

# News and Views 25

Issue #16, 5/3/2025

## “DOGE False Savings”

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### Topic - \$2 Trillion or \$150 Billion?

When Trump created DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency) and anointed Elon Musk as the person to be the head chainsaw, Musk promptly claimed that he would quickly shave \$2,000,000,000,000 (that's two Trillion) dollars from the government budget.

#### Several observations:

- “Efficiency” and “Savings” are not necessarily the same thing. Cutting jobs, cancelling contracts and stealing data from sensitive sources does not make a government more “efficient”.
- Targeting \$2 Trillion in savings, reducing the goal to \$1 trillion and then to \$150 billion does not appear to reflect that planning had been careful and reasonable.
- Reporting savings realized to date on a website “The Wall” has proven to be less than transparent or accurate.

We are learning much about the poor planning, challenges from the courts, inaccurate reporting of savings, and truly heartless ignoring of the effect of the actions on the public. And recent reports indicate that the so-called cost savings may result in actually as much or more cost increases.

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## In the News

### INC. 4/12/25 DOGE false savings

#### Why Elon Musk's DOGE Savings Goal Fell From \$2 Trillion to a Much Smaller Figure

*“Musk initially said he could save \$2 trillion with cuts made by the Department of Government Efficiency. In March, he walked that back, saying his target was \$1 trillion “unless we’re stopped.”*

*At a cabinet meeting Thursday, however, Musk told Trump and other cabinet officials that DOGE expected to cut \$150 billion from the federal budget over the 2026 fiscal year, which runs from October 2025 through September of 2026—months after DOGE is scheduled to be disbanded.”*

[Read More](#)

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**MSNBC 4/28/25** “New estimates show that Elon Musk’s DOGE might not achieve any savings.

*We’ve watched as DOGE chief Elon Musk’s promised pot of savings from his “efficiency” operation has shrunk from \$2 trillion to \$1 trillion to what he now claims is \$150 billion, or 7.5% the amount initially promised. Now new estimates suggest that the way Musk has gone about his cost-cutting crusade might cost nearly as much as — if not more — than what he claims to have saved taxpayers.”* [Read More](#)

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**NPR 3/1/25** video “DOGE’S savings page fixed old mistakes - and added new ones.

*Elon Musk’s Department of Government Efficiency has made more inflated savings claims on its digital”* [Read more](#)

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**Department of Government Efficiency** - official website

Click on this link to view the website that describes the makeup of the government, and indicates where DOGE’s “savings” has come from to-date. Based on the articles quoted above, some of the estimated savings may be less than accurate. [View here](#)

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### **In a related article**

Read about the whitehouse’s attempt to get congress to approve some of the actions they are trying. Thankfully, there appears to be some resistance on the republican side. As you read the article you might find it interesting to click on the link to “DOGE’s damaging agenda”.

**MSNBC 5/3/25** - Congressional Republicans don’t want the blame for DOGE’s mayhem

*“For the first time, the White House is reportedly planning to ask congressional Republicans to formally enact a share of [DOGE’s damaging agenda](#) into law. But though the first proposal is just a fraction of DOGE’s attempted cuts, Republicans in Congress are already having trouble taking responsibility.”* [Read More](#)

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### **User Views**

4/26 “I found the Maddow program by searching for Rachel Maddow on YouTube. As you suggest, it was very damning. But Mike, no matter what the Orange Buffoon screws up, the people don’t get excited. I loved the pickets in Oregon and some scattered around the country, but voters still say, at least on TV, he said he was going to do it when he campaigned.

*To an anti-Trumper for years, I just shake my head. It’s as if they refuse to acknowledge his incompetence. I just don’t get it. My very good friend and neighbor across the street still believes in him. This guy is very smart and well read. Long ago Trump said he could shoot someone on 5th Avenue and still get elected. Sadly he is right”*

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4/26 Thanks Mike it was a good video Rachel pretty much nails it on Trump.