

Stop the Big Bad Bill

The recent executive order revoking Harvard's ability to enroll international students is just a distraction — don't fall for it. Harvard is fighting back with a lawsuit that they will likely win. Instead, pay attention to the "authority grab" buried in the Big Bad Budget Bill. This bill will mean the end of public higher ed as we know it, but that's the LEAST of it.

We have been surviving the last 100+ days because of the wins in the courts. ALL of those wins are about to be **undone by this bill**. The Judiciary — the last bastion of American Democracy — is being directly attacked by language inserted in this bill.

SEC. 70302.

RESTRICTION ON ENFORCEMENT

No court of the United States may enforce a contempt citation for failure to comply with an injunction or temporary restraining order if no security was given when the injunction or order was issued pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(c), whether issued prior to, on, or subsequent to the date of enactment of this section.

Translation: no court in the land can do anything about anything, henceforth, **or prior to** this bill's approval. How?

NOTE:

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(c) requires that when a court issues a preliminary injunction or temporary restraining order, the movant* must provide security in an amount the court deems appropriate to cover costs and damages suffered by a party who is wrongfully enjoined or restrained.

**Plaintiff (We the People)*

This rule normally protects the defendant (*but in this case, the Executive*) from potential harm if the injunction is later determined to be wrongly issued.

But these are not civil cases between civilians, they are the People vs. Government, over constitutional violations. *This* is where we have historically relied on conservative leadership to protect against such government overreach, but we have clearly been abandoned by the party.

How We Got Here

In early March, after many delays, and a massive budget bill that no one had been given time to read, Senate Republicans threatened a government shutdown. To prevent that, Democrats accepted a **reconciliation bill** in exchange for a Continuing Resolution (CR) that extended funding for the federal government through the end of the fiscal year (September 30, 2025).

The problem is that a reconciliation bill only requires a simple majority to pass, where a regular bill would have required 2/3 of the House and a 60-vote supermajority of the Senate.

We are Way Past Politics

Keep in mind, this bill hurts ALL of us! It destroys a century of protections and programs that Americans have fought **and paid for**, including Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, free speech and the right to bear arms! [Read it for yourself, particularly page 544 of the budget.]

Americans are being robbed. Most are working harder than ever. Some are working two and three jobs and still can't afford rent, food, or healthcare. Students are buried in debt. One hospital visit can ruin a family, and this is the richest country in the world?

People are told that the problem is Republicans or Democrats, but while each fights the other, the super rich collect everything for themselves. They are *buying* the government. Like during the Civil War, *the people* are turned against one another, while the rich and big business takes everything.

Maybe it's time to stop looking left and right, and start looking up! ♦



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LET MEMBER BENEFITS HELP YOU PLAN FOR RETIREMENT

If you recently retired or plan to do so in the near future, it's important to prepare for the transition from in-service work to retirement.

Maintaining NYSUT membership in retirement is crucial, especially if you're currently participating in a NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed program(s) and would like to continue doing so. This can be accomplished in one of two ways:

- 1** Continue membership within your local if retiree membership is offered. Contact your local to find out if any retiree membership requirements are in place. You must comply with these requirements to continue your membership in NYSUT along with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and National Education Association (NEA).
- 2** Continue as an at-large member of NYSUT through the Retiree Council in your region. Contact your local to ensure you will be reported as retired to NYSUT. This will provide you with membership in the Retiree Council in your region along with NYSUT, AFT, and NEA. If you have questions about maintaining NYSUT membership or would like more information about NYSUT retiree programs, you will want to contact the NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant serving your region. You can find this information at nysut.cc/retireeconsultants.

More than a dozen of the endorsed programs offered by Member Benefits can be purchased through either payroll or pension deduction. These convenient payment methods offer reduced premiums or the elimination of service fees in many instances. An active NYSUT membership is required to participate in payroll or pension deduction. If you're currently participating in one (or more) of our endorsed programs, we encourage you to look into switching to pension deduction after you enter retirement.

Learn more about continuing Member Benefits-endorsed programs or the pension deduction process by scanning the QR code, visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org, or calling 800-626-8101.



So Now What...?

The question now is, what can stop that big bad reconciliation bill from passing into law?

Limitations:

Reconciliation bills can only be used to make changes to spending, revenues, or the debt limit. In the Senate, reconciliation bills are subject to the *Byrd Rule*, named after Senator Robert Byrd, which limits the provisions that can be included.

The Byrd Rule, officially Section 313 of the Congressional Budget Act, limits the inclusion of non-budgetary provisions in budget reconciliation bills within the Senate. It ensures that reconciliation bills focus on fiscal matters, preventing the inclusion of unrelated provisions.

For example, changes to Social Security are considered extraneous and ineligible for inclusion in reconciliation under the Byrd Rule. So it is likely to be chal-

lenged. Certainly, all the language that attempts to hamper the entire third branch of government must be challenged!

Actions:

- ♦ Use the 5 Calls app to call senators to vote no on the budget bill. Tell them to vote "No," or be voted out!
- ♦ Demand more from New York State officials. Tell them to ensure that the police protect and serve the People of New York, not aid and abet violators of our Constitution.

The Lincoln Project has created PSAs warning law enforcement and other **officials that they can be held legally liable** and charged with a felony for carrying out illegal orders denying people due process. The warnings specifically mention ICE, CEP, DOJ, contractors, lawyers and appointed officials. Remind them when you call! ♦



Visit our Chapter Website

EVENTS PAGE
for more programs
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may interest you.



BOYCOTT CALENDAR

June 3-9: Target

June 24-30: McDonalds

July 4: All Retail

Chapter Elections

2025-27 Officers & Delegates

Please welcome your newly elected Chapter representatives:

Yolanda Drakkir
President

Vicki Janik
VP Academics

Solomon Ayo
VP Professionals

RoseAnn Byron
Treasurer

Debbie Nilsen
Secretary

Thomas Smyth
Officer for Contingents

Daniel Marrone
Officer for Retirees

Academic Delegates

Michael Canders
Vicki Janik
Michael Oil
Jack Simonson
Thomas Smyth

Professional Delegates

Solomon Ayo
Celeste Demby
Gregorio Diaz Martinez
Rebecca Haas
Sandra Hustedt
Carlos Jativa
Mercy Jose
Sylvia Navarro-Nicosia

The Third Branch

Legal Wins That Justify the Struggle

- ◆ In Oklahoma, there was an attempt to create a religious public charter school. That attempt was blocked by the Supreme Court because it violates the First Amendment protection of the separation of church and state. Public schools cannot dictate religion, and must welcome all children, regardless of faith.
- ◆ The overhaul of US elections was deemed unconstitutional. A 120-page judgement blocked entire sections of an executive order, including a proof-of-citizenship requirement. It stated that the government had offered no defense of its merits.
- ◆ ICE was ordered to reinstate the legal status of 133 international students. All canceled student fees have been restored.
- ◆ The governor of Maine won a court ruling against an unconstitutional threat to withhold federal funding to the state.
- ◆ A North Carolina Supreme Court seat challenge was finally settled in favor of Allison Riggs, winner of the popular vote, after months of legal battles.
- ◆ All tariffs have officially been confirmed unconstitutional in a unanimous ruling by the US Court of International Trade. The United States Court of International Trade has nationwide jurisdiction over civil actions arising out of the customs and international trade laws of the United States. The suit was brought by 12 states against the administration. The request was for a temporary injunction, but the court granted a summary judgment which is final and permanent. The court said that the Executive does not have "...unbounded authority, and sets aside the challenged tariffs imposed thereunder." Of course, the ruling has been appealed, leaving the tariffs in effect for now. ◆

Individual Development Awards

Congratulations to all award recipients, who received awards totaling \$45,138.99. All but four applications were approved. Three of those were postponed, as the events in the applications fall into next year's award cycle, and one application was for labor, not covered by this award program. The balance of the fund will roll over to next year, so keep "developing" and save your receipts!

Deportation Flights

Avelo Airlines, which operates as a budget airline, entered into a long-term contract with ICE to provide domestic and international deportation flights. Avelo has established a charter-only base in Mesa, Arizona, specifically for deportation flights, and has dedicated three aircraft to these operations. The contract has faced considerable backlash, including a [petition](#) urging travelers to avoid the airline. Boycotters... you know what to do !!