

**Debra Thompson**

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**From:** Malena Marvin <malena.marvin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2025 9:18 AM  
**To:** Assembly  
**Subject:** Please act to defend Petersburg and the US Constitution

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Dear Members of the Petersburg Assembly,

Thank you for your ongoing service to our community. I know it is a volunteer job on top of your other responsibilities and requires much of you. I appreciate the work you all do.

I am writing to urge you to pass (hopefully in your first meeting in March) a strong resolution to our Alaska congressional delegation defending our federal jobs in Petersburg and asking congress to uphold the US Constitution's separation of powers.

Elon Musk and DOGE are not authorized by Congress to shutter federal agencies or fire federal workers. That they continue to do so unchecked by Congress is the definition of a constitutional crisis. This crisis is now impacting Petersburg's people and economy. The economic and social impact of illegally canceled federal funding for local infrastructure, jobs, and agency capacity over federal fisheries and public lands is an extraordinary threat to Petersburg and our way of life.

We often disagree as community members on matters of governance, which is to be expected. But if we cannot agree on the basic structure of government laid out by the US Constitution, we may lose much, much more than we bargained for. Most of us would like to see the federal government work more efficiently and transparently for the people. That work must be accomplished in the simple format defined by our Constitution, not on the whims of arrogant billionaires.

Thank you for considering my remarks.  
Malena Marvin

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