

Seventh Annual

STATE *OF THE* SIXTH

February 9, 2026

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
CHRISSY
HOULAHAN



WELCOME!



AGENDA

6:00 – Welcome and
Opening Remarks

6:10 – Presentation

6:50 – Q&A moderated
by Peter Urscheler,
Mayor of Phoenixville

7:25 – Closing Remarks



WHAT IS THE STATE OF THE SIXTH?

This evening is our annual event to gather our community together and:

- Reflect on 2025 and discuss 2026 and beyond
- Ask questions and share your concerns
- Leave with new information and ways you can be more involved and aware in our community

MEETING NORMS



We will:

1. Treat each other with respect and leave titles at the door.
2. Use our time wisely by sticking to the agenda.*
3. Address any conflict by dealing with the issue, not the person.
4. We will discuss policy, not politics.

*Topics requiring further discussion will be documented for follow-up

PREPARING FOR Q&A

Please write your questions on the comment card and pass them to a staff member.

If your question is not addressed during the town hall, we will respond to you via email or a phone call.

Please write clearly to ensure a response.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
CHRISSEY HOULAHAN
PROUDLY SERVING PENNSYLVANIANS

LET US KNOW A LITTLE MORE ABOUT YOU

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

WHAT ISSUES MATTER MOST TO YOU?

- Agriculture
- Civil Rights
- Civility & Decency
- Education
- Energy & Environment
- Gun Violence Prevention
- Healthcare
- Immigration
- Jobs & Economy
- National Security

- Small Business & Entrepreneurship
- Transportation & Infrastructure
- Veterans
- Voting & Elections
- Other _____

OPENING REMARKS



TOPICS WE'LL COVER TONIGHT

- Agriculture
- Energy and the environment
- Housing
- Healthcare
- Gun violence
- Education
- Business and economic development
- Tariffs, trade and taxes
- National security
- Foreign policy
- Immigration
- Veterans and active duty military

AGRICULTURE: Where we are

Tariff Wars

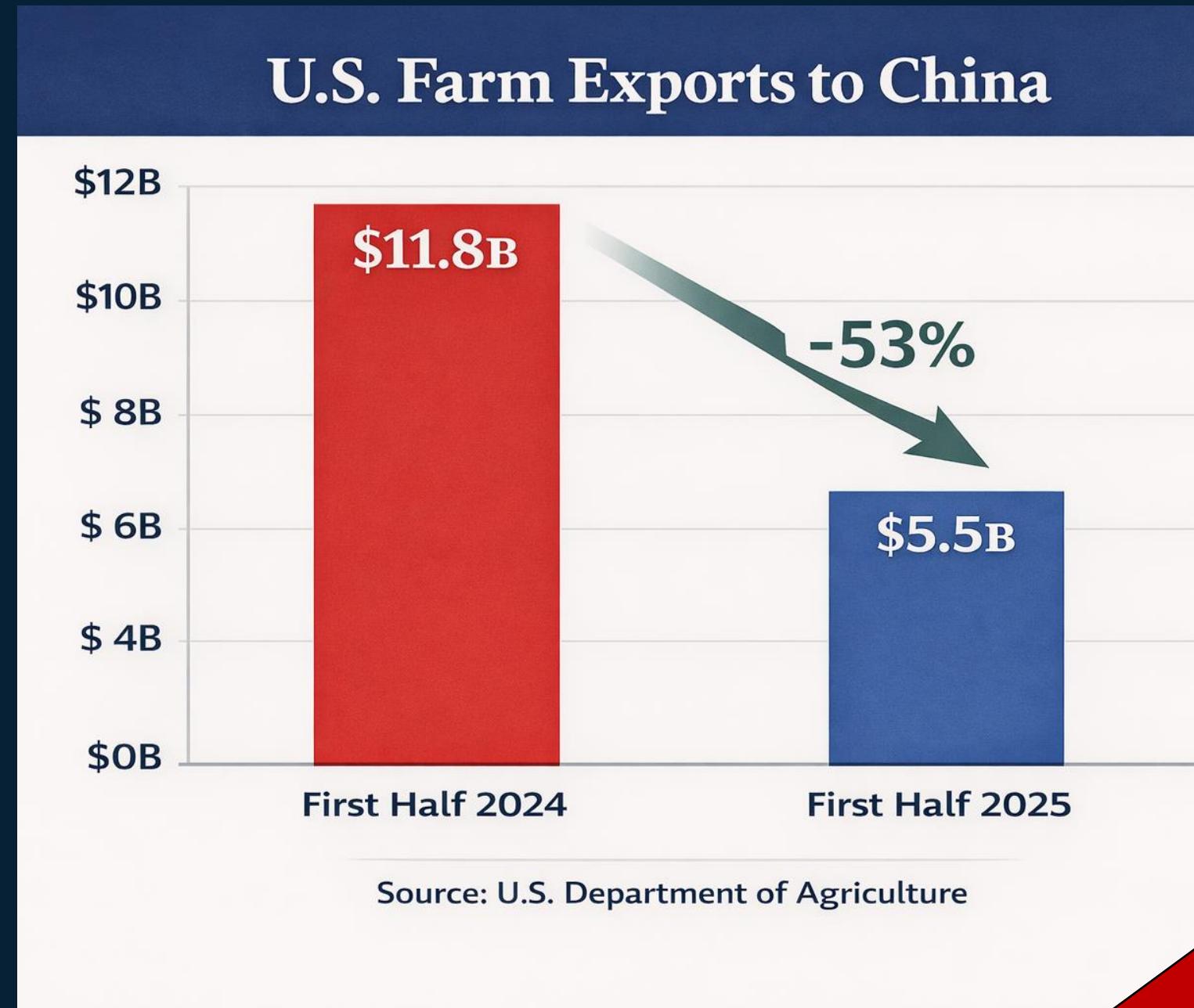
Because of new tariffs, US agriculture exports to China have fallen by 50%, and our trading partners are retaliating by negotiating new agreements with each other.

US Farmers and Our Hungry Are Interconnected

Last summer's Republican budget dramatically decreased funding for nutrition and food programs – SNAP, food banks, school systems – which buy from American farmers.

A \$12 Billion Bailout is Not What Farmers Want

Trump bailing out farmers because of failed trade policies is a Band-Aid on a bigger wound that requires structural market access and trade solutions.



AGRICULTURE: My Plan

Fix Immigration to Lower Grocery Prices:

Reverse Trump-era cuts to foreign farm worker visas, modernize the H-2A program to work year-round and be more employer-friendly, and create a pathway to legal status for agricultural workers.

Defeat Hunger and Improve Food Access:

Restore local food purchasing programs that connect farmers with food banks, protect federal SNAP funding, and expand federal investment in universal free school meals for K-12 students.

Protect Family Farms from Consolidation:

Guarantee farmers' right to repair their own equipment and prevent farmland sales to foreign investors and large conglomerates by giving local farmers the right of first refusal.



ENERGY/ENVIRONMENT: Where we are

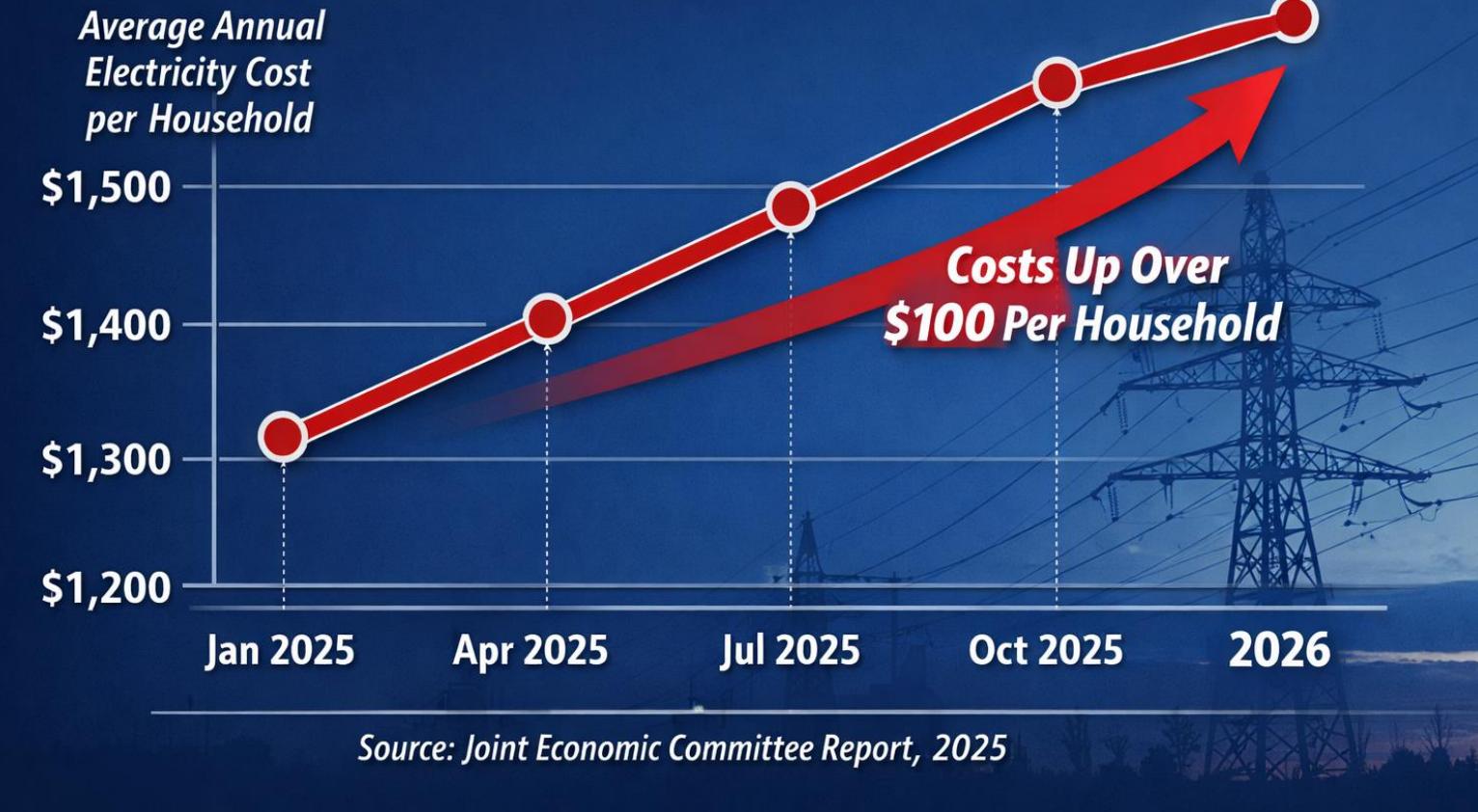
What President Trump Promised

- Energy and electricity prices slashed by at least half
- Lower gasoline prices
- Roll back of environmental regulations
- Boosted oil, gas, and coal production
- Rescind the Inflation Reduction Act elements that support clean energy

What President Trump Has Delivered

- Electricity prices have gone up in 47 states
- Directed agencies to remove regulatory barriers to oil, coal, gas, and nuclear energy production
- Withdrawn from the Paris Climate Agreement
- Eliminated Inflation Reduction Act tax credits for renewable energy projects and cancelled construction projects already underway

Rising Household Electricity Costs Since January 20, 2025



ENERGY/ENVIRONMENT: My Plan

Lower energy costs and create good jobs

Restore consumer clean energy tax credits, cut red tape to build clean energy transmission faster, invest in low-carbon biofuels, restore wind energy projects cancelled by President Trump.

Protect public lands, clean air and water

Restore EPA protections for air and water, hold polluters accountable, restore and protect Delaware River Basin, fully fund the National Park Service.

Prepare for extreme weather events, strengthen energy security

Rebuild DOE clean energy programs, fund FEMA and NOAA for disaster preparedness, harden our energy structure and secure critical mineral sources through allies and bipartisan legislation.



HOUSING: Where we are

Homeowners Above Home Buyers

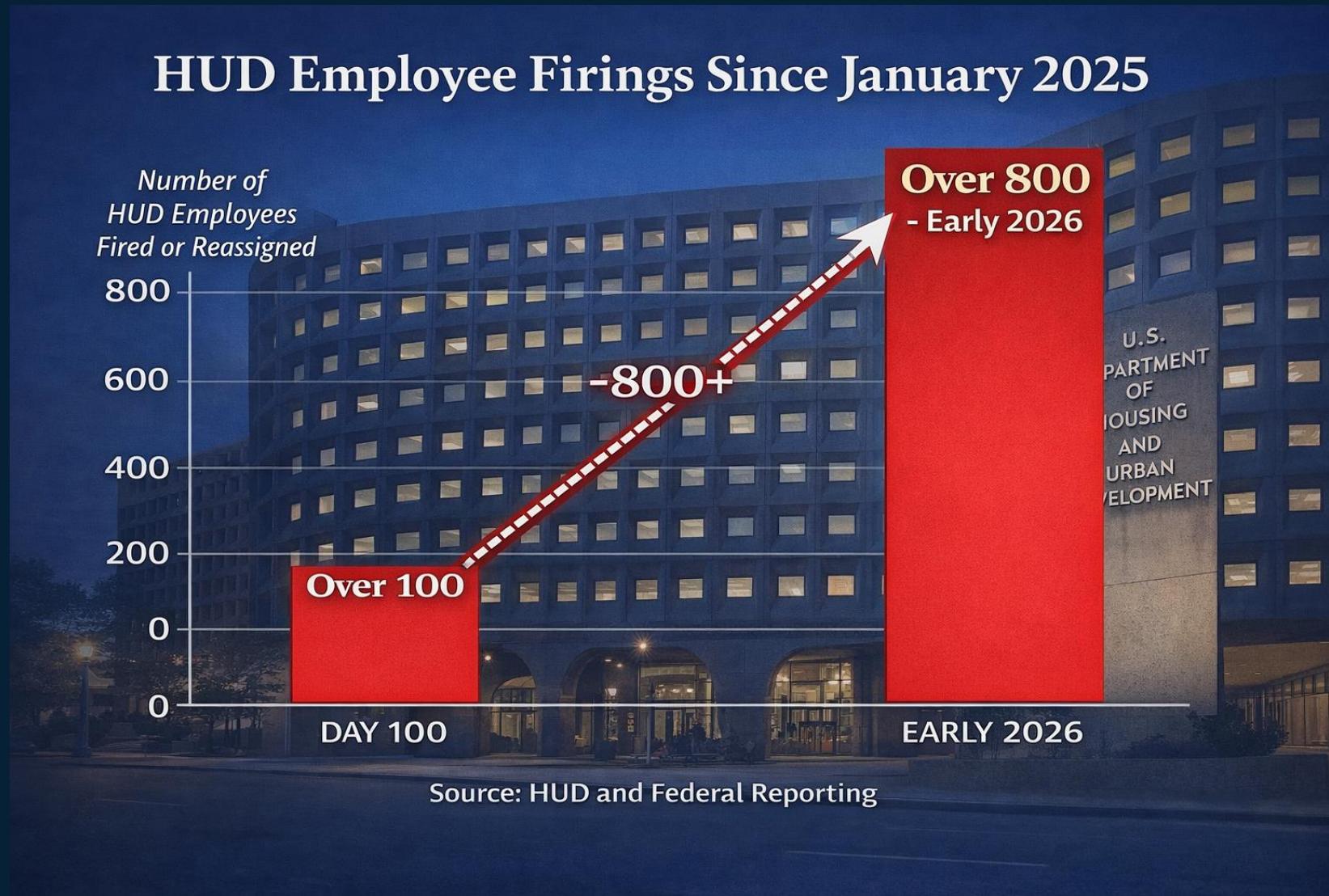
Just two weeks ago, President Trump signaled his intention to keep housing prices high to benefit current homeowners.

Constrained Housing Supply

Construction has not kept pace with demand while tariff policy has increased material costs and ICE fears leave fewer workers available to build.

Some Good News—SALT Cap is Raised

The Republican budget permanently raised the SALT deduction cap from \$10K to \$40K and increased the Low Income Housing Tax Credit by 12%.



We need HUD more, but we have less

Fewer inspectors, less landlord monitoring, reduced compliance and oversight on billions of federal housing dollars

HOUSING: My Plan

Expand Access & Affordability

Support HUD programs for rental assistance and first-time homeownership, provide federal aid for home repairs, and use tax credits to encourage developers to build more affordable housing.

Increase Housing Supply

Repeal construction tariffs, promote high-density housing near transit and schools through zoning reforms and tax incentives, and convert vacant commercial or federal buildings into homes. And incorporate ADU nationally.

Reduce Homelessness

Invest in programs supporting individuals, families, veterans, and youth experiencing homelessness, including emergency housing and state-level resources for at-risk populations.



HEALTHCARE: Where we are

ACA and Medicaid

The Republican budget cut ACA and Medicaid, driving costs up and forcing rural hospital closures. New work requirements resulted in low-income Americans losing coverage.

Prescription Drug Prices are Going Up

More than 850 drugs have seen median increase of 4% over 2025 prices, and meaningful cost controls are all but gone.

Public health and disease prevention

Secretary RFK Jr.'s HHS cut staff, cut funding for research, froze public health data systems, and drastically changed vaccine advisory panels.

ACA Premium Costs Increase Without Enhanced Tax Credits

PA resident, 55 years old, earning nearly \$63,000 per year

With Enhanced Premium Tax Credits

\$7,900

2024

Without Enhanced Premium Tax Credits

\$12,160

2025+

+4,260

Annual costs increase by at least \$4,260 on average.

Source: Pennie; Congressional Research Service, Kaiser Family Foundation

HEALTHCARE: My Plan

Make Healthcare More Affordable for More People

Strengthen ACA, Medicaid, and Medicare. Offer a public option. Limit out of pocket costs for drugs.

Support Hospitals and Healthcare Workers

Fund underserved area hospitals. Invest in medical training. Fund community health centers for more than 1 year at a time.

Protect Women's Reproductive Health

Reinstate Roe V Wade. Fund family planning, cancer screening, preventive care programs.

Make Mental Healthcare Widely Available

Reinstate mental healthcare in schools. Fund the 988 crisis line. Pay counselors and mental health care professionals fairly.



GUN VIOLENCE: Where we are

Gun Regulation: What Changed Since Jan. 2025

Since January 2025, the Trump administration has pursued a broad deregulatory agenda easing gun sale and dealer regulations throughout the U.S.



GUN VIOLENCE: My Plan

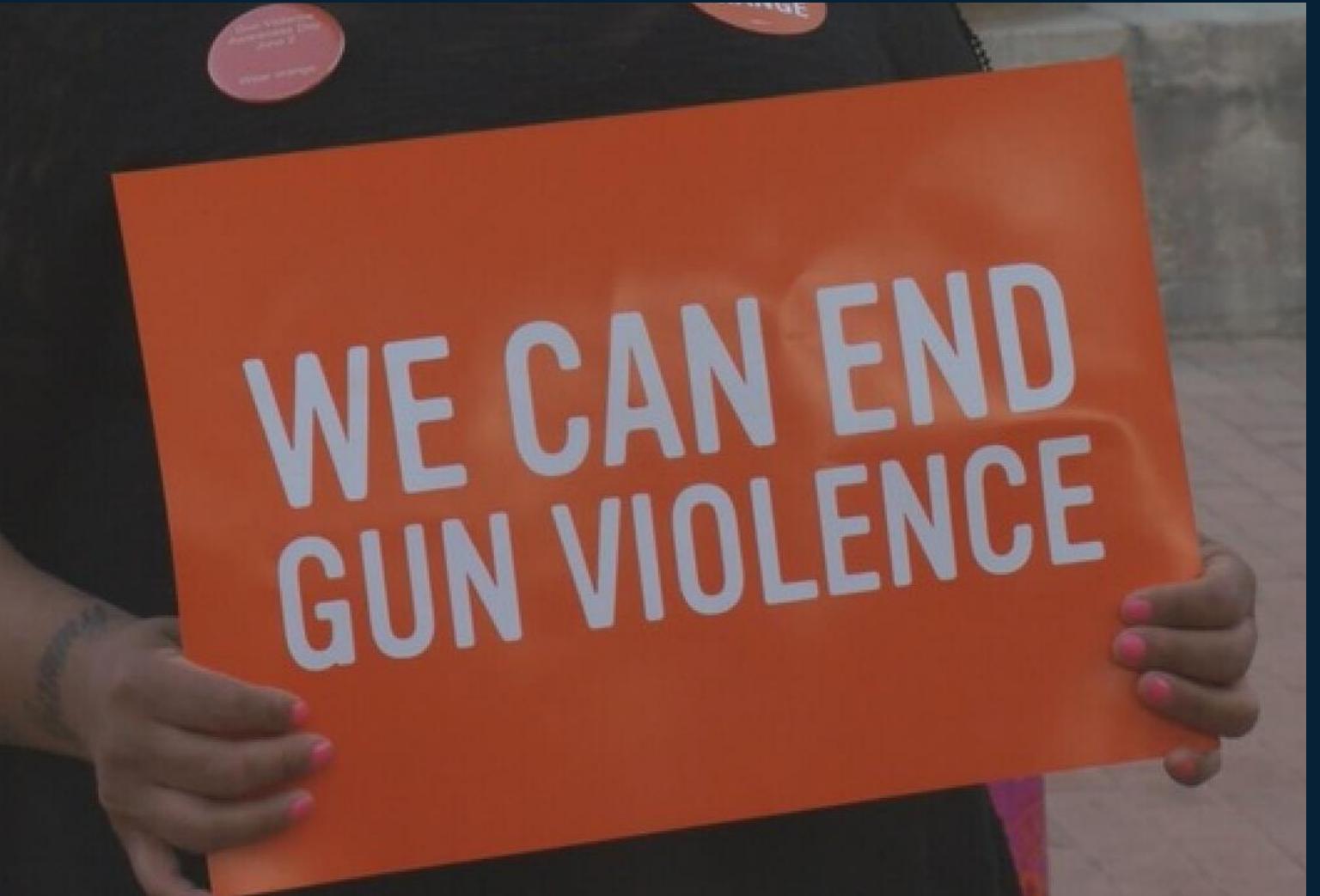
Commonsense actions can reduce gun deaths without impinging on Second Amendment rights.

Require a background check for every gun purchase in America. No exceptions.

Make it illegal to sell or own an unregistered or homemade gun.

Restore the assault weapons ban.

Require safe and locked storage of all firearms



EDUCATION: Where we are

Federal Funding and Enforcement

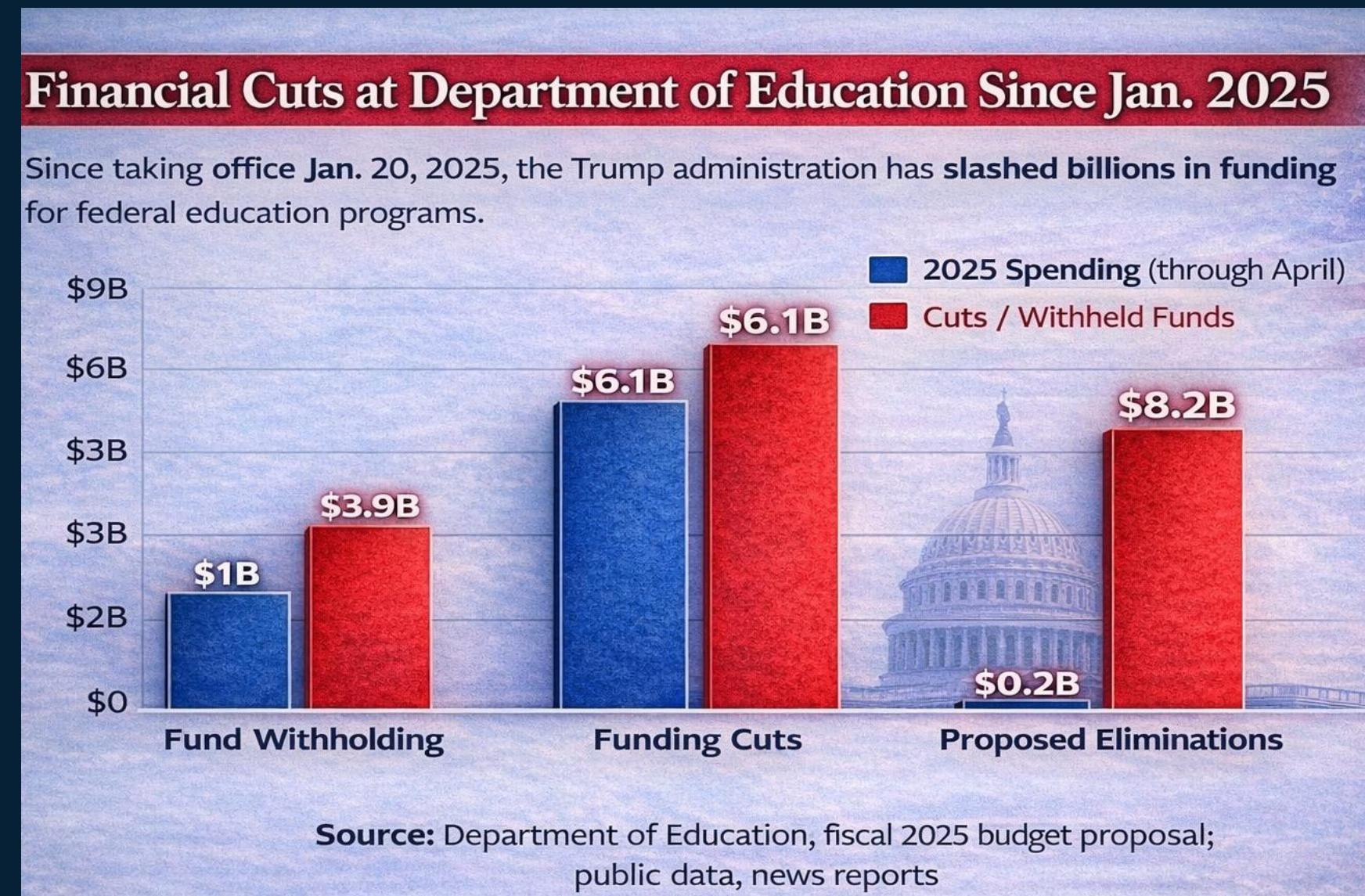
The Trump administration has sharply reduced, paused, or cancelled education funding, creating massive gaps for schools, districts and students.

Executive Actions Shaping Curricula

The Trump administration is curtailing the teaching of race, gender and history while suing colleges and universities.

Department of Education Elimination

Secretary McMahon is making major changes to the mission, workforce, grant programs, student loan services with the intent of eliminating the Department altogether.



EDUCATION: My Plan

Support Pre-K and K-12 Schools

Increase STEM education opportunities, mental health and early intervention staffing, and reduce bullying.

Higher Education Must be Accessible

College, tech schools, apprenticeship programs and community colleges must be more affordable.

Back to the Basics

Prioritize literacy, critical thinking and civics education.



ECONOMY: Where we are

Challenging National Outlook for Growth

Bankruptcies and layoffs are on the rise. Low wage earners continue to struggle while high earners prosper.

Thriving Biotech Sector in PA-06

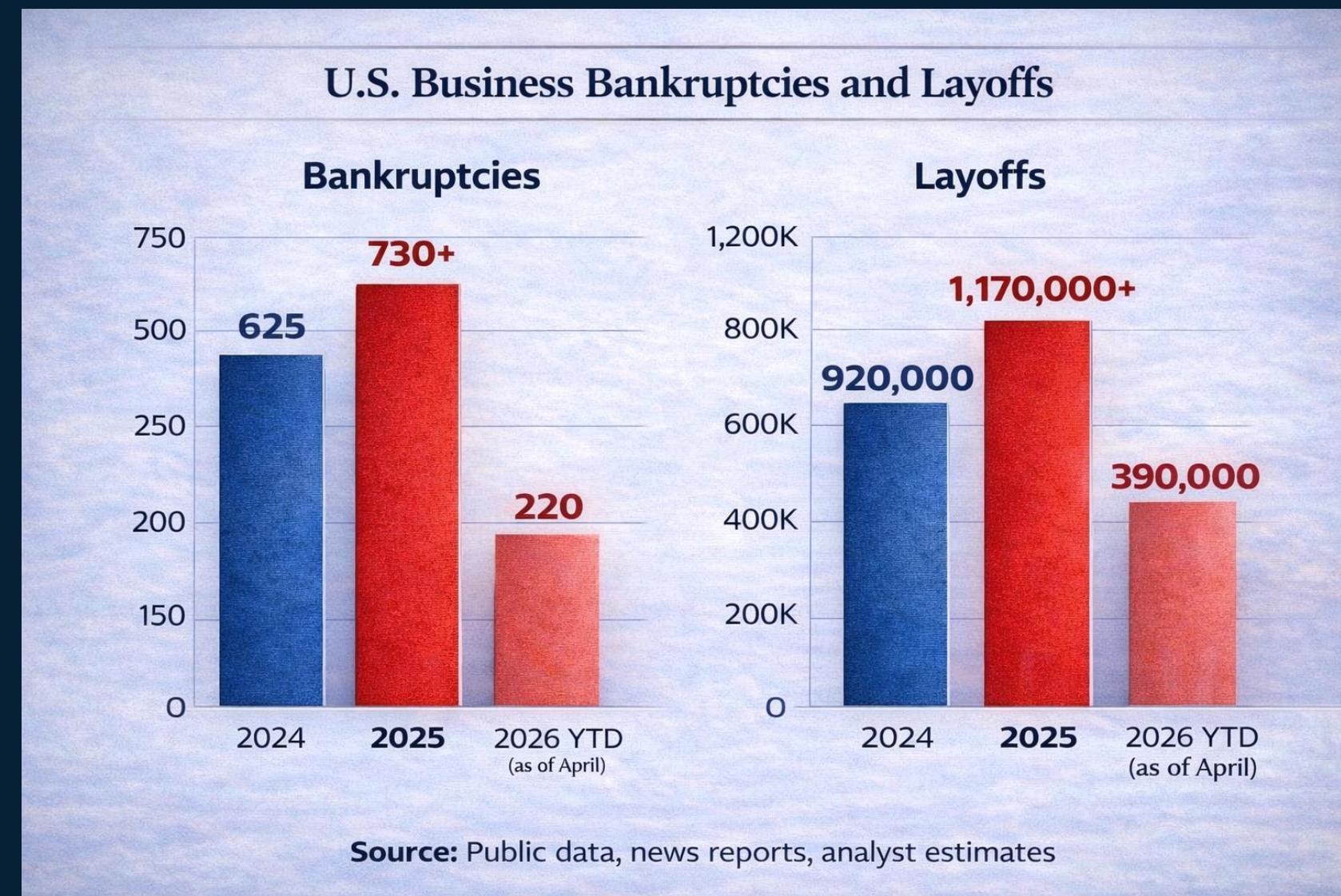
Launched Congressional BIOTech Caucus and introduced Biomanufacturing Excellence Act.

Core Industries Steady

Robust agricultural economy, innovative healthcare companies, vibrant small businesses, and one of the nation's longest operating steel mills.

Some Good News

Republican budget restored and made permanent research and development tax credits for businesses.



ECONOMY: My Plan

Empower Entrepreneurs, support families

Expand SBA programs including Veterans Outreach and Women's Business centers, SCORE mentoring.

Increase access to capital and resources

Reauthorize SBA lending, fund community development institutions, enable small business research to be commercialized quickly.

Invest in workforce and ownership

Support labor hiring and retention initiatives, expand apprenticeships, and create employee ownership opportunities.

Raise the minimum wage

The \$7.25 federal minimum wage has not been raised since 2009 which, when adjusted for inflation, has the purchasing power of \$4.80 an hour



TARIFFS+TAXES: Where we are

Liberation Day and Beyond

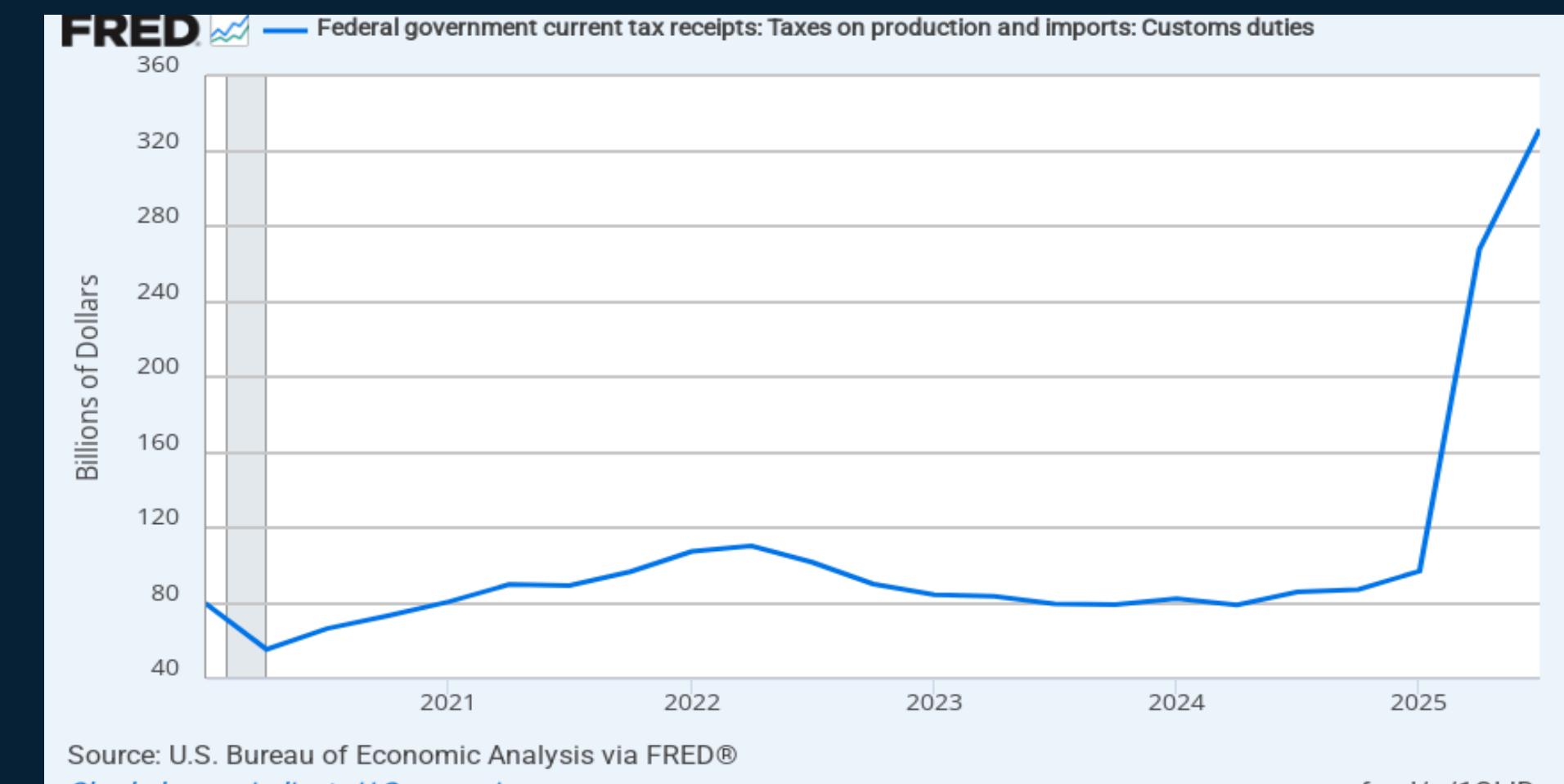
Nearly a year into a chaotic tariff policy, it's clear that American consumers are paying more to offset the tariffs on businesses.

The Cost to Us

Tax receipts are up because households are now spending between \$1,100 and \$2,400 more on goods because of the tariffs.

The K Shaped Economy

Those who earn the most are now earning even more, while those who earn the least are struggling to make ends meet.



TARIFFS+TAXES: My Plan

Fair and Open Trade

Replace the sweeping and chaotic tariffs with narrow, strategic tariffs protecting American jobs, critical industries, and intellectual property.

Restore Congressional Authority Over Tariffs

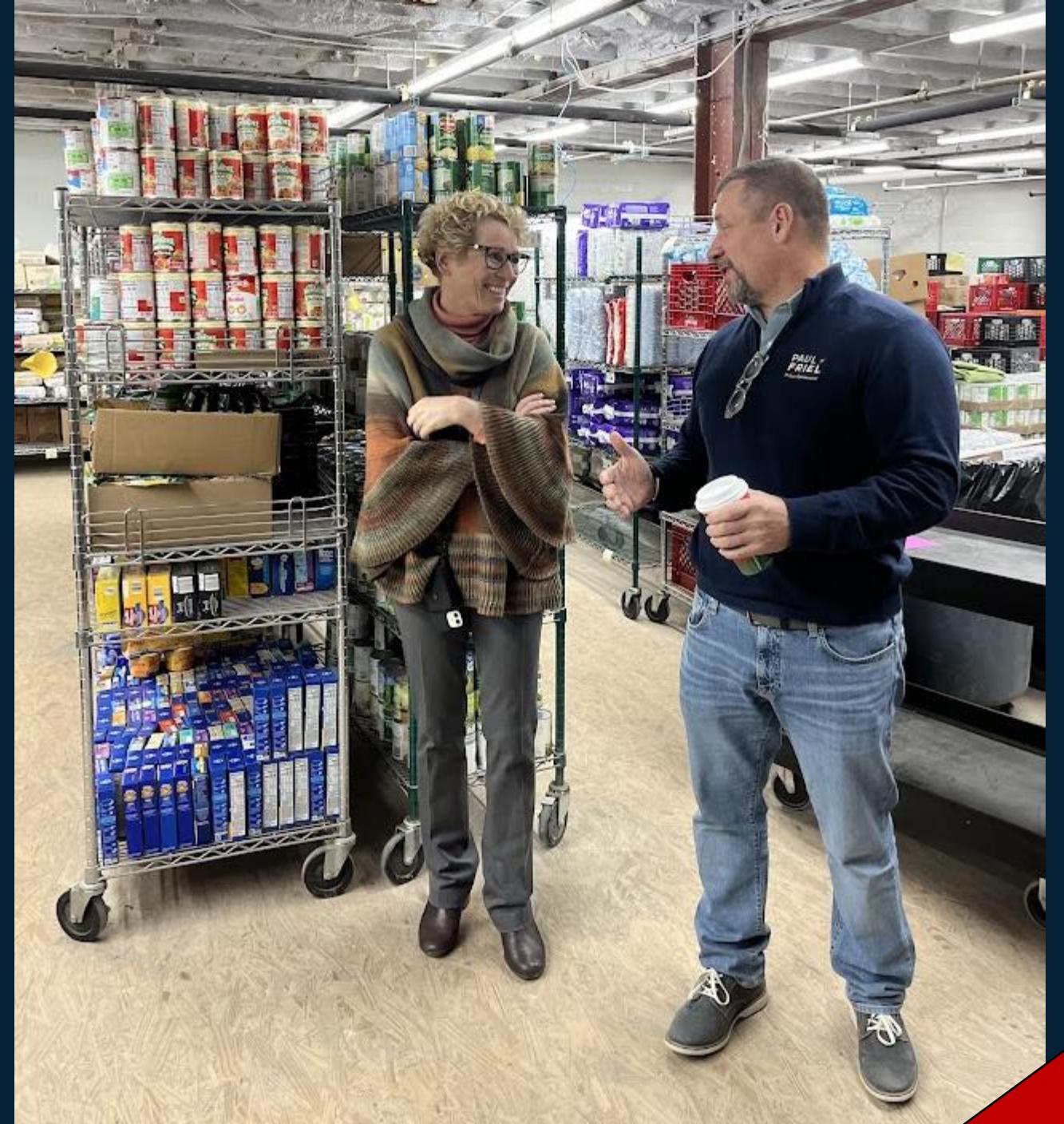
Congress, not the President, has the responsibility to enact tariffs. Allies cannot count on us and competitors are taking advantage of the Administration's grip on tariff policy.

Make Offshoring Labor Difficult and Expensive

Close the loopholes that allow American companies to move US-based jobs overseas.

Protect our Workers

All future trade agreements must ensure partners adhere to American labor and environmental standards.



NATIONAL SECURITY: Where we are

Damage Done

Our allies question our commitment to democracy while we engage in regime change, threaten invasions and conduct strikes. Secretary Hegseth needs to go.

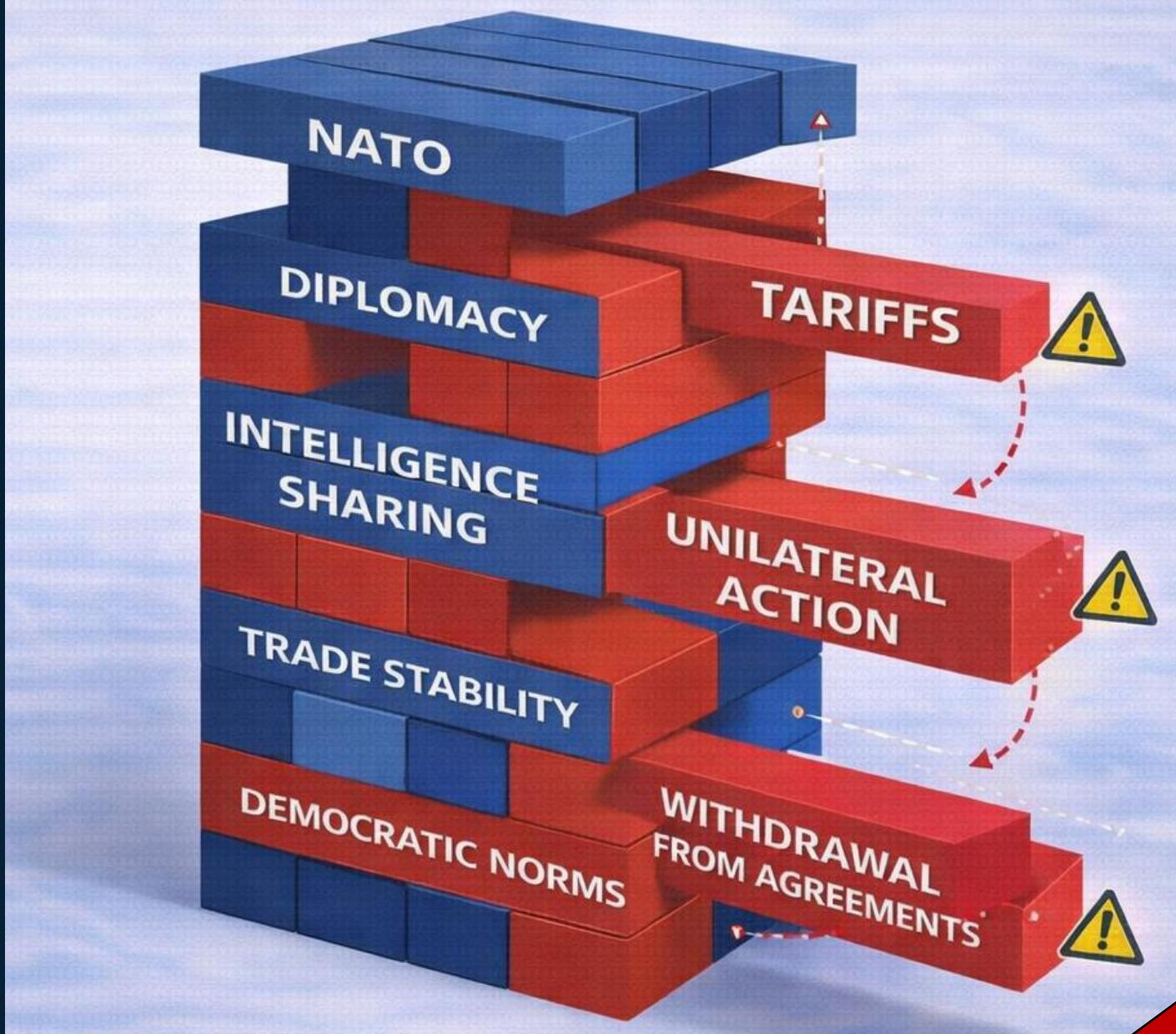
Questionable Commitment to our Troops

The administration fired or demoted female military leaders, is erasing the contributions of black and brown soldiers, and is using white nationalist imagery in recruiting materials.

National Security is Local Security

I secured 40 major priorities for PA-06 in this year's NDAA, including new manufacturing jobs creation in service to national security.

NATIONAL SECURITY JENGA



NATIONAL SECURITY: My Plan

One of my top priorities is the security of our nation.

- Support our servicemembers and families
- Modernize our military for the battles of tomorrow
- Enhance intelligence and national security innovation to counter emerging threats
- Repair our relationships with allies



FOREIGN POLICY: Where we are

Transactional foreign policy

Diplomacy has been replaced with tariff pressure, presidential actions are for sale, short-term leverage is valued over long-term gains.

Fraying alliances

NATO, EU, and other multilaterals institutions are being belittled and threatened.

America First

The administration is ignoring international norms, decreasing the promotion of democracy, and abandoning allies.



FOREIGN POLICY: My Plan

Restoring our leadership requires reasserting our democratic values on the global stage

- Restore and strengthen U.S. diplomacy.
- Repair USAID and international partnerships to promote shared peace, security and prosperity.
- Treat China as a strategic competitor.
- Support Ukraine with military aid and sanctions against Russia.
- Provide aide for Gaza, support a two-state solution, and remove self-dealing members of the Administration from future development.



IMMIGRATION: Where we are

Deport First, Ask Questions Later

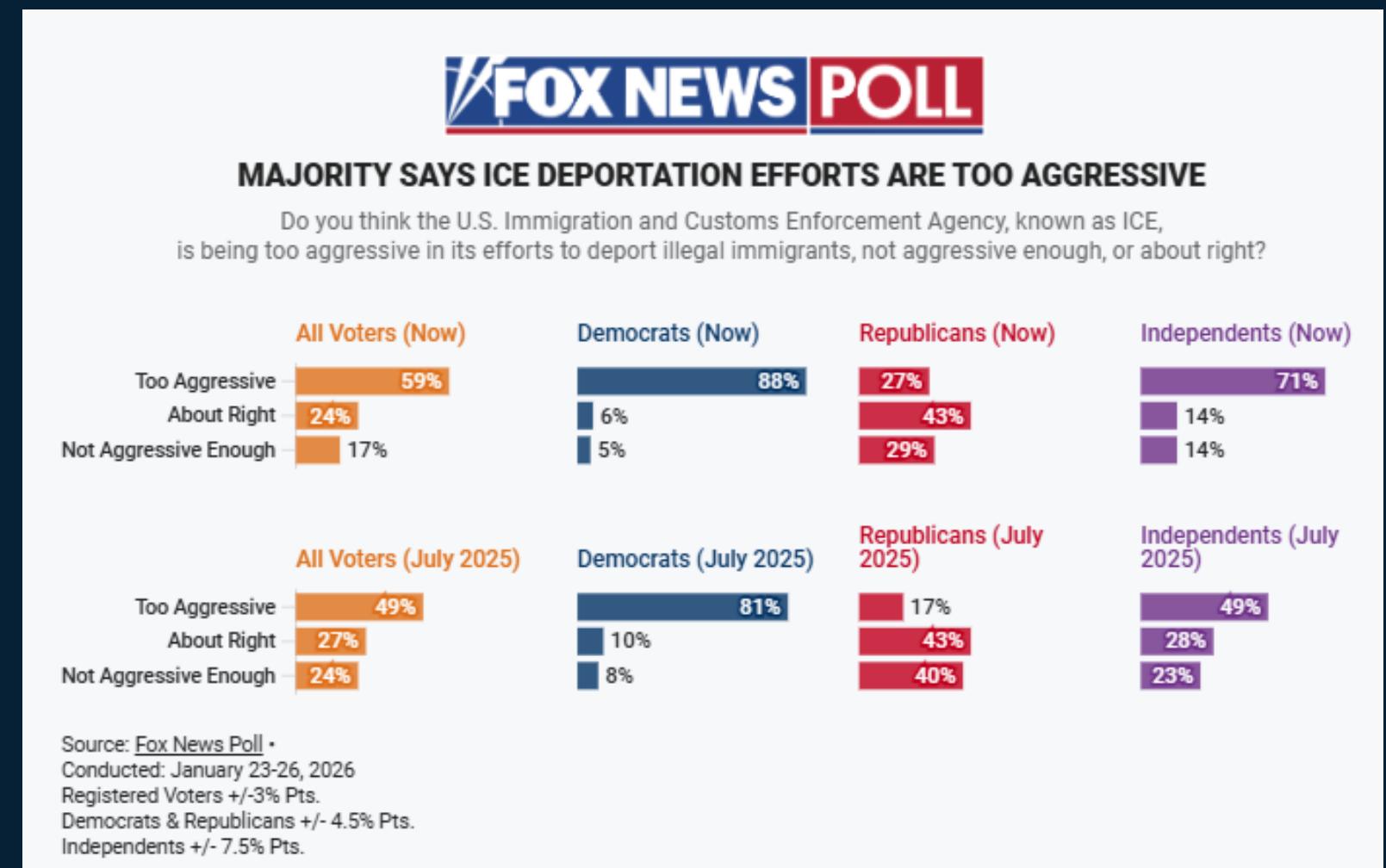
Current actions are driven by aggressive quotas, fast-track removals, and the suspension of humanitarian protections.

Closing the Door on Legal Pathways

It's nearly impossible to immigrate legally now; those doing so while living here are in increasingly danger, as are visa and green card holders.

Unpopular and Expensive

Public opinion is clear: ICE deportation efforts are too aggressive. This is costing billions, money which could be spent on healthcare, education, or housing.



IMMIGRATION: My Plan

We can and must have an immigration system that is both secure and fair.

- Create legal pathways for immigrants and Dreamers.
- Allow US-educated international students to stay here and contribute.
- Repair and strengthen relations with South and Central America.
- Stop human, gun, and drug trafficking at all US points of entry with law enforcement cooperation.
- Open processing centers in Latin America to ease backlog of asylum seekers and enable transit to other nations.



OUR VETERANS: Where we are

Some Good News

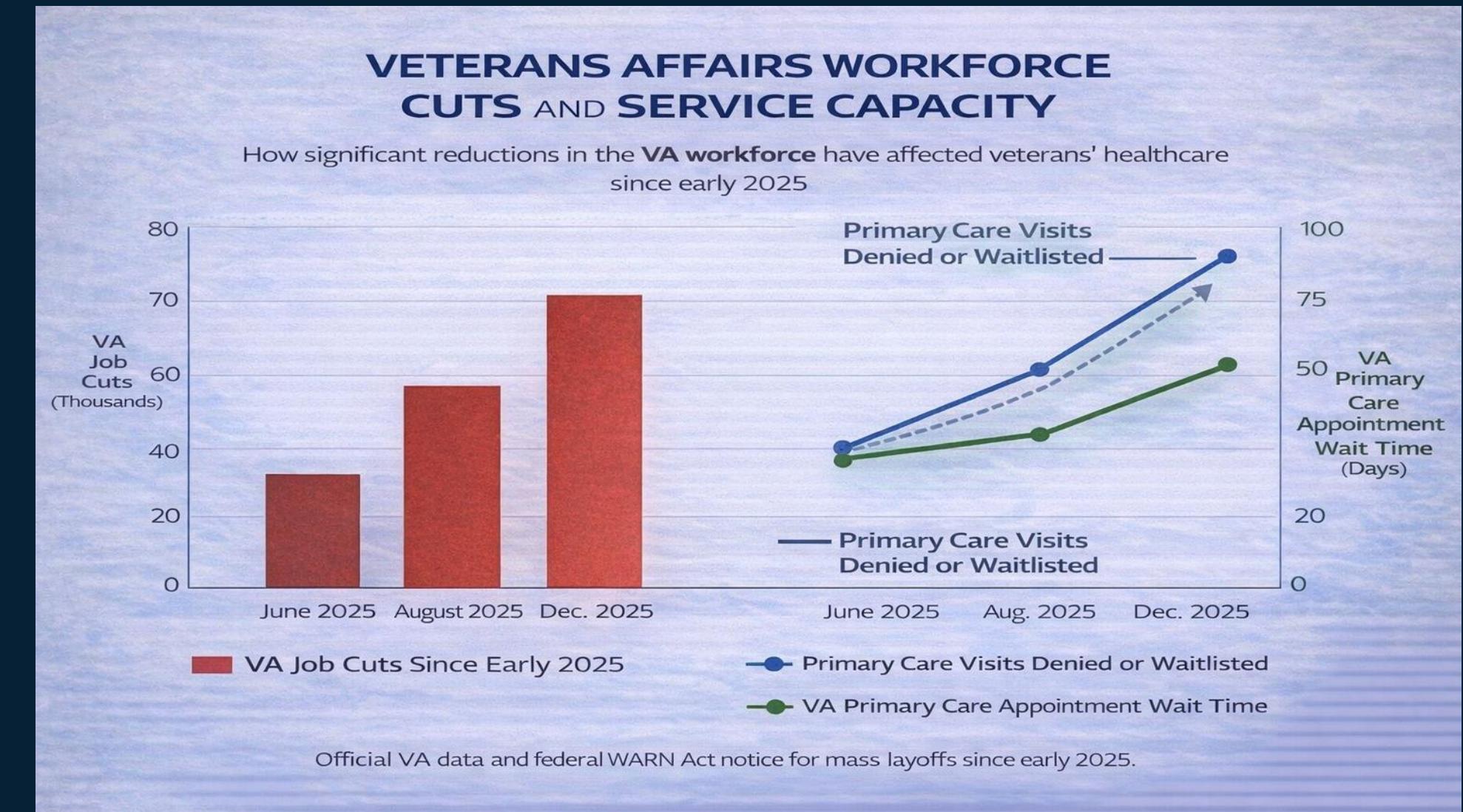
The VA budget increase is aimed at improving healthcare, job training, homelessness, and records modernization.

Capacity and Staffing Challenges

The VA is firing up to 70,000 employees, including nursing, mental health, and prosthetic support services.

Long Waits, Poor Service

Staff shortages at 137 of 139 VA health centers means longer waits for veterans to see doctors or receive information on disability claims.



OUR VETERANS: My Plan

Improve health care and family support

- Ensure all veterans receive high-quality VA health care by investing in facilities and staff, expanding mental healthcare, providing equal access to medications, and improving claim handling.

Protect Veterans' jobs and economic security

- Support veterans' economic security by helping them translate military skills into careers, safeguarding against financial scams, and promoting VA benefits like home loans.

Honor and recognize Veterans' service

- Create a WWII Women's Memorial, document veterans' stories, and correct discriminatory or wrongful military records.



Q&A

*Moderated by
Mayor Peter Urscheler*



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—  —

CLOSING REMARKS



HOW TO STAY ENGAGED

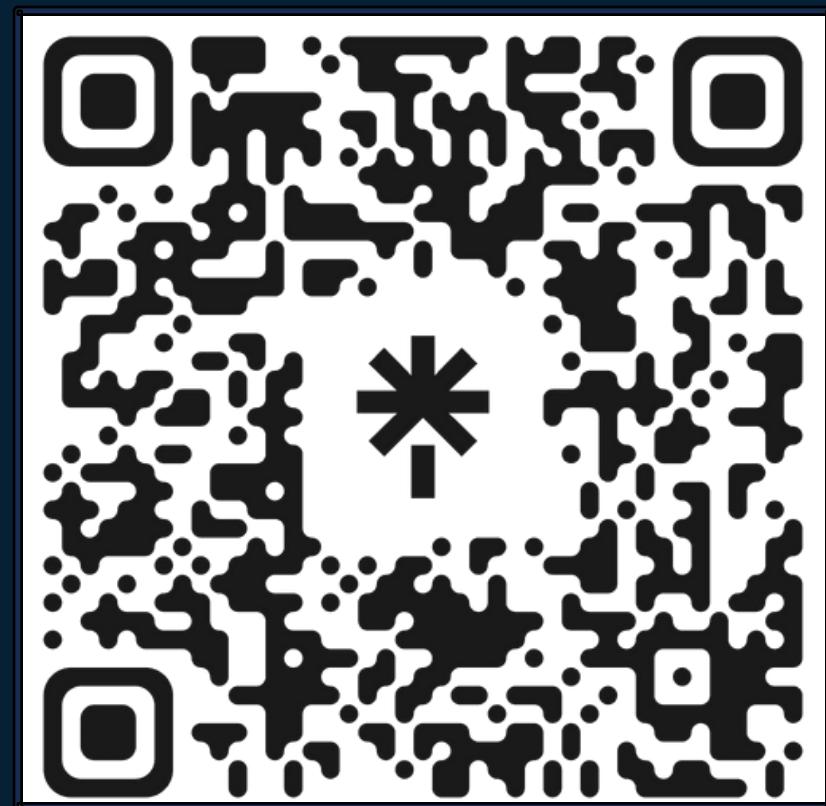
VOTE. Every year, every election.

Your voice matters. Communicate with your government.

Share direct impact stories with us that we can elevate.

Support organizations that are actively working on causes that matter to you.

STAY CONNECTED



SOCIAL MEDIA

ONLINE

NEWSLETTERS

Houlahan.house.gov

OUR DISTRICT OFFICES

— U.S. REPRESENTATIVE —
CHRISSY 
HOULAHAN
PROUDLY SERVING PENNSYLVANIANS

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West Chester, PA 19380

201 Penn Street, Suite 201
Reading, PA 19601

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE.

