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ALL SHOOK UP

By the Staff of AFP

AS AMERICAN FREE PRESS goes to press on Jan. 30, President Donald Trump has been in the White House for only two weeks—and already his plan to shake up Washington has begun. In that time, Trump has signed 40 executive orders and multiple agency directives that reshape government. In addition, he has sent a buyout offer to every federal bureaucrat—all for the purpose of reining in big government.

Trump's barrage of activity has left the mainstream media scrambling to keep up with the 78-year-old president, regularly reporting inaccuracies and even outright falsehoods.

Take the fight over Trump's order to pause all federal grants and loans, for instance.

Taking direction from the president, on Jan. 27, Matthew Vaeth, the acting director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), issued an official memo ordering all agencies in the Executive Branch to temporarily pause federal spending so that Trump officials can go over everything.

The order directed federal agencies to "temporarily pause all activities related to obligation or disbursement of all federal financial assistance," beginning Jan. 28 at 5 p.m. While the memo did not directly name which programs would be impacted, it did cite carve outs for Medicare and So-



DONALD TRUMP
Shaking things up—fast.

cial Security benefits, and any federal financial aid received directly by individuals.

According to multiple sources inside the White House, the plan was to jettison the woke funding policies of past administrations. Knowing full well that Democrats would object to any cuts, the Trump administration planned to take the fight all the way to the Supreme Court to ensure that Americans' taxpayer dollars weren't being wasted on absurd programs.

After a major panic in the media, in the following days, the mainstream media reported that Trump had lost the fight over spending, that his order had been rescinded, and that the

federal money-spigot would flow once more.

White House spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt poured cold water on the mainstream media, however, issuing an official statement that only the initial memo had been rescinded. The administration was still pursuing the funding freeze, and the White House would continue to fight any attempts to rein in executive authority.

"The president's EOs on federal funding remain in full force and effect, and will be rigorously implemented," she said in her statement.

A short time later, she told reporters, rescinding the OMB memo "should effectively end the court case and allow the government to focus on enforcing the president's orders on controlling federal spending."

She added, "In the coming weeks and months, more executive action will continue to end the egregious waste of federal funding."

If Congress is too cowardly to do its job and do something about out-of-control federal spending and waste of taxpayers' hard-earned money, shouldn't the president have the power to take action to prevent the United States—which is \$37 trillion in debt—from falling off a financial cliff? That is what is at stake here.

Equally important, the failure of the mainstream media to report objectively and accurately on so many important issues demonstrates why an unprecedented number of Americans have lost all faith in them. This includes left- and right-wing outlets.

AMERICAN FREE PRESS will continue to watch closely the Trump administration in the coming weeks and months. It is vital that Americans get honest, candid, and truthful information as we come together to right this failing ship of state, something Americans can only hope to get from independent, non-partisan news outlets like AMERICAN FREE PRESS. ★

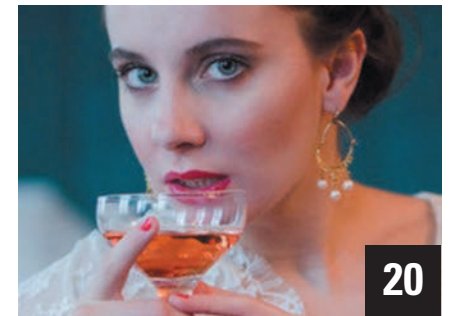
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