

R8: Fire Emergency Manager Musk

Author: Ian McClure

Background

The political turmoil of the moment is widely felt. And yet there is a void of political leadership. The Democratic Party, ostensibly an “opposition party”, has in large part chosen to play dead. This is an opportunity for socialists to step forward, provide a clear analysis, and show people their power to fight back.

It seems possible that this popular energy, currently undirected and suppressed, could spill out into the streets as the weather gets warmer and the crises stack up. It’s also possible that there will be no such mobilization. Therefore, it’s necessary for us to take up an orientation suited for both of the possibilities, allowing us to build a base and develop leaders among new sections of the working class for the long term, as well as preparing for any immediate mobilizing opportunities.

Among these crises is Elon Musk’s austerity shock program known as DOGE. The federal government is the single largest employer, and millions rely on the programs it provides. Many more workers rely indirectly on the government, employed with funding from grants, or working in industries auxiliary to its programs. More than most, Detroiters know what austerity looks like. During the bankruptcy, an appointed hatchet man [cut public programs](#) and immiserated the working class. DOGE is carrying this project forward to the federal government. A campaign against DOGE in Detroit has the ability to bring new workers into our movement, deepening our connections to the federal workforce and everyone who relies on federal programs.

DSA, and MD-DSA in particular, have developed the experience to organize effectively in elections and on the picket line, but in other areas, our strategy is less clear. Specifically, we have been less coordinated when participating in political movements that primarily take to the streets.

In the past, we have developed successful structures to engage members in outward facing work. Most especially the [Strike Ready campaign](#) that mobilized DSAers to support workers at UPS and the Big 3 auto companies. In these campaigns, a group of appointed solidarity captains were responsible for turning out their comrades, and the result was some of the highest engagement any DSA campaign has ever seen. We should seek to apply lessons from this model.

Therefore be it resolved: Metro Detroit DSA will adopt as its guiding strategy for fighting the Right an orientation towards building independent (of both capitalist parties) [mass action](#) of the working class. We will aim to cohere a mass movement of working class people to fight back against the attacks of the Right and fight for a working class agenda.

Further resolved: MD-DSA will establish as a project committee the Social Movement Action Response Team (SMART) chaired by Ian M. An additional chair, ideally a newer chapter member for the purpose of leadership development, can be added by Ian M. at such a time when one is identified and willing to take on the role.

Further resolved: SMART will adopt in the short term the slogan “Fire Emergency Manager Musk” and fight to overturn the DOGE agenda. SMART will work with partners, especially working class membership organizations, including but not limited to the [Federal Unionists Network](#), which is leading the union response to DOGE, to build a rapid response network to mobilize for pickets and demonstrations when jobs are threatened, coordinate DSA members by distributing tasks within these mobilizations, organizing public-facing town halls to inform and organize those who use services, and facilitate cross union organization of federal workers and the workers who support them.

Further resolved: SMART will work closely with MD-DSA’s communications committee to develop outward facing media and communications. SMART will collaborate with the political education committee for both internal leadership development and external programming targeting users of federal services. SMART will work closely with the Labor Working Group, utilizing its ties to the labor movement. SMART will seek to work with and engage MD-DSA’s endorsed elected officials as necessary through the SIO committee.

Further resolved: This structure will serve as a pilot, beginning with the work of opposing DOGE, and the lessons learned in this arena will guide our work and be transferred to new fights. SMART will seek to adapt to the changing political terrain. As conditions change and new struggles emerge the campaign will be built with the flexibility to reorient if necessary, utilizing the structures it builds to meet the moment (ie. attacks on public education, support for emerging student movements, etc.)

Co-Signers:

1. Matt Cummings
2. Becca Roskill
3. Lauren Trendler
4. Peter Landon

5. Tyler Adams
6. Beau Lukas-Rodriguez
7. Sophia Lorenzetti
8. Jane Slaughter
9. Susan Steigerwalt
10. Jed Cawley
11. Francesca Stephenson
12. Drew Hohman
13. Erin Tabor
14. Caleb Lalinsky
15. Amanda Matyas

R8A1: Amendment: Fire Emergency

Manager Musk

Amendment Author: Melina Herrera

Motivation for amendment: Appointing committee chairs by resolution, and granting that chair the sole authority for appointing their co-chair, is undemocratic and out of order. See amendment below:

Amendment Language

Author: Ian McClure

WHEREAS:

1. The political turmoil of the moment is widely felt. And yet there is a void of political leadership. The Democratic Party, ostensibly an “opposition party”, has in large part chosen to play dead. This is an opportunity for socialists to step forward, provide a clear analysis, and show people their power to fight back.
2. It seems possible that this popular energy, currently undirected and suppressed, could spill out into the streets as the weather gets warmer and the crises stack up. It’s also possible that there will be no such mobilization. Therefore, it’s necessary for us to take up an orientation suited for both of the possibilities, allowing us to build a base and develop leaders among new sections of the working class for the long term, as well as preparing for any immediate mobilizing opportunities.

3. Among these crises is Elon Musk's austerity shock program known as DOGE. The federal government is the single largest employer, and millions rely on the programs it provides. Many more workers rely indirectly on the government, employed with funding from grants, or working in industries auxiliary to its programs. More than most, Detroiters know what austerity looks like. During the bankruptcy, an appointed hatchet man [cut public programs](#) and immiserated the working class. DOGE is carrying this project forward to the federal government. A campaign against DOGE in Detroit has the ability to bring new workers into our movement, deepening our connections to the federal workforce and everyone who relies on federal programs.
4. DSA, and MD-DSA in particular, have developed the experience to organize effectively in elections and on the picket line, but in other areas, our strategy is less clear. Specifically, we have been less coordinated when participating in political movements that primarily take to the streets.
5. In the past, we have developed successful structures to engage members in outward facing work. Most especially the [Strike Ready campaign](#) that mobilized DSAers to support workers at UPS and the Big 3 auto companies. In these campaigns, a group of appointed solidarity captains were responsible for turning out their comrades, and the result was some of the highest engagement any DSA campaign has ever seen. We should seek to apply lessons from this model.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED:

1. Metro Detroit DSA will adopt as its guiding strategy for fighting the Right an orientation towards building independent (of both capitalist parties) [mass action](#) of the working class. We will aim to cohere a mass movement of working class people to fight back against the attacks of the Right and fight for a working class agenda.
2. Further resolved: MD-DSA will establish as a project committee the Social Movement Action Response Team (SMART). ~~chaired by Ian M. An additional chair, ideally a newer chapter member for the purpose of leadership development, can be added by Ian M. at such a time when one is identified and willing to take on the role. The chairs of this committee will be decided by attendees to the committee's first meeting, which will be set & facilitated by the Campaigns Coordinator.~~
3. Further resolved: SMART will adopt in the short term the slogan "Fire Emergency Manager Musk" and fight to overturn the DOGE agenda. SMART will work with partners, especially working class membership organizations, including but not limited to the [Federal Unionists Network](#), which is leading the union response to DOGE, to build a rapid response network to mobilize for pickets and demonstrations when jobs are threatened, coordinate DSA members by distributing tasks within these mobilizations, organizing public-facing town

halls to inform and organize those who use services, and facilitate cross union organization of federal workers and the workers who support them.

4. Further resolved: SMART will work closely with MD-DSA's communications committee to develop outward facing media and communications. SMART will collaborate with the political education committee for both internal leadership development and external programming targeting users of federal services. SMART will work closely with the Labor Working Group, utilizing its ties to the labor movement. SMART will seek to work with and engage MD-DSA's endorsed elected officials as necessary through the SIO committee.
5. Further resolved: This structure will serve as a pilot, beginning with the work of opposing DOGE, and the lessons learned in this arena will guide our work and be transferred to new fights. SMART will seek to adapt to the changing political terrain. As conditions change and new struggles emerge the campaign will be built with the flexibility to reorient if necessary, utilizing the structures it builds to meet the moment (ie. attacks on public education, support for emerging student movements, etc.)

Signed:

1. Rose C.
2. Tom M.
3. Francesca S.
4. David F.
5. Ian S-B.
6. Liam M.
7. Isabel C.
8. Roger R.
9. Lucaian A-T.
10. Rodney C.
11. Aaron B.
12. Phil B.
13. Taina S.
14. Alyson G.
15. Gary W.
16. Chris G-H
17. Jon M.
18. Rory F.
19. Ali H.
20. Layla E.
21. Jess N.

