

COALITION OF GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS CALL ON STATE LEADERS FOR POSITION ON FEDERAL OVERREACH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Twenty nine grassroots organizations have called on Governor Murphy, AG Matthew Platkin, and each of the six declared Democratic gubernatorial candidates for strength and clarity about countering anticipated federal executive, legislative and judicial overreach in our State, following the inauguration of President Trump on January 20. The organizations collectively represent over 25,000 New Jersey citizens.

In a letter to the governor, attorney general and candidates, the groups highlighted multiple concerns as examples of federal overreach that have been expressed by the incoming administration, ranging from reproductive rights, immigrant protections, climate change, as well as rollbacks of programs benefiting NJ citizens made during the Biden administration.

“We understand elections have consequences,” said Mervyn Turner of OneNJ7, one of the organizers of the petition. “We know Donald Trump won the election, and we are not mindlessly opposing every element of his agenda. We hope that he will uphold his oath of office and accept his responsibility to serve all Americans. But we are very concerned about some of the extreme policies he has proposed. There are red lines that cannot be crossed in our State. We have our own values, and our own laws, that reflect our moral and ethical standards as NJ citizens. It is incumbent on all elected leaders in high office, or those who seek high electoral office in our State, to be upfront about where they will draw the line.”

”Here is a very topical example,” said Amy Higer of SOMA Action, another group that has signed on. “The catastrophic wildfires that have raged in the Los Angeles area are not the result of inadequate civic leadership and neglect, as Donald Trump has outrageously claimed. They are a result of climate change, a real and present grave threat to New Jersey and to all Americans, that President-elect Trump and his cabinet nominees all deny.”

”The Jersey Shore is vital to the economy of our State, and we are all too aware of the vulnerability of our tourist economy to intensifying storms and storm surges,” said Kevin Dougherty of Indivisible Highland Park. “Rolling back the provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act and drilling for more oil and gas will only make our situation even more precarious.

“One of our greatest strengths here in New Jersey is the excellence of our public schools,” said Brad Raimondo of GWB Indivisible. “As a parent, I am grateful every day

to be able to send my children to schools that are dedicated to serving all students. Our elected officials must stand up for our schools against any federal infringement on the civil rights of teachers or students, any attempts to cut funding for students with disabilities, and any attempt to bully New Jersey into reducing the public health standards that help keep our kids safe at school.”

Our State is the second highest contributor of Federal taxes in the Union. We expect to have a say in how our contributions are spent at the national level - and back here in New Jersey. The elimination of the SALT deduction was a targeted attack on Blue State taxpayers, and we will not stand for any repetition.

We urge our current and future governor to advocate for NJ communities and be prepared to fight in court to ensure they receive their fair share of federal funding for critical needs such as healthcare, infrastructure, and public safety.

You can read the full text of the letter [here](#).

Signatories.

One NJ7

SOMA Action

Lawrence Citizen Activists

Indivisible Cranbury

Westfield 20/20

Indivisible Central NJ

Indivisible Lambertville New Hope

Indivisible Highland Park

Indivisible Rahway

Long Valley Indivisible

Bergen Indivisible for Democracy

SJNOWIndivisible

Swing Left Indivisible NJ

Indivisible Princeton

Action Together New Jersey

The Visibility Brigade

Cape May County Indivisible

GWB Indivisible

Indivisible NJ 5th District

SWEEP NJ

Trenton Makes Indivisible

Ridgewood JOLT

Indivisible Garden State Values

Jersey Shore Blue

Cooper River Indivisible

We The People NJ-07

Indivisible Wayne

Hackettstown Drinking Liberally

Summit Area Indivisible