

REVEALED: In 2023, While Vying For The GOP Presidential Nomination, Vivek Ramaswamy Was A Top Contributor To The Council For National Policy, A Secretive, Far-Right Brain Trust, Whose Board Of Directors Is Enmeshed In Project 2025 And Its Mission To Gut The Federal Budget And Workforce

SUMMARY:

[The Council for National Policy](#) (CNP) has operated for over four decades as a secret hub power for the most extreme and influential conservatives in the United States. Founded in 1981 by evangelical minister Tim LaHaye, known for co-authoring the "Left Behind" Christian book series that [describes gay people as being "vile."](#) the organization has cultivated a reputation of being exclusive, radical, and shadowy.

CNP is a 501(c)(3) organization that also runs a 501(c)(4) [dark money group](#) that has tried to help Donald Trump [overturn the 2020 election results](#). CNP is known to conduct its meetings in [five-star hotels](#)—where members are strictly forbidden from discussing the proceedings with the public. The organization has become a vital hub for coordinating activities between right-wing strategists, donors, and activists. Its membership includes leaders from that head of other major conservative organizations, including leaders from the Heritage Foundation, the Federalist Society, the National Rifle Association, and other influential organizations.

Understanding that CNP tries its best to keep details about its organization a secret, CNP seemingly mistakenly revealed its top individual donor on its [2023 990 Form](#)—Vivek Ramaswamy. Ramaswamy [contributed \\$100,000](#) to the organization in 2023, and this disclosure is also significant due to the fact that Donald Trump [announced](#) that Ramaswamy, alongside Elon Musk, would [lead](#) a new "Department of Government Efficiency" during his second term. In this role, Ramaswamy [will work directly](#) with Russ Vought, [a key architect of Project 2025](#) and Trump's choice for Director of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

Many of CNP's directors are also tied to Project 2025, the conservative blueprint for overhauling the U.S. government authored by the Heritage Foundation and its partners. Several current CNP board members hold influential positions in organizations that serve on [Project 2025's advisory board](#):

- [J. Kenneth Blackwell](#) - CNP vice president and senior fellow at the Family Research Council
- [Jenny Beth Martin](#) - CNP secretary and co-founder of the Tea Party Patriots
- [Jerry A. Johnson](#) - CNP treasurer and former president of the National Religious Broadcasters
- [William Boykin](#) - CNP director and executive vice president of Family Research Council
- [Michael Farris](#) - CNP director and former president & CEO of Alliance Defending Freedom
- [Colby May](#) - CNP director and senior counsel at the American Center for Law and Justice
- [Penny Y. Nance](#) - CNP director and CEO/president of Concerned Women for America
- [Alan Sears](#) - CNP director and director at the Dr. James Dobson Family Institute
- [T. Kenneth Cribb Jr.](#) - CNP director and treasurer at Young America's Foundation
- [Tony Perkins](#) - CNP director and president of Family Research Council
- [William Walton](#) - CNP director and trustee at the Heritage Foundation

Two CNP board members were directly involved in the production of Project 2025's foundational text, the *Mandate for Leadership*: CNP director Edwin Meese III [was credited](#) as a contributor to the project, and director William Walton [co-authored](#) the chapter on the U.S. Treasury.

While Ramaswamy is not publicly associated with Project 2025, the broad outlines of his plan for promoting "government efficiency" [align with proposals](#) put forth by Project 2025. Like the initiative, Ramaswamy [endorses](#) gutting the federal workforce and reinstating Donald Trump's Schedule F executive order. In addition, both Ramaswamy and Project 2025 envision massive cuts to the federal budget, mostly by defunding agencies and outside groups that they see as "progressive," such as Planned Parenthood and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The Council For National Policy, An Obscure Hub For The Most Extreme And Powerful Conservatives In The Country, Seemingly Revealed Its Top Donors, Including Vivek Ramaswamy, By Accident

The Council For National Policy Has Been Described As Being A "Secretive" Hub For The Most Radical And Powerful Conservatives In The Country That Surreptitiously Meet At 5-Star Hotels To Push A Far-Right Agenda

The Council For National Policy Is A 501(c)(3) Organization That Also Runs A 501(c)(4) "Dark Money Group" That Tried To Help Donald Trump To Overturn The 2020 Election. "The Council for National Policy is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Although it is 'non-partisan,' as is required for companies granted nonprofit status by the Internal Revenue Service, that doesn't mean it doesn't have an ideology. And the organization also runs CNP Action, a 501(c)(4) 'dark money' group, which was tied to efforts to overturn Donald Trump's 2020 loss to Joe Biden." [AZ Mirror, [5/20/24](#)]

For Decades, CNP Has Operated As "The Secret Hub" Of The Radical Right. "For more than four decades, the Council for National Policy, or CNP, has functioned as the secret hub of the radical right, coordinating the activities of right-wing strategists, donors, media platforms, and activists." [The New Republic, [8/26/22](#)]

The New York Times Characterized The Group As "A Little-Known Club Of A Few Hundred Of The Most Powerful Conservatives In The Country. "The New York Times has called the group 'a little-known club of a few hundred of the most powerful conservatives in the country.' Their membership list includes the leaders of many powerful or influential groups in republican politics, along with some more fringe elements, all ostensibly aligned with CNP's mission to restore 'religious and economic freedom, a strong national defense, and Judeo-Christian values under the Constitution.'" [Documented, [11/10/21](#)]

CNP Include Leaders From Other Major Conservative Organizations Such As The Heritage Foundation, The Federalist Society, The NRA, Alliance Defending Freedom, And Others. "They include the leaders of the Heritage Foundation, the Federalist Society, the National Rifle Association, Club for Growth, Americans for Tax Reform, Alliance Defending Freedom, Judicial Watch, ALEC, and Turning Point USA, plus many more." [Documented, [11/10/21](#)]

- **The Heritage Foundation Authored Project 2025.** "In 2022, The Heritage Foundation, a conservative-leaning think tank, and 140 former Trump staffers authored Project 2025 -- a roadmap for how to replace the rule of law with ring-wing ideals." [ACLU, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

- **The Southern Poverty Law Center Has Designated Alliance Defending Freedom As Extremist, Anti-LGBTQ+ Hate Group.**



EXTREMIST GROUP INFO:

SPLC Designated Hate Group

Date Founded: 1994

Location: Scottsdale, Ariz.

Ideology: [Anti-LGBTQ](#)

- [Southern Poverty Law Center, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

CNP Meetings Typically Take Place At Five-Star Hotels, And Members Are Not Allowed To Discuss What They Discussed To The Public. “CNP meetings, which take place three times a year and usually at a 5-star hotel, are shrouded in secrecy. ‘CNP meetings are off the record. To promote free discussion and a lively exchange of ideas, CNP members may not disclose the source of what is said at a meeting, whether by CNP members, invited guests or speakers,’ reads an internal 2016 CNP policy, obtained by Documented.” [Documented, [11/10/21](#)]

One Of CNP’s Five Founders, Tim LaHaye, Co-Authored Christian Novels That Described Gay People As “Vile.” “One of its five founders, Tim LaHaye, is the co-author of the Left Behind series of apocalyptic Christian novels and a man who has described gay people as ‘vile,’ said the Illuminati are conspiring to establish a ‘new world order,’ attacked Catholicism, and once worked for the wildly conspiracist John Birch Society.” [Southern Poverty Law Center, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

- **Evangelical Minister Tim LaHaye Founded CNP In 1981.** “CNP was founded in 1981 by evangelical minister Tim LaHaye, who is known to most as one of the two authors of the ‘Left Behind’ Christian book series.” [AZ Mirror, [5/20/24](#)]

Vivek Ramaswamy, Who Was Recently Appointed To Head Trump’s New “Department Of Government Efficiency,” Was Revealed To Be The Top Individual Donor Of CNP In 2023, While He Was Vying For The GOP Presidential Nomination

The Council For National Policy Disclosed That Vivek Ramaswamy Contributed \$100,000 To The Organization In 2023.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
2	VIVEK RAMASWAMY 9172 WEST MEADOW DRIVE WEST CHESTER, OH 45069	\$ 100,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> <small>(Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)</small>

[Council for National Policy, [Form 990](#) 2023]

- **February 2023: Vivek Ramaswamy Announced He Was Running To Be The Republican Nominee In The 2024 Presidential Election.** “Entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy announced on Tuesday that he’s running for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination.” [CNN, [2/21/23](#)]
- **January 2024: Vivek Ramaswamy Suspended His Campaign.** “Vivek Ramaswamy, a biotech entrepreneur and author of “Woke, Inc.”, announced Monday night he is suspending his presidential campaign.” [NPR, [1/15/24](#)]

November 2024: Donald Trump Announced That Vivek Ramaswamy, Alongside Elon Musk, Will Lead A New “Department Of Government Efficiency” During His Second Term. “President-elect Donald Trump announced Tuesday that Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy will lead a new ‘Department of Government Efficiency’ in his second administration. Together, these two wonderful Americans will pave the way for my Administration to dismantle Government Bureaucracy, slash excess regulations, cut wasteful expenditures, and restructure Federal Agencies,’ Trump said in a statement.” [CNN, [11/12/24](#)]

In A Speech To CNP In Early 2023, Ramaswamy Bemoaned The United States’ “Secular Religion” And “Wokeism” And Described President Johnson’s Executive Order Extending Nondiscrimination Protections To Federal Contractors As “A Cancer On Our National Soul”

January 2023: Ramaswamy Spoke At A CNP Meeting. [YouTube, [1/11/23](#)]

- **During His Speech, Ramaswamy Spoke About A Supposed “National Identity Crisis.”** “I’m not going to speak about ESG too much today in my remarks. I’m going to pick a bigger– a deeper topic that ESG is a symptom of, and I think that relates to a national identity crisis.” [YouTube, 00:20-00:35, [1/11/23](#)]
- **Ramaswamy Argued That There Were Three “Secular Religions” In The United States Today: A “Racial Religion,” Gender Ideology, And “Climate Religion.”** [YouTube, 02:10-06:05, [1/11/23](#)]
- **Ramaswamy Declared That “Wokeism,” “Climatism,” “Covidism,” And “Transgenderism” Represented A “Black Hole Of Identity” In The United States Today.** “I believe we’re in the middle of a national identity crisis...I think every generation today is so hungry for a cause, hungry for purpose and meaning, an identity at a point in our history when the things that used to fill that void—things like faith, patriotism, hard work, family—these things have disappeared. That leaves a deep moral and cultural vacuum in its wake. That is what allows the woke movement to prey on that vacuum. That is why you see the rise of one secular religion after another: from wokeism to ‘climatism’ to ‘Covidism’ to transgenderism. It’s not a coincidence. It is a symptom of the actual cancer. A black hole of identity.” [YouTube, 08:20-09:50, [1/11/23](#)]

- **Ramaswamy Described President Johnson’s Executive Order 11246, Which Extended Nondiscrimination Protections To Federal Contractors, As “A Cancer On Our National Soul” And Urged A Future President To Rescind The Order.** [YouTube, 16:10-17:40, [1/11/23](#)]
- **Ramaswamy Called For The FBI To Be Shut Down And “Replaced With Something New.”** “It’s gotten so bad that you have to take some of these agencies...and you shut them down. If you ask me, you start with the FBI and you go straight down the list from there, and you replace them with something new.” [YouTube, 19:50-20:10, [1/11/23](#)]

Ramaswamy’s CNP Speech Was An Early Draft Of His Campaign Stump Speech. [C-SPAN, [11/4/23](#)]

While Heading The “Department Of Government Efficiency,” Ramaswamay Will Work Directly With Russ Vought—A Key Architect Of Project 2025

Donald Trump Selected A Key Architect Of Project 2025, Russ Vought, To Be The Director Of The U.S. Office Management And Budget Agency. “Donald Trump has chosen Russ Vought, a key architect of Project 2025, the conservative plan to overhaul the US government, to be director of the US Office of Management and Budget, a powerful agency that helps decide the president’s policy priorities and how to pay for them.” [The Guardian, [11/22/24](#)]

- **Vought Was Previously OMB Chief During Trump’s First Term As President.** “Vought, who was OMB chief during Trump’s first term, would play a major role in setting budget priorities and implementing Trump’s campaign promise to roll back government regulations.” [The Guardian, [11/22/24](#)]

Vought Was “Deeply” Involved In Crafting Project 2025. “Since Trump left office, Vought has been deeply involved in Project 2025, a series of detailed policy proposals for Trump’s second term drawn up by hundreds of high-profile conservatives.” [The Guardian, [11/22/24](#)]

The Guardian Reported That Vought Will Work With Ramaswamy And Musk To Execute Trump’s Promise To Cut Government Spending And Regulations. “At the OMB, Vought will work with Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy to carry out Trump’s campaign pledge to slash government spending and regulations. Musk and Ramaswamy have been tapped by Trump to co-lead a newly created ‘department of government efficiency’, an entity Trump has indicated will operate outside the confines of government.” [The Guardian, [11/22/24](#)]

Almost A Dozen Members That Currently Serve On CNP’s Board Of Directors Have Direct Ties To Project 2025

11 Board Members At CNP Are Associated With Other Organizations That Were Listed On The Advisory Board Of Project 2025

J.Kennth Blackwell Was Listed As The Vice President Of CNP.

(6) J. KENNETH BLACKWELL	1.00											
VICE PRESIDENT		X	X						0.		0.	0.

[Council for National Policy, Form 990 2023, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

- **Blackwell Is A Senior Fellow At The Family Research Council.** “Ken Blackwell is the Senior Fellow for Human Rights and Constitutional Governance at the Family Research Council.” [Family Research Council, accessed [12/3/24](#)]
- **The Family Research Council Was Listed On The Advisory Board Of Project 2025.**



[Project 2025 Advisory Board, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

Jenny Beth Martin Was Listed As The Secretary At CNP.

(7) JENNY BETH MARTIN	1.00										
SECRETARY		X	X						0.	0.	0.

[Council for National Policy, Form 990 2023, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

- **Martin Was The Co-Founder Of The Tea Party Patriots.** “Under the leadership of Jenny Beth Martin, Tea Party Patriots has grown to be the largest and most effective national umbrella group within the Tea Party movement.” [Tea Party Patriots, accessed [12/3/24](#)]
- **Tea Party Patriots Was Listed On The Advisory Board Of Project 2025.**



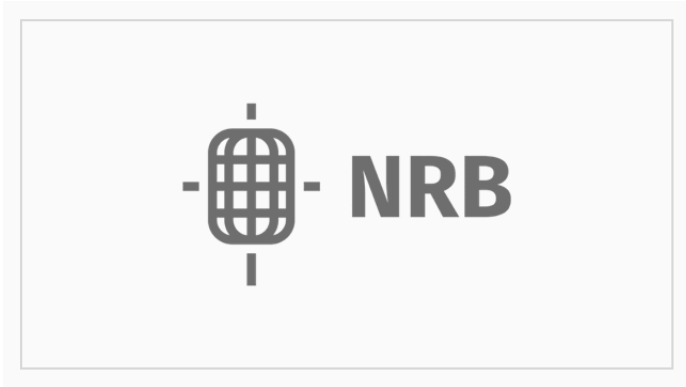
[Project 2025 Advisory Board, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

Jerry A. Johnson Was Listed As The Treasurer At CNP.

(8) JERRY A JOHNSON	1.00										
TREASURER		X	X						0.	0.	0.

[Council for National Policy, Form 990 2023, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

- **Jerry A. Johnson Was The Former President Of The National Religious Broadcasters.** “National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) President Jerry Johnson has resigned, NRB announced Feb. 13.” [Biblical Recorder, [2/15/19](#)]
- **The National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) Was Listed On The Advisory Board Of Project 2025.**



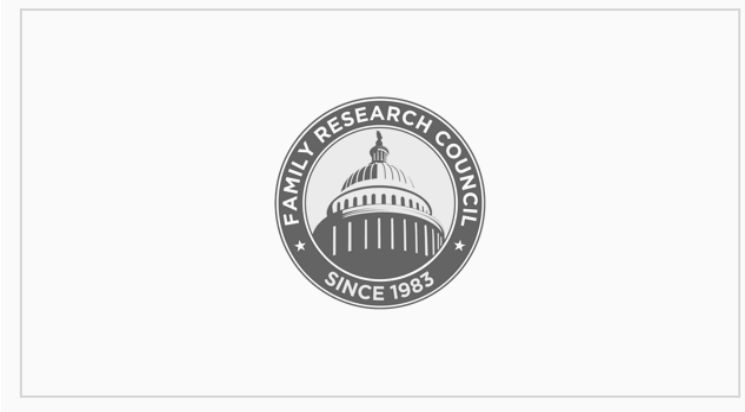
[Project 2025 Advisory Board, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

William Boykin Was Listed As A Director At CNP.

(9) WILLIAM G. BOYKIN	1.00												
DIRECTOR		X								0.		0.	0.

[Council for National Policy, Form 990 2023, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

- **Boykin Serves As Family Research Council’s Executive Vice President.** “Lt. Gen. (Ret.) William G. Boykin serves as Family Research Council’s Executive Vice President.” [Family Research Council, accessed [12/2/24](#)]
- **The Family Research Council Was Listed On The Advisory Board Of Project 2025.**

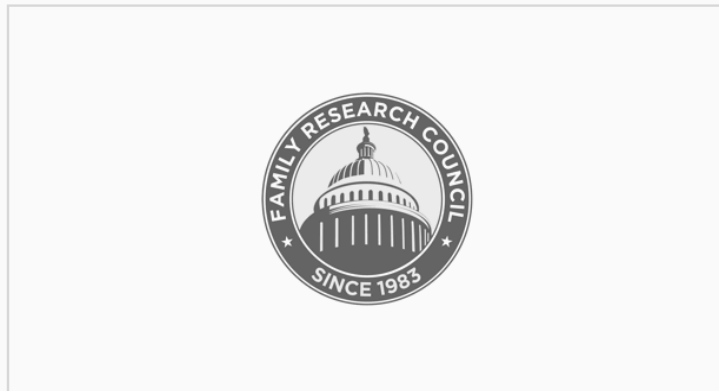


[Project 2025 Advisory Board, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

Michael Farris Was Listed As A Director At CNP.

(11) MICHAEL P. FARRIS	1.00												
DIRECTOR		X								0.		0.	0.

- **The Family Research Council Was Listed On The Advisory Board Of Project 2025.**



[Project 2025 Advisory Board, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

William Walton Was Listed As A Director At CNP.

(25) WILLIAM WALTON DIRECTOR	1.00	X								0.	0.	0.
---------------------------------	------	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	----	----	----

[Council for National Policy, Form 990 2023, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

- **Walton Became A Trustee At The Heritage Foundation In 2015.** “William Walton became a Heritage Trustee in 2015.” [Heritage Foundation, accessed [12/3/24](#)]
- **Project 2025 Is A Product Of The Heritage Foundation.** “Project 2025 is a product of the Heritage Foundation, one of Washington’s most prominent right-wing think tanks. It first produced policy plans for future Republican administrations in 1981, when Ronald Reagan was about to take office.” [BBC, [9/11/24](#)]

CNP Director Edwon Meese III Was Identified As A “Contributor” To Project 2025; CNP Director William Walton Co-Authored Project 2025’s Chapter On The U.S. Treasury

CNP Director Edwin Meese III Was Credited As A Contributor To Project 2025

Edwin Meese III Is A Director At The Council For National Policy.

(20) EDWIN MEESE III DIRECTOR	1.00	X								0.	0.	0.
----------------------------------	------	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	----	----	----

[Council for National Policy, Form 990, [2023](#)]

- **Edwin Meese Was A Trustee At The Heritage Foundation From 2017 To 2024 And The Ronald Reagan Distinguished Fellow Emeritus.** “The Hon. Edwin Meese III Ronald Reagan Distinguished Fellow Emeritus, Edwin Meese III Center for Legal and Judicial Studies...Heritage Trustee from 2017 to 2024” [The Heritage Foundation, accessed [12/3/24](#)]
- **Edwin Meese Was U.S. Attorney General Under President Reagan.** “Perhaps best known as U.S. Attorney General during Reagan’s second term, Meese’s service to the conservative icon stretched

from the California governor’s mansion in 1966 to the White House in 1981 before he went to the Department of Justice four years later.” [The Heritage Foundation, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

Edwin Meese III Was Credited As A Contributor To Project 2025’s *Mandate For Leadership*. “The contributors listed below generously volunteered their time and effort to assist the authors in the development and writing of this volume’s 30 chapters...Edwin Meese III, The Heritage Foundation” [Project 2025, Contributors, pp. xxv, xxix, [2023](#)]

The Author Of The Chapter On The White House Office Wrote That Edwin Meese III “Deserve[d] Special Mention” For His Contributions To The Chapter. “Author’s Note...All contributors to this chapter are listed at the front of this volume, but Edwin Meese III, Donald Devine, Ambassador Andrew Bremberg, and Jonathan Bronitsky deserve special mention.” [Project 2025, Chapter 1: White House Office, p. 41, [2023](#)]

- **The Author Was Rick Dearborn.**

SECTION 1: TAKING THE REINS OF GOVERNMENT	19
1. WHITE HOUSE OFFICE	23
Rick Dearborn	

[Project 2025, Contents, p. v, [2023](#)]

- **Rick Dearborn Served As Deputy Chief Of Staff To Donald Trump For Less Than One Year.** “From January of 2017 until mid-March of 2018, Mr. Dearborn served The President of the United States as his Deputy Chief of Staff. Mr. Dearborn was responsible for the day-to-day operations of ~100 staff in five separate Executive Office of the President (EOP) departments” [Bipartisan Policy Center, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

Former CNP President And Current Director William L. Walton Co-Authored The Chapter On The U.S. Treasury In Project 2025’s *Mandate For Leadership*

William L. Walton, A Private Equity Executive, Is A “Right-Wing Libertarian Who Doesn’t Believe In Government At All”

William L. Walton Is Founder And Chairman Of Rappahannock Ventures, LLC, A Private Equity Firm. ‘Walton is the founder and chairman of Rappahannock Ventures LLC, a private equity firm, and Rush River Entertainment, the feature-film production company behind *The Price of Desire* (2015), *The Ticket* (2015), and *Max Rose* (2013).’ [Heritage Foundation, accessed [4/3/24](#)]

- **Walton Has Been Described As A “Right-wing Libertarian Who Doesn’t Believe In Government At All.”** “MEET BILL WALTON — No, no THAT Bill Walton. The other one who is now in charge of President-Elect Donald Trump’s ‘landing team’ for Treasury. One person who has worked with Walton called him a ‘right-wing libertarian who doesn’t believe in government at all.’ This person added: ‘The idea that he’s talking about helping transition to a government agency is remarkable in that he hates government and bristles at regulation.’” [Politico, [11/23/16](#)]
- **Walton “Hates Government And Bristles At Regulation.”** “MEET BILL WALTON — No, no THAT Bill Walton. The other one who is now in charge of President-Elect Donald Trump’s ‘landing team’ for Treasury. One person who has worked with Walton called him a ‘right-wing libertarian who doesn’t believe in government at all.’ This person added: ‘The idea that he’s talking about helping transition to a government agency is remarkable in that he hates government and bristles at regulation.’” [Politico, [11/23/16](#)]

William L. Walton Has Long Been Connected To The Council For National Policy, Having Served As Its Vice President, President, And Director

William L. Walton Became A Director At The Council For National Policy In 2021.

(24) WILLIAM WALTON DIRECTOR	1.00	X								0	0	0
--	------	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	---	---

[Council for National Policy, Form 990, [2021](#)]

William L. Walton Previously Served As President Of The Council For National Policy From 2019-2020.

(17) WILLIAM L WALTON PRESIDENT	1.00		X							0	0	0
---	------	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	---	---

[Council for National Policy, Form 990, [2019](#)]

- **William L. Walton Served As Vice President Of The Council For National Policy, From 2014-2018.**

(17) WILLIAM L WALTON VICE PRESIDENT	1.00		X							0	0	0
--	------	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	---	---

[Council for National Policy, Form 990, [2014](#)]

William L. Walton Co-Authored Project 2025’s Chapter On The U.S. Treasury Along With Stephen Moore And David R. Burton

William L. Walton Co-Authored The Chapter On The Treasury In The *Mandate For Leadership*.

22. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY	691
William L. Walton, Stephen Moore, and David R. Burton	

[Project 2025, Contents, p. vii, [2023](#)]

- **Stephen Moore, Walton’s Co-Author, Had Previously Been Nominated By President Trump To The Federal Reserve But Withdrew His Name From Consideration After His Nomination Faced Bipartisan Resistance In The Senate Over His Past Comments About Women.** “Stephen Moore, a conservative commentator whom President Donald Trump had tapped for the Federal Reserve board, withdrew from consideration Thursday after losing Republican support in the Senate, largely over his past inflammatory writings about women.” [AP, [5/2/19](#)]
- **Stephen Also Founded The Club For Growth.** “From 1999-2004, Moore served as Founder and President of the Club for Growth, an organization dedicated to helping elect free market candidates to Congress. In his tenure as president, the Club for Growth became one of the most influential and respected political organizations in the nation.” [Heritage Foundation, accessed [4/3/24](#)]
- **Co-Author David R. Burton Is A Senior Fellow Of Economic Policy At The Heritage Foundation.** “David R. Burton Senior Fellow in Economic Policy, Thomas A. Roe Institute for Economic Policy Studies” [The Heritage Foundation, accessed [12/3/24](#)]

Walton’s Chapter Called For Baking In Trump’s Tax Policy, Including Corporate Tax Cuts, By Passing Legislation That Would Require A Supermajority To Raise Taxes In The Future

Walton And His Co-Authors Argued In Favor Of Imposing A Consumption Tax While Apparently Calling For Lowering Taxes On Capital And Corporate Income, Thereby Passing The Burden Of Funding The Government From Corporations To Consumers. “The federal income tax system heavily taxes capital and corporate income and discourages work, savings, and investment. The public finance literature is clear that a consumption tax would minimize government’s distortion of private economic decisions and thus be the least economically harmful way to raise federal tax revenues. There are several forms that a consumption tax could take, including a national sales tax, a business transfer tax, a Hall–Rabushka flat tax, or a cash flow tax.” [Project 2025, Chapter 22: Department of the Treasury, p. 698, [2023](#)]

Walton And His Co-Authors Urged Congress To Pass Legislation That Would Require A Two-Thirds Supermajority To Raise Income Or Corporate Tax Rates, Effectively Baking In The Next Tax System Indefinitely. “Treasury should support legislation instituting a three-fifths vote threshold in the U.S. House and the Senate to raise income or corporate tax rates to create a wall of protection for the new rate structure. Many states have implemented such a supermajority vote requirement.” [Project 2025, Chapter 22: Department of the Treasury, p. 698, [2023](#)]

Vivek Ramaswamy Favors Cuts To The Federal Budget And Workforce That Are Already Endorsed By Project 2025

Vivek Ramaswamy Co-Authored An Op-Ed In *The Wall Street Journal* After President-Elect Trump Announced They Would Head Up DOGE

After Donald Trump Announced They Would Co-Lead The Newly Constituted Department Of Government Efficiency, Vivek Ramaswamy And Elon Musk Published An Op-Ed Outlining Their Plan

Vivek Ramaswamy And Elon Musk Published An Op-Ed Outlining The Future Of Their Work At DOGE In *The Wall Street Journal*.

OPINION COMMENTARY [Follow](#)

Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy: The DOGE Plan to Reform Government

Following the Supreme Court’s guidance, we’ll reverse a decadeslong executive power grab.

By Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy
Nov. 20, 2024 12:33 pm ET

[The Wall Street Journal, [11/20/24](#)]

Ramaswamy And Musk’s Plan For “Government Efficiency” Broadly Aligns With Recommendations Endorsed By Project 2025

Ramaswamy, Musk, And Project 2025 Have All Called For Culling The Federal Workforce

In Their Op-Ed, Ramaswamy And Musk Called For Gutting The Federal Workforce. “DOGE intends to work with embedded appointees in agencies to identify the minimum number of employees required at an agency for it to perform its constitutionally permissible and statutorily mandated functions. The number of federal employees to cut should be at least proportionate to the number of federal regulations that are nullified: Not only are fewer employees required to enforce fewer regulations, but the agency would produce fewer regulations once its scope of authority is properly limited.” [The Wall Street Journal, [11/20/24](#)]

Project 2025 Called For The “National Government To Do Less: To Decentralize And Privatize As Much As Possible.” “That progressive system has broken down in our time, and the only real solution is for the national government to do less: to decentralize and privatize as much as possible and then ensure that the remaining bureaucracy is managed effectively along the lines of the enduring principles set out in detail here.” [Project 2025, Chapter 3: Central Personnel Agencies: Managing the Bureaucracy, p. 83, [2023](#)]

Project 2025 Called On The Office Of Personnel Management To “Lead The Way” To A Future Of Smaller Government But Noted That It Was A “Challenge Primarily For Presidents, Congress, And The Entire Government.” “The Trump Administration proposed some possible consolidations, but these were not received favorably in Congress, whose approval is necessary for most such proposals. The best solution is to cut functions and budgets and devolve responsibilities. That is a challenge primarily for Presidents, Congress, and the entire government, but the OPM still needs to lead the way governmentwide in managing personnel properly even in any future smaller government.” [Project 2025, Chapter 3: Central Personnel Agencies: Managing the Bureaucracy, p. 79, [2023](#)]

Project 2025 Hailed Efforts To Freeze Federal Government Hiring, Leading To Reductions In The Size Of The Bureaucracy, But Lamented The Failure Of The Efforts. “Reductions-in-Force. Reducing the number of federal employees seems an obvious way to reduce the overall expense of the civil service, and many prior Administrations have attempted to do just this. Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama began their terms, as did Ronald Reagan and Donald Trump, by mandating a freeze on the hiring of new federal employees, but these efforts did not lead to permanent and substantive reductions in the number of nondefense federal employees.” [Project 2025, Chapter 3: Central Personnel Agencies: Managing the Bureaucracy, p. 78, [2023](#)]

Ramaswamy, Musk, And Project 2025 Support Reinstating Donald Trump’s Schedule F Executive Order

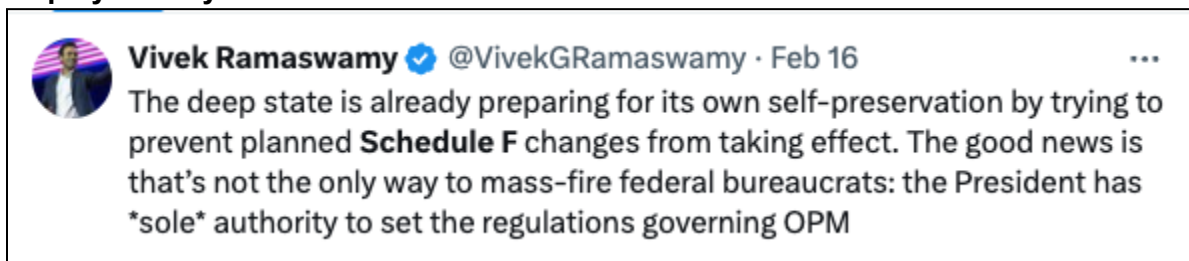
October 2020: President Trump Issued An Executive Order Allowing Federal Agencies To Reclassify Their Workers As “Schedule F” Employees Who Could Be More Easily Fired. “President Trump signed an executive order this week that could substantially expand his ability to hire and fire tens of thousands of federal workers during a second term, potentially allowing him to weed out what he sees as a ‘deep state’ bureaucracy working to undermine him. The executive order, issued late Wednesday and described by one prominent federal union leader as ‘the most profound undermining of the Civil Service in our lifetimes,’ would allow federal agencies to go through their employee rosters and reclassify certain workers in a way that would strip them of job protections that now cover most federal employees. [The New York Times, [10/22/20](#)]

- **January 2021: President Biden Repealed The Executive Order.** “The creation of a new Schedule F excepted service category in Executive Order 13957 of October 21, 2020 (Creating Schedule F in the Excepted Service), not only was unnecessary to the conditions of good administration, but also undermined the foundations of the civil service and its merit system principles, which were essential to the Pendleton Civil Service Reform Act of 1883’s repudiation of the spoils system. Accordingly, to

enhance the efficiency of the civil service and to promote good administration and systematic application of merit system principles, Executive Order 13957 is hereby revoked.” [The White House, [1/22/21](#)]

Ramaswamy And Musk Argued In Their Essay That Existing Statute Grants The President “Broad” Authority To Change The Rules Governing Federal Employment. “Conventional wisdom holds that statutory civil-service protections stop the president or even his political appointees from firing federal workers. The purpose of these protections is to protect employees from political retaliation. But the statute allows for ‘reductions in force’ that don’t target specific employees. The statute further empowers the president to ‘prescribe rules governing the competitive service.’ That power is broad. Previous presidents have used it to amend the civil service rules by executive order, and the Supreme Court has held—in *Franklin v. Massachusetts* (1992) and *Collins v. Yellen* (2021) that they weren’t constrained by the Administrative Procedures Act when they did so. With this authority, Mr. Trump can implement any number of rules governing the competitive service’ that would curtail administrative overgrowth, from large-scale firings to relocation of federal agencies out of the Washington area.” [The Wall Street Journal, [11/20/24](#)]

- **Ramaswamy Previously Envisioned Additional Ways The President Could Fire Federal Employees Beyond Schedule F.**



[Twitter, [2/16/24](#)]

Project 2025 Supported The Reissuing Of Trump’s Schedule F Executive Order. “Reissue Trump’s Schedule F executive order to permit discharge of nonperforming employees.” [Project 2025, Chapter 16: Department of the Interior, p. 535, [2023](#)]

Ramaswamy, Musk, And Project 2025 All Said They Would Cut Funding To The Corporation For Public Broadcasting And Planned Parenthood

Ramaswamy And Musk Said They Would Cut Funding To The Corporation For Public Broadcasting And Planned Parenthood. “But even without relying on that view, DOGE will help end federal overspending by taking aim at the \$500 billion plus in annual federal expenditures that are unauthorized by Congress or being used in ways that Congress never intended, from \$535 million a year to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and \$1.5 billion for grants to international organizations to nearly \$300 million to progressive groups like Planned Parenthood.” [The Wall Street Journal, [11/20/24](#)]

Project 2025 Called For Completely Defunding The Corporation For Public Broadcasting. “The 47th President can just tell the Congress—through the budget he proposes and through personal contact—that he will not sign an appropriations spending bill that contains a penny for the CPB.” [Project 2025, Chapter 8: Media Agencies, p. 247, [2023](#)]

Project 2025 Endorsed Cutting Planned Parenthood Off From Medicaid Funds. “Policymakers should end taxpayer funding of Planned Parenthood and all other abortion providers and redirect funding to health centers that provide real health care for women. The bulk of federal funding for Planned Parenthood comes through the Medicaid program.” [Project 2025, Chapter 14: Department of Health and Human Services, p. 471, [2023](#)]