
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND ALL MEMBERS OF
ANY CURRENT AND FUTURE ADMINISTRATION, TO ABIDE BY THE LAWS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INCLUDING BY COMPLYING
WITH ORDERS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES COURTS.

1 WHEREAS, we the people of the United States of America are
2 each of us subject to the United States Constitution and to the
3 nation's laws; and
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5 WHEREAS, every person subject to the nation's laws is
6 expected to follow those laws, and is punished if he or she
7 breaks those laws; and
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9 WHEREAS, the President of the United States has an
10 especially sacred duty to uphold the nation's laws, as it is the
11 President's responsibility to "take Care that the Laws be
12 faithfully executed" under Article II of the United States
13 Constitution; and
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15 WHEREAS, under the United States Constitution no person,
16 including the President of the United States, may disregard or
17 disobey laws which he or she considers unfair, unjust, or
18 otherwise illegitimate; and
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20 WHEREAS, the founding fathers, aware of the risks posed by
21 a government headed by a single, all-powerful king,
22 intentionally created "a government of laws, not of men," as
23 John Adams described it; and
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25 WHEREAS, the founders divided the power of government to
26 make, enforce, and interpret the laws among three coequal and
27 independent branches of government; and
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29 WHEREAS, the judicial branch of the United States
30 government is a check on the awesome power of the other two



1 branches of government, and which, unlike the legislative and
2 executive branches, has no power other than its power to
3 exercise its judgment over issues of federal law; and
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5 WHEREAS, the structure of the judicial branch led Alexander
6 Hamilton to declare in the Federalist Papers that "the
7 judiciary ... will always be the least dangerous to the
8 political rights of the Constitution"; and
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10 WHEREAS, despite the brilliant design of the United States
11 judiciary created by the founding fathers, the President of the
12 United States and his cabinet secretaries have repeatedly
13 attacked the judiciary simply for carrying out its duty to
14 interpret the laws and United States Constitution, as a check on
15 the power of the executive branch of government; and
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17 WHEREAS, the President and his cabinet secretaries have not
18 only attacked the normal operation of the judiciary, but have
19 also repeatedly, openly, and shamelessly refused to comply with
20 lawful court orders; and
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22 WHEREAS, despite a lawful court order entered by a federal
23 judge directing the President and his administration to stop
24 freezing federal funds lawfully allocated by Congress, several
25 federal agencies have continued to freeze funding; and
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27 WHEREAS, despite a lawful court order entered by a federal
28 judge directing the President and his administration to resume
29 refugee admissions, given that only Congress, and not the
30 President, can eliminate a program that was created by Congress,
31 the President has failed to reimplement the program; and
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33 WHEREAS, despite a lawful court order entered by a federal
34 judge directing the President and his administration to stop any
35 deportations under the alleged authority of the 1798 Alien
36 Enemies Act, including by turning around airborne planes
37 carrying deportees if necessary, the President and his
38 administration allowed the deportations to go forward and then
39 openly bragged about defying the judge's order, and have to date
40 failed to offer any justification for these actions, despite
41 additional court orders requiring them to do so; and
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1 WHEREAS, some of these orders have been nationwide
2 injunctions, which apply to the government's challenged actions
3 across the country, and which have been employed by the nation's
4 federal courts for at least six decades, including extensively
5 during the Obama, Biden, and previous Trump administrations; and
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7 WHEREAS, nationwide injunctions are necessary in certain
8 circumstances, including where a lesser injunction would fail to
9 provide complete relief to the parties, to protect nonparties
10 from irreparable injury, or would otherwise be unworkable, as
11 both the Fifth Circuit and Ninth Circuit have recognized; and
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13 WHEREAS, legal community leaders across the United States
14 of America have called for all government officials to follow
15 the law and court orders; and
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17 WHEREAS, some members of Congress have insisted that the
18 President of the United States of America must comply with
19 lawful court orders; and
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21 WHEREAS, Republican leaders in the Senate, including Senate
22 Majority Leader John Thune (South Dakota), James Lankford
23 (Oklahoma), Mike Rounds (South Dakota), and Lisa Murkowski
24 (Alaska), as well as chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee
25 Chuck Grassley (Iowa), and members of the Senate Judiciary
26 Committee Josh Hawley (Missouri) and John Kennedy (Louisiana),
27 also expect the President of the United States of America to
28 follow judicial orders; and
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30 WHEREAS, Republican Senator Josh Hawley (Missouri), member
31 of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said
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33 "I think outright, ...[you cannot ignore the
34 decision]. Andrew Jackson did that infamously. He
35 was wrong on that. That was the Trail of Tears. **That**
36 **was lawless. That was wrong.**" (emphasis added); and
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38 WHEREAS, Republican Senator Lisa Murkowski (Alaska), member
39 of the Senate Appropriations Committee and other Senate
40 committees said:
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1 "The White House should comply with court rulings.
2 The Congress should comply. We have a judicial
3 system. If you don't like the ruling, you can appeal
4 the ruling and you can follow that through. But we
5 are a nation of laws and it is not necessarily for
6 you or I to be the final arbiter here. This is why
7 we entrust the judiciary with this responsibility.";
8 and
9

10 WHEREAS, members of the judicial branch have similarly
11 cautioned that the President must comply with lawful court
12 orders, including former federal Judge Paul Grimm, who stated
13 that "without those checks and balances, we don't have the rule
14 of law. No right of any individual in this country is safe";
15 and
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17 WHEREAS, in response to attacks on the judiciary's
18 legitimate power, the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme
19 Court was recently forced to state that "for more than two
20 centuries, it has been established that impeachment is not an
21 appropriate response to disagreement concerning a judicial
22 decision. The normal appellate review process exists for that
23 purpose"; and
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25 WHEREAS, the proper response to an unfavorable court
26 decision is also appeal, not the refusal to comply with that
27 order; and
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29 WHEREAS, it is the duty of the President of the United
30 States, like all good people in the United States, to follow the
31 law as set forth by the United States Congress and interpreted
32 by the United States courts, whether he or she likes or agrees
33 with those laws or the decisions of courts interpreting those
34 laws; and
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36 WHEREAS, the President of the United States, as well as any
37 duly appointed representative of the President, has an
38 obligation to be truthful and forthcoming with a judge in a
39 court of law, just as any other American citizen would; and
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41 WHEREAS, under the United States's laws and Constitution,
42 any person who refuses to comply with lawful court orders, or



1 who otherwise willfully obstructs the court's efforts to pursue
2 truth and justice, is subject to penalties, punishments, and
3 other consequences to the extent permitted under the law; and
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5 WHEREAS, if the President or any other government officer
6 is allowed to simply disregard federal law or a lawful court
7 order, the nation's elected leaders have abandoned the bedrock
8 principles of the United States Constitution that inspired the
9 founding fathers to create this great Nation in the first place;
10 now, therefore,
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the
14 House of Representatives concurring, that the President of the
15 United States, and all members of any current and future
16 administration, are urged to abide by the laws of the United
17 States, including by complying with orders issued by the United
18 States courts; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
22 United States, President Pro Tempore of the United States
23 Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
24 and Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

