

A New Era of True Fiscal Responsibility: The Legislative Department of Government Efficiency

My fellow citizens, for too long the American people have watched as our government struggles with inefficiencies, bureaucratic bloat, and a lack of accountability. We deserve a government that works smarter, not just harder, and a government that makes every taxpayer dollar count. That's why as your representative in Congress, I will champion the creation of a truly groundbreaking and permanent institution: the Legislative Department of Government Efficiency (L-DGE). This isn't just another layer of bureaucracy; it's a fundamental reimagining of how we ensure our government delivers for you. Just as the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) provides independent, objective analysis of our nation's finances, the L-DGE will provide rigorous analysis of government operations, identifying waste, streamlining processes, and ensuring taxpayer dollars are spent effectively.

The L-DGE will be firmly established as a non-partisan legislative commission mirroring the proven independent model of the CBO. This crucial distinction combined with a commitment to diverse expert perspectives fundamentally changes the game. Its mandate will include:

- **Identifying Waste and Duplication:** Rigorously analyzing government programs to eliminate redundancies, reduce unnecessary spending, and streamline operations.
- **Improving Service Delivery:** Proposing improvements to how government services are delivered to citizens, making them more accessible, efficient, and user-friendly.
- **Optimizing Technology and Data:** Assessing and recommending upgrades to government technology infrastructure and data management practices to enhance efficiency and security.
- **Promoting Best Practices:** Identifying and disseminating best practices in government management from both the public and private sectors.

Why the Legislative DGE is Superior: An Impartial Umpire for Taxpayers

We've all heard the calls for greater government efficiency. Recently, the Executive Branch launched its own Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), a testament to the undeniable need for reform. While I commend any effort to streamline operations, we must critically examine whether the current approach truly serves the American people or is just another temporary fix susceptible to political winds. Imagine a baseball game where the umpires wore the jerseys of one of the teams on the field. How much faith would you have in their calls? Would you trust that a pitch truly was a strike, or that a runner was out, if the person making the call was openly part of one team? That's the fundamental flaw with our current approach to government efficiency. The truth is, genuine, lasting efficiency and accountability cannot be dictated from within the very branch it seeks to oversee. It's like asking a team to officiate its own game.

The problem with the current DOGE model: Biased umpires in government: An Executive Branch-led "efficiency" department, while perhaps well-intentioned, inherently wears the jersey of the current administration. This means its findings and recommendations can be, and often are, subject to political influence. We've witnessed instances where such efforts risk

irrational firings of experienced public servants, clearing the way for loyalty over expertise. Decisions were made by individuals who did not have the institutional knowledge to make objective and constructive evaluations but were motivated by political favor, much like an umpire making calls based on what helps their team, not on the rules. This model often leads to a focus on short-term wins over sustainable, systemic change creating a perception of efficiency that doesn't translate into real, lasting benefits for taxpayers, and can even sow deeper distrust.

These failures waste taxpayer money, decrease government effectiveness, and erode the public's trust. This is not about replacing one temporary initiative with another, or simply "stealing an idea." This is about transforming the oversight of government efficiency to be truly representative of the American people, and not merely of executive partisanship. We need an independent, non-partisan arbiter—a truly impartial umpire—for government efficiency. The L-DGE will ensure accountability to the people and maintain impartiality through several key pillars:

1. Fully Free of Elections and Special Interests: Predicated on Non-Partisan Solutions: The L-DGE will operate as a commission fully free of elections, meaning its staff and leadership are insulated from the immediate political pressures and agendas of any administration. Additionally, the L-DGE will be structured to be insulated from special interest groups and political money through political contributions. Its funding will come directly from a dedicated congressional appropriation, preventing reliance on private donations or lobbying. Staff will be subject to stringent ethics rules, prohibiting outside influence or conflicts of interest. Its sole mandate will be to identify and advocate for non-partisan solutions to government inefficiency, based purely on data and best practices, ensuring decisions are made for the public good, not private gain.
2. True Independence from Executive Power: The L-DGE will serve Congress—your elected representatives—not the President. Its findings and recommendations will be free from executive influence, political pressure, or the risk of politically motivated firings. This means its assessments will be based on unbiased data and expert analysis, providing a truly independent review of government operations across all departments and agencies. It's the impartial umpire, making calls based on the rulebook, not on who is wearing which jersey.
3. Accountability to the People, Through Congress: By being rooted in Congress, the L-DGE directly supports your voice in holding the Executive Branch accountable for efficient and effective governance. It ensures that decisions about efficiency are made by those who do understand the issues, based on solid data, and free from the political whims of any single administration.
4. A Commitment to Expertise, Not Patronage: The L-DGE will operate on the principle of merit alone. Staff will be hired based on their qualifications in economics, public policy, operations analysis, and data science, ensuring that critical efficiency decisions are made by those who genuinely know what they're talking about, free from the shadow of political litmus tests or personal loyalty. This is about deep institutional knowledge and rigorous analysis, not short-term political appointments.

5. **Balanced, Data-Driven Analysis—Representative of Reality:** The L-DGE will foster an environment where analysis is rigorously vetted by a staff carefully cultivated to represent a balance of professional expertise and analytical perspectives. Every L-DGE report and recommendation will be grounded in transparent methodologies and irrefutable data. This focus on objective facts ensures the L-DGE is representative of the diverse factual realities facing our nation, not the fluctuating winds of partisan agendas. It provides a robust, credible analysis that both sides of the aisle can trust as a foundation for effective policy, much like a well-officiated game.

The CBO's reputation for meticulous, data-driven analysis is a benchmark we must emulate. The L-DGE will operate with the same commitment to:

1. **Cost-Benefit Analysis:** Every proposed efficiency measure will undergo thorough cost-benefit analysis, demonstrating clear financial savings and improved outcomes for the American people.
2. **Performance Metrics:** The L-DGE will develop and implement clear, measurable performance metrics for government programs and agencies, allowing for continuous monitoring and evaluation.
3. **Public Reporting:** All L-DGE reports, analyses, and recommendations will be publicly accessible, fostering transparency and allowing the American people to see how their government is performing and where improvements are being made.
4. **No Policy Recommendations:** Moreover, the L-DGE will not advocate for specific policies. Its role is to provide Congress with the unbiased, data-driven information needed to make informed decisions about how to optimize government operations.

By establishing the Legislative Department of Government Efficiency as a truly independent commission, shielded from partisan politics, special interests, and political money, we are demanding a permanent, non-partisan institution that ensures every taxpayer dollar is respected, that decisions are made by experts, and that our government truly works for the people it serves. It's time for fair play and accountability in how our government operates. Join me in this effort to bring true fiscal responsibility and operational excellence back to Washington. Let's build a government that is as efficient and effective as the American people deserve.