



Dear friends and neighbors,

It's been another week of a chaotic Trump Administration that began a rash of reckless and shortsighted firings of federal workers and continued their cruel cuts to vital services.

I've been fighting these efforts in Congress and reaching out to people across the district to fully understand the impact of these cuts.

Visit to Local Head Start Impacted by Cuts

Today, I visited a Head Start facility in North Brunswick to meet with local students and educators directly impacted by President Trump's funding freezes and proposed budget cuts. What I'm hearing from organizations like Head Start is that if the lawsuits to unfreeze their accounts had not been successful they would have had to shut their doors on the 1000 children they serve at eight locations in Middlesex and Monmouth County.



Head Start helps youngsters from low-income families get a leg up or catch up to their fellow students. But 80% of their funding comes from federal grants that Trump has tried to freeze and the GOP Congress is trying to cut. Head Start helps over 800,000 students nationwide (they've served nearly 40 million students since they started six decades ago) and is just one organization that is helping our families and would be devastated by the terrible Republican budget and tax-scam.

That's why my democratic colleagues and I fought to prevent cuts to programs like these in the Budget Committee and we'll do so again next week on the House Floor.

Mass Firings

In this past week, the Trump Administration has conducted a [dangerous and reckless rash of firings](#) of federal employees. These workers are in critically important positions including at the CFPB fighting predatory banks who have ripped off Americans, at the EPA making sure our rivers and air are clean, even at the Department of Energy, [securing our nuclear arsenal](#).

In response to multiple plane crashes during his second term, including a fatal crash

just miles away from the White House, President Trump has also [fired around 400 Federal Aviation Administration \(FAA\) employees](#) whose responsibilities include monitoring the FAA radar and landing and navigational aid maintenance. These terminations also come at a time when the agency was experiencing short staffing.

In addition, while cases of diseases like norovirus and the flu are on the rise, the President fired hundreds of employees at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) including workers who served as "[disease detectors.](#)"

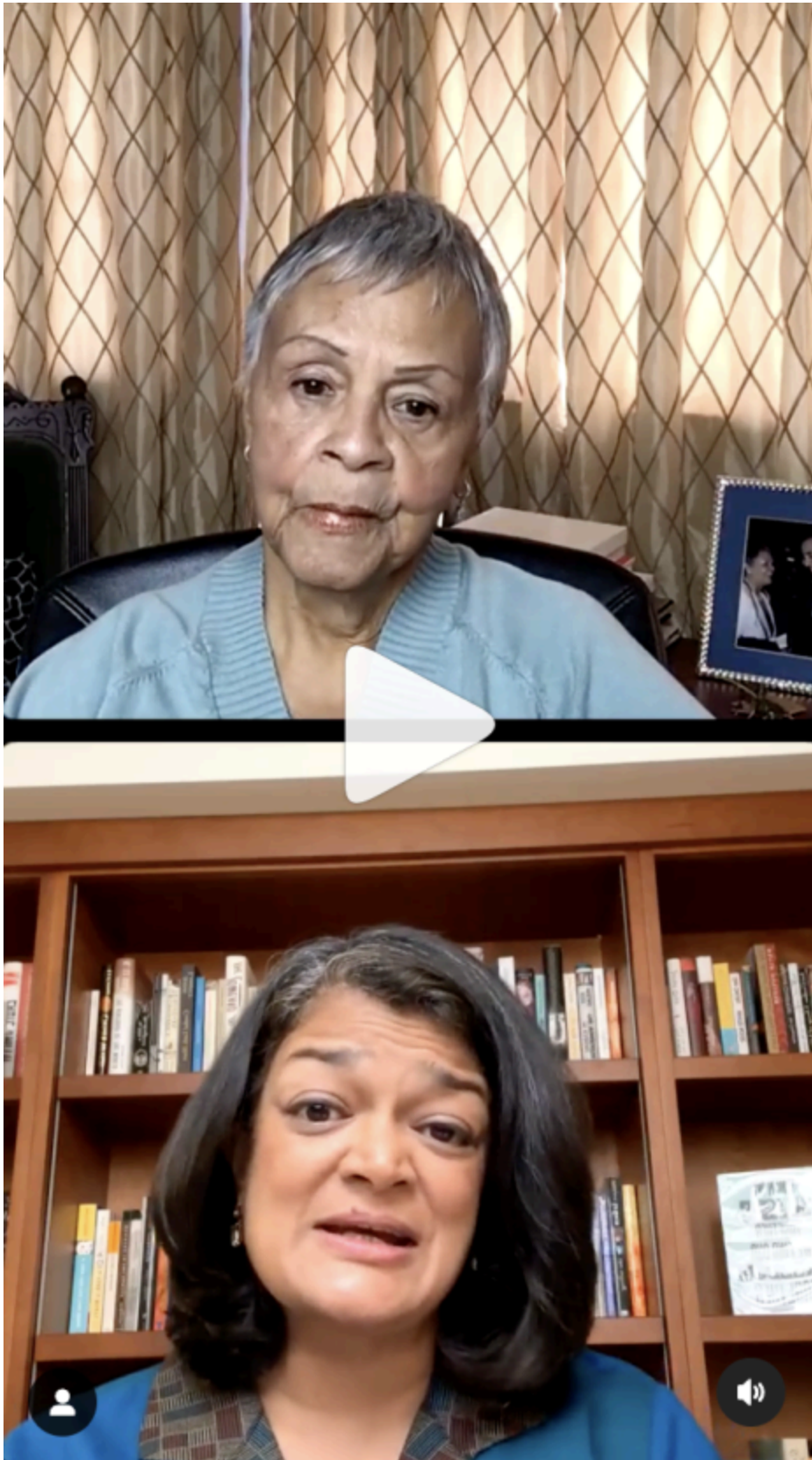
Democrats in the House, the Senate and in the states are working to reverse these cuts through legal action and prevent future ones through committee work and legislation. It's important for you to make your voice heard. Call your elected leaders and talk to your friends, family, and neighbors and encourage them to make their representatives know how they feel.

On Tuesday, I spoke with Raven Santana on NJSpotlight News about the impacts of these workforce cuts. Watch Here: <https://youtu.be/K0ipqEVGOPc>



Budget Committee Members Fighting Cuts

[On Wednesday afternoon](#), I was joined by Rep. Jayapal (WA-07) on the #WTFShow to discuss the recent developments in the Budget Committee. Last week, we spent 12 hours in the Budget Committee opposing Republicans' budget proposals which harm working- and middle-class folks in order to benefit the 1%. I proposed amendments that protected [Medicare and Medicaid](#) as well as the [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau](#) – both of which were voted down by my Republican colleagues. It is clear that my Republican colleagues do not care about hard working Americans but exclusively about their billionaire donors.



Additionally, Rep. Jayapal and I touched on the involvement of unelected official Elon Musk in the US government. It is unacceptable that Musk and DOGE have access to your personal information.

Make sure you make your voice heard. The power of the people is stronger than the people in power.

I Want to Hear From You

There are over 4,000 federal employees working in the 12th District of New Jersey. The Trump Administration has mounted an aggressive assault on our federal workforce and I want to hear directly from federal employees who have been impacted. For example: If you are a federal employee who received an email to take DOGE's severance package, or were a probationary worker who was recently let go, or would like to share your general experience working as a current federal worker, [I want to hear from you](#). Your stories and experiences will help inform my work in Congress as my colleagues and I determine how to best push back against the President's actions and fight for you.

Impact of Trump's Abandonment of Ukraine

President Trump has begun to weaken [U.S. relations with Europe](#), specifically Ukraine. This past Tuesday, representatives from the United States and Russia met, without Ukraine, to discuss ending the war on Ukraine that began with Russia's invasion in February 2022. Ukraine's President Zelenskyy expressed dismay over his exclusion of these meetings and President Trump responded with misinformation insinuating that the Russian invasion that began the war was Ukraine's fault.

We cannot abandon our Ukrainian allies and we must continue to ensure stability in Europe.

Trump Signs Executive Order Undermining Congressional Oversight of Agencies

On Tuesday, President Trump signed [an executive order](#) that stated that agencies previously distinguished by Congress as independent from the White House should begin to answer to Trump alone. [This order](#) gives the president more scope and power regarding the oversight of the financial system, transportation safety regulations, basic consumer protections, and wireless communications. Above all, this is a complete disregard for checks and balances.



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