federal contracts
- **Dept. of Education Protection Act (H.R. 433)** — prohibits defunding or restructuring the Department of Education
- **Prevent Tariff Abuse Act (H.R. 407)** — requires congressional authorization before emergency tariffs take effect
- **Protect U.S. National Security Act (H.R. 1196)** — prohibits elimination of USAID without congressional approval

3b. Bills are written and ready to pass the moment the Democrats retake the House, con't.

- **Reclaim Trade Powers Act (H.R. 2459)** — strips outdated presidential IEEPA tariff authority
- **ROUTE Act (H.R. 2464)** — repeals Section 338 tariff authority used against allies
- **Congressional Trade Authority Act (H.R. 1903)** — requires Congress notification on Section 232 trade actions
- **John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (H.R. 14)** — restores federal preclearance protections for voters of color
- **Ban Presidential Plunder of Taxpayer Funds Act** — bans the President from collecting settlement payments from the United States
- **Protecting Our Democracy Act (H.R. 5314)** — codifies prohibitions on presidential emoluments
- **SLUSH FUND Act (H.R. 8910)** — taxes Trump's $1.776B fund for January 6 rioters at 100%, returning money to taxpayers

4. Oversight Tools

Minority Democrats cannot call hearings on the floor or bring bills to a vote. But, they can implement these tools and force accountability anyway, by putting every Republican refusal, blocked investigation, and harmful vote permanently on public record.

- **Discharge petitions** — A procedural tool that forces a bill to the House floor even when Republican leadership refuses to schedule it, by collecting 218 signatures. Democrats used this to pass the collective bargaining bill 231-195 with 20 Republicans.
- **Privileged Resolutions of Inquiry** — Formal demands Democrats can force to a floor vote without leadership approval, requiring the administration to hand over specific documents or information. 17 filed in the first 100 days on DOGE, Musk conflicts, SignalGate, CFPB, and more. *All voted down by Republicans, but every vote is permanently on public record.*
- **Shadow hearings** — Public proceedings with expert witnesses held on USAID, the Iran war, NOAA workforce cuts, civil rights, and rule of law.
- **Minority amendments** — 25 amendments offered during OBBBA markup, forcing Republicans on record against Medicaid, Medicare, and worker protections.
- **300+ investigative letters** — Formal demands sent to HHS, DOD, DOJ, CMS, and others on DOGE conflicts, SignalGate, mass firings, nuclear workforce terminations, and more.
- **GAO investigations triggered** — The Government Accountability Office is Congress's independent nonpartisan watchdog that investigates how federal money is spent and whether laws are being followed. Democrats triggered 7 investigations into DOGE operations, CFPB shutdown, HUD closures, and cybersecurity failures.
- **Whistleblower portal** — Established at litigationtaskforce.house.gov for federal employees to safely report illegal administration actions directly to Congress.

5. Defending Democracy

Democrats are actively defending voting rights, election administration, independent institutions, and fair representation against direct attacks from the Trump administration.

- **NOPE Act (H.R. 7060)** - legal protections against politically motivated federal prosecution
- Trade Review Act (H.R. 2665/S.1272 – requires congressional approval of tariffs within 60 days
- **SAVE America Act** — Trump's voter suppression bill would require a passport or birth certificate to register to vote. Senate Democrats are filibustering it; cannot advance without Democratic votes.
- **FEC independence** — Trump signed an EO trying to bring the FEC under White House control, eliminating its independence. DNC, DCCC, and DSCC sued to block it.
- **Campaign finance law** — The Trump DOJ refused to defend the federal law limits on how much a political party can spend in coordination with its candidates, abandoning the law on purpose. Democrats intervened directly at the Supreme Court.
- **Federal election administration EO** — Trump signed an EO attempting to give his administration direct control over how states run their elections. 19 states and Democratic party committees sued to block it; federal courts have already blocked portions.
- **Redistricting counteroffensive** — In May 2026, Jeffries launched the New York Democracy Project directing seven states — New York, New Jersey, Washington, Colorado, Oregon, Maryland, and Illinois — to aggressively redraw congressional maps in response to Republican gerrymandering. Goal: net 12 additional Democratic seats ahead of 2028. Already announced and underway.
- **DCCC Red to Blue and Frontline programs** — Red to Blue recruits and funds Democratic challengers running to flip Republican-held seats. Frontline protects vulnerable Democratic incumbents.

TAKING BACK THE HOUSE MAJORITY IS CRUCIAL TO STOPPING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION.

6. Impeachment

- **Democrats have introduced multiple rounds of impeachment articles against Trump**
- Support has grown from 78 to 140 House Democrats in under a year
- Democrats are in the minority and cannot pass impeachment without Republican votes for a simple majority. Conviction and removal requires a 2/3 majority in the Senate

Democrats continue building the evidentiary record now and enact Day 1 of House majority.

The evidentiary record being built includes: DOGE corruption, Trump crypto self-dealing ($11.6B in holdings documented), Epstein files, SignalGate, Iran war authorization, and SCOTUS ethics violations

Trump has been impeached twice before — once in 2019 for abuse of power and obstruction of Congress related to Ukraine, and once in January 2021 for incitement of insurrection following the January 6th Capitol attack. He was acquitted by the Senate both times. A third impeachment would be unprecedented in American history

What can we do?

What can Congress do?

- **Protect Frontline Districts and Win Red to Blue DCCC seats**
- **Continue Rapid Response Task Force and Working Litigation Working Group**
- **Improve Democratic Party Messaging**
- **Continue holding Trump admin and Republicans accountable**
- **Focus on legislation to improve quality of life**
- **Be a good leader!**

What can constituents do?

- **Help take back House Majority!**
  - **Visit DCCC frontline / Red to Blue websites**
  - **Support groups like Democracy Forward, States Project, Commit to Democracy, Bay Area Coalition**
- **GET OUT THE VOTE!**
- **Be a good neighbor!**