

PRIORITY RESOLUTION

FIGHTING THE TRUMP/MUSK OLIGARCHY IN SOLIDARITY WITH FEDERAL WORKERS

EAST BAY DSA
2025 CONVENTION

Submitted by: Shayna E., Zach McD. and Richard M.
Endorsed by the East Bay DSA Labor Committee, April 27, 2025

Cosigners:

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Summary:

This resolution proposes the fight against the Trump/Musk oligarchy as the chapter's main priority for the coming year. It further proposes that a central focus of our campaign be solidarity support of a group of self-organized federal workers who play a strategic role in the national struggle, and here in the Bay Area. Our campaign will build the movement for socialism in the East Bay through outreach to local federal workers to engage them in the struggle; and it will connect their fight to protect federal jobs, unions and programs with local political struggles, as well as with the local struggles of union workers (e.g., teachers, nurses and academic workers) as they fight to serve our community.

This resolution was developed through an open process by a diverse group of comrades across the chapter, led by the Labor Committee. It was shaped in discussion with the authors of the [resolution to create a Socialism Beats Fascism Committee](#), ensuring alignment of goals and close coordination in practice.

Preamble:

The Trump regime, marked by a naked billionaire takeover of the federal government and an intensifying war on the working class, has awakened millions of Americans to the urgent need to take action. Today's political terrain is unique in U.S. history and is evolving rapidly. As DSA responds, our most urgent priority must be to nurture and support, organize and shape the mass movement that is in the early stages of development.

Central to that mass movement is a rank-and-file organization of self-organized federal workers, the Federal Unionists Network (FUN). Since its creation in 2022, [the FUN has grown dramatically](#) in response to the threats posed by Trump and by Musk's Department of Governmental Efficiency (DOGE), holding large rallies in multiple cities, organizing networks of solidarity with non-federal workers and their unions, holding pickets [at Tesla dealerships](#), recruiting [organizing coaches](#) and launching a "federal EWOC." The FUN has set the resistance agenda not only for their members, but for their unions (including the UAW, which represents workers at the National Institutes of Health), as well as for the AFL-CIO and the labor movement as a whole. Its [March 13 livestream](#) drew over 200,000 viewers.

Why is the FUN one of the most dynamic sites of struggle against Trump's war on the working class and the billionaire takeover of the federal government? Three reasons stand out:

- First, federal civilian workers exceed 2 million in number, and [live and work in cities and towns across the U.S.](#); some 150,000 live in California alone. This positions them uniquely to engage with locally-organized, nationally-coordinated actions like the Hands Off rallies on April 5 and May Day actions.
- Second, by its very nature, the FUN's fight for what are normally thought of as *economic* issues around job security and union rights are inseparably *political* struggles as well. This brings a class-struggle framing to their demands to an extent not often seen in the struggles of union workers.
- And third, federal workers occupy a dual role with respect to the federal state, as both *insiders* (with expertise in how it functions, whom it serves, and what impacts current threats pose to the working class) and an *outside* role rallying the broader working class to take action.

Connecting the national struggle of federal workers with local organizing here in the East Bay is also especially strategic right now. As we saw both with the "Hands Off" rallies that drew several million participants on April 5, and with the more recent May Day actions, an important mode of struggle right now is locally-organized actions that are coordinated nationally. The FUN and its members have played a key role both in national coordination and in planning local actions.

At the national level, DSA's National Political Committee has adopted a [May Day resolution](#) with the goal of "Harness[ing] the energy of popular uprisings to build to May Day 2025 (and beyond), cohering the left-labor coalition with a strong political orientation against the oligarchs," and calling on chapters to form alliances with the FUN. This campaign will set East Bay DSA on a path to achieving this national DSA goal locally, as part of a nationally-coordinated set of interventions by DSA chapters across the country.

Our chapter is well-positioned to connect federal worker struggles with the struggles of local unions in the East Bay. Our previous [priority campaign around labor solidarity](#) in 2022-24 fostered the creation of many trusting relationships at the rank-and-file and leadership level in multiple unions in the East Bay. The chapter is also well-situated to connect with the "constituents" who depend on federal programs and funding in our communities, and integrate them in solidarity with federal workers to protect essential public services.

This priority resolution and campaign plan was developed in close coordination with FUN leaders (who are also DSA members) in the Bay Area. These leaders have expressed strong

support for this priority campaign, and interest in continuing to coordinate with us in carrying it out.

Therefore, be it resolved, East Bay DSA adopts the following priority campaign proposal:

Campaign structure and co-chairs:

The campaign committee shall be established within the Labor Committee and subject to its bylaws, to the extent applicable. The campaign committee shall be open to all members of East Bay DSA and shall continue to coordinate closely with leaders, organizers and members of the Federal Unionists Network, including those who are DSA members in the Bay Area. The campaign committee shall also coordinate closely with the proposed Socialism Beats Fascism Committee.

The initial co-chairs of the campaign shall be Shayna E., Zach M. and Richard M., whom the Labor Committee appointed in its [March 30 resolution](#) to lead the working group that developed this campaign proposal. As a goal of the campaign is to develop chapter leaders, elections for new co-chairs and other leadership roles will be held by September 30.

Goals of the Campaign:

Goal 1: Organize federal workers in the East Bay: In partnership with federal workers in DSA and other rank-and-file organizers in the FUN, connect federal workers in the East Bay with the FUN and with broader labor and community movements, and support their development into effective organizers with a class analysis.

Goal 2: Organize to link federal and local struggles: Connect the rank-and-file struggles of federal workers to those of other local workers and their unions in the East Bay and to other community struggles against Trump's agenda and the billionaire take-over of the federal government, including struggles of organizations whose members depend on federal funds and services.

Goal 3: Shape the politics of East Bay resistance: Cohere the growing mass movement in the East Bay to fight the oligarchy and incipient fascism by providing support and leadership, democratic organizational practices, and a political analysis that this is a fight in solidarity with the working class against capitalism, not with the Democratic against the Republican party.

Goal 4: Build and grow DSA: Engage hundreds of our members, and multiple committees and working groups, in supporting worker- and community-led struggles to support the FUN and fight the oligarchy, building our members' capacities as socialist organizers and leaders, and deepening our relationships with militant members of the East Bay's multiracial working class, and collaborating where possible with YDSA and other DSA chapters.

Campaign Plan and Timeline:

The rapid developments in the political terrain and climate, both in terms of the attacks coming from the Trump/Musk regime and of the growth and tactics of the mass opposition, require us to continuously assess and reassess current conditions and the horizon, and to be tactically flexible in how we meet the moment. That said, we project the following near-term and ongoing activities:

May-June: The campaign planning group that the Labor Committee created to develop this priority campaign resolution has transitioned into a **campaign coordinating group**, which welcomes all East Bay DSA members to participate. (Join the campaign [WhatsApp chat](#), which includes members of the FUN along with East Bay DSA members; updates will also be posted in Discord.) The first task of the campaign coordinating group will be to plan a **launch event**, in conjunction with the Socialism Beats Fascism Committee.

June: The campaign **launch event** will likely be a large meeting in June. This event will include speakers from the FUN, along with political education and discussion to introduce members to the campaign. It will then engage participants in work groups to brainstorm and carry out specific sets of tasks that will prepare us to launch the outward-facing campaign. These work groups will focus on some or all of the following tasks: (1) planning outreach events, such as canvassing and tabling, (2) research on federal workplaces in the Bay Area, (3) development and design of canvassing materials directed to federal workers, and to the general community, (4) political education, (5) communications and propaganda, and (6) member engagement.

We will participate in and table at the **Bay Area Labor Notes Trouble Makers School** on June 14 at Oakland Tech, at which a workshop related to the FUN is planned, with materials and talking points to begin our outreach about the campaign to rank-and-file union members from across the Bay Area. We will debrief our outreach conversations at Labor Notes, and develop a wider program of **outreach to engage non-federal East Bay unions and workers** in the campaign.

We will also plan strategies to outreach to and **engage “constituents” or recipients of federal services**, particularly at federal workplaces at which services are being disrupted. This outreach can take place, for instance, at Social Security offices, Veterans’ health clinics, and other public-facing federal workplaces.

July: The outward-facing campaign will be launched by July with **pilot canvassing at the Oakland Federal Building** or another more suitable target. The materials and script we use in our conversations with federal workers will be developed in close coordination with leaders and organizers in the FUN, and we will direct interested federal workers to the FUN’s local Organizing Committee. Training on labor solidarity and canvassing will be provided, and new members will be paired up with experienced organizers for canvassing. We will debrief the pilot and develop a wider program of outreach to federal workers. We will also develop a program and materials for **outreach to federal retirees**.

We will **support the FUN with comms**, including writing, short videos, interviews and social media (such as interviews with recipients of federal services expressing their struggles and their solidarity with federal workers). The campaign comms will work with the chapter comms secretary and Bay Current on these and other communications tactics.

Ongoing: We anticipate several kinds of ongoing activities, including:

- Planning Mass Rallies and Actions: The campaign will coordinate with the Socialism Beats Fascism Committee to ensure that East Bay DSA engages in coalition to help organize future mass rallies and actions. We will work to engage our labor and community allies at these planning tables, and to support turnout.
- Participating in Mass Actions: We will participate in these mass actions with a view to (1) bringing class struggle politics to them, and (2) helping to shape a culture of democratic deliberation that coheres local membership organizations around durable movement structures.
- Rapid Response: The FUN has asked for support in developing a network that can respond rapidly to harmful actions by the Trump/Musk regime and DOGE. They are currently building a focus on fighting reductions in force at the EPA, SSA and VA.
- Monthly outreach opportunities: Coordinate with the Socialism Beats Fascism Committee to plan and host mass meetings with federal workers and others, and outreach events, such as federal worker canvassing.
- Trainings and political education: We will organize periodic trainings that help onboard new members into active roles in the campaign, with particular events to which we invite the local federal workers we have met to support their political development and organizing skills.
- Develop escalating tactics: We will seek to identify non-violent tactics that are best suited to creating a political crisis for the Trump/Musk regime, including tactics that federal workers are unlikely to engage in on their own behalf, due to risks of job loss.

Draft budget:

The campaign will require funds for printing (e.g., palm cards for canvassing and posters), banners, food and drink, and special events. Other expenses may become necessary as the campaign develops.