

The Efficiency Experts

(November 2024)

The President-Elect has named Messrs. **Musk** and **Ramaswamy** to lead a newly formed **Department of Government Efficiency**.

The President-Elect has said that their work would conclude by July 4th, 2026, adding that a smaller government would be his "*gift*" to the country on the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The **Efficiency Experts** "*will pave the way for my Administration to dismantle Government Bureaucracy, slash excess regulations, cut wasteful expenditures, and restructure Federal Agencies,*" said the President-Elect in a statement.

This short essay will endeavor to analyze the matter in view of some of the realities of the structures of the Executive Branch of Government.

1. The United States Federal Executive Departments

	Department	Employees	Budget (billion \$)
1	State	30,000	\$58.1
2	Treasury	100,000	\$16.4
3	Interior (<i>includes the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and Indian Affairs</i>)	70,000	\$35.0
4	Agriculture	100,000	\$242.0
5	Justice (<i>includes the FBI</i>)	113,543	\$37.5
6	Commerce (<i>includes NOAA</i>)	41,000	\$16.3
7	Labor	15,000	\$97.5
8	Defense	3,200,000	\$852.0
9	Health and Human Services	65,000	\$1,772.0
10	Housing and Urban Development	9,000	\$61.7
11	Transportation	55,000	\$145.0
12	Energy	10,000	\$45.8
13	Education	4,200	\$79.6
14	Veterans Affairs	235,000	\$308.5
15	Homeland Security	250,000	\$101.6
	Total:	4,297,743	\$3,869.0

Budget per employee:	\$900,240
<i>Average salary:</i>	<i>\$106,462</i>

A few figures for comparison:

TESLA average salary:	\$79,096
SPACE X average salary:	\$100,841
TESLA revenue per employee:	\$688,908
SPACE X revenue per employee:	\$353,846
Combined revenue per employee:	\$656,609
FORD revenue per employee:	\$937,000
The TRUMP Organization revenue per employee ¹	\$26,726

For reference, **Elon Musk's personal wealth** is equal to:

25 years

of **all** the salaries paid to
all of the **135,000**
employees of **TESLA** and
SPACE X

Candid remarks:

One could wonder which skills and moral philosophy will be applied by the wealthiest man on the planet to fulfill the President-Elect's promise, since his main talent consists in drastically maximizing his own personal profit and minimizing expenses, including salaries **and tax** paid to the Government.

Furthermore, it appears from the figures above that the **Budget/Revenue per employee efficiency ratio** in the Government's Executive Departments compares quite favorably to that of the **most** efficient of automotive manufacturers, among others, **while eclipsing the efficiency ratio in Mr. Musk's own enterprises**², let alone the Trump Organization.

It seems rather curious and curiouser in this novel Adventure in Wonderland that Mr. Musk could be able to improve in Government an efficiency which already surpasses quite significantly that in his own business ventures.

¹ See Wikipedia: [The Trump Organization](#), noting however that revenue is for 2024 and the number of employees for 2015

² Although, to be fair, it is quite undeniable that Mr. Musk is a remarkable expert indeed when it comes to the optimization of his own personal income.

In view of these realities, it appears that the remarkably subtle cure pursued by Mr. Musk and his collaborator is to **fire immediately and randomly one in two federal employees**³, thus adding

2,148,872

individuals to the current legions of the **7 million** unemployed men and women (a **4.1%** unemployment rate) and increasing instantly the number of the unemployed to:

9,148,872

(a **5.4%** unemployment rate).

2. The Independent Agencies of the United States Government

The fate of the million or so employees of the 45 **Independent Agencies of the United States Government** has not been unveiled yet at the time this essay when to press.

- 1 Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
- 2 Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI)
- 3 Selective Service System (SSS)
- 4 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- 5 Amtrak
- 6 Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB)
- 7 Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)
- 8 Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)
- 9 Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
- 10 Election Assistance Commission (EAC)
- 11 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- 12 Export–Import Bank of the United States (EXIM)
- 13 Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
- 14 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)
- 15 Federal Election Commission (FEC)
- 16 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
- 17 Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA)
- 18 Federal Maritime Commission (FMC)
- 19 Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS)

³ Those with a Social Security Number ending in an odd numeral

- 20 Federal Reserve System
- 21 Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB)
- 22 Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
- 23 General Services Administration (GSA)
- 24 International Trade Commission (ITC)
- 25 National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
- 26 National Credit Union Administration (NCUA)
- 27 National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)
- 28 National Science Foundation (NSF)
- 29 National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)
- 30 Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
- 31 Office of Special Counsel (OSC)
- 32 Peace Corps
- 33 Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC)
- 34 Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
- 35 Small Business Administration (SBA)
- 36 Social Security Administration (SSA)
- 37 Surface Transportation Board (STB)
- 38 Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)
- 39 United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- 40 United States Postal Service (USPS)
- 41 United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)
- 42 Fannie Mae, or the Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA)
- 43 Freddie Mac, or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC)
- 44 The National Gallery of Art
- 45 The Smithsonian Institution

The Efficiency Experts have not publicly addressed yet the issue of a 30% increase of unemployment, nor that of severe discontent and despair among the millions who will have lost employment so abruptly. Nor have they commented on the effects on the powerless of slashing the regulation of the powerful and granting public assets and land to them.

You can find hereafter earlier essays on the same topic by the same author ⁴:

- [A Deep State of Affairs](#)
- [Government Efficiency Commission](#)

⁴ who would not bet more than a trifle on the eventual success of the Efficiency Experts. However, he would bet a sizeable amount on festivities of Independence Day, 2026, being quite mute on the subject.