

Musk says he’s forming a new political party after split with Trump over tax cuts law

Elon Musk said he’s carrying out his threat to form a new political party after his fissure with President Donald Trump, announcing on social media that he would form the America Party in response to the president’s sweeping tax cuts law

By MICHELLE L. PRICE
Associated Press

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. (AP) — Elon Musk said he’s carrying out his

threat to form a new political party after his fissure with President Donald Trump, announcing the America Party in response to the president’s sweeping tax cuts law.

NATIONAL NEWS

Musk, once an ever-present ally to Trump as he headed up the slashing agency known as the Department of Government Efficiency, broke with the Republican president over his signature legislation, which was signed into law Friday.

As the bill made its way through Congress, Musk threatened to form the “America Party” if “this insane spending bill passes.”

“When it comes to

bankrupting our country with waste & graft, we live in a one-party system, not a democracy,” Musk said Saturday on X, the social media company he owns. “Today, the America Party is formed to give you back your freedom.”

Asked about the effort by reporters on Sunday afternoon as he prepared to return to Washington from his home in New Jersey, Trump called Musk’s proposition “ridiculous,” going on to tout “tremendous success with the Republican Party.”

“The Democrats have lost their way, but it’s always been a two-party system,” Trump added. “And I think starting a third party just adds to confusion. It really seems to have been developed for two parties.” Third parties, Trump said, have

never worked.

The formation of new political parties is not uncommon, but they typically struggle to pull any significant support away from the Republican and Democratic parties. But Musk, the world’s richest man who spent at least \$250 million supporting Trump in the 2024 election, could impact the 2026 elections determining control of Congress if he is willing to spend significant amounts of money.

His reignited feud with the president could also be costly for Musk, whose businesses rely on billions of dollars in government contracts and publicly traded company Tesla has taken a hit in the market.

It wasn’t clear whether Musk had taken steps to formally create the new political party. Spokespeople for Musk and his political action committee, America PAC, didn’t immediately comment Sunday.

As of Sunday morning, there were multiple political parties listed in the Federal Election Commission database that had been formed in the hours since Musk’s Saturday X post with versions of “America Party” of “DOGE” or “X” in the name, or Musk listed among people affiliated with the entity.

But none appeared to be authentic, listing contacts for the organization as email addresses such as ” wentsnowboarding@yahoo.com or untraceable Protonmail addresses.

Musk on Sunday spent the morning on X taking feedback from users about the party and indicated he’d use the party

to get involved in the 2026 midterm elections.

Last month, he threatened to try to oust every member of Congress that voted for Trump’s bill. Musk had called the tax breaks and spending cuts package a “disgusting abomination,” warning it would increase the federal deficit, among other critiques.

“The Republican Party has a clean sweep of the executive, legislative and judicial branches and STILL had the nerve to massively increase the size of government, expanding the national debt by a record FIVE TRIL-LION DOLLARS,” Musk said Sunday on X.

His critiques of the bill and move to form a political party mark a reversal from May, when his time in the White House was winding down and the head of rocket company SpaceX and electric vehicle maker Tesla said he would spend “a lot less” on politics in the future.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, who clashed with Musk while he ran DOGE, said on CNN’s “State of the Union” on Sunday that DOGE’s “principles” were popular but “if you look at the polling, Elon was not.”

“I imagine that those board of directors did not like this announcement yesterday and will be encouraging him to focus on his business activities, not his political activities,” he said.

Associated Press writer Meg Kinnard in Chapin, South Carolina, contributed to this report.

Copyright 2025 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Trump to put 25% tariffs on Japan and South Korea

President Donald Trump on Monday placed a 25% tax on goods imported from Japan and South Korea, citing persistent trade imbalances with the two crucial U.S. allies in Asia

By JOSH BOAK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Monday placed a 25% tax on goods imported from Japan and South Korea, citing persistent trade imbalances with the two crucial U.S. allies in Asia.

Trump provided notice of the tariffs to begin on Aug. 1 by posting letters on Truth Social that were addressed to the leaders of both countries. The letters warned both countries to not retaliate by increasing their own import taxes, or else the Trump administration would increase import taxes that could damage the auto and electronics sectors of Japan and South Korea, two crucial partners for the U.S. in countering China’s influence.

“If for any reason you decide to raise your Tariffs, then, whatever the number you choose to raise them by, will be added onto the 25% that we charge,” Trump wrote in the letters to Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and South Korean President Lee Jae-myung.

Copyright 2025 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Legal Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE OF STORM WATER DISCHARGE

Cass Health and Jensen Builders plan to submit a Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to be covered under the NPDES General Permit General Permit No. 2 "Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Construction Activities. The storm water discharge will be from grading and paving construction activities. Located in the NW ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 09, Township 76N, Range 36W. Storm water will be discharged from multiple point sources and will be discharged to the following streams: Unnamed Tributary and road ditches Into the East Nishnabotna River. Comments may be submitted to the Storm Water Discharge Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Services Division, 502 E 9th St, Des Moines IA 50319-0034. The public may review the Notice of Intent from 8:00am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, at the above address after it has been received by the department.

Legal Notice

Southwest Iowa Planning Council Check/Voucher Register - Newspaper Check List-rl0 From 3/19/2025 Through 4/15/2025	
Payee	Check Amount
275 Truck Service	4,355.82
AA Snow Removal	1,030.00
Abila	951.11
access SYSTEMS	1,404.21
Access Systems Leasing	310.90
Alliant Energy	581.03
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp	397.96
Anatomy IT, LLC	3,121.91
A Freihage	15.00
Arnold Motor Supply	352.32
Atlantic Ag And Auto LLC	1,542.65
Atlantic Motor Supply, Inc	2,477.89
Atlantic Municipal Utilities	776.86
Benell Enterprises	25,700.00
Bill's Water Cond. Inc	9.00
BJS Fleet Wash LLC	780.00
Black Hills Energy	324.20
Blair Abstract & Title Company	7,000.00
Blair Title	5,000.00
Blue Beacon Inc	40.20
Brown Auto Body LLC	1,194.00
B & L Gregory	15.00
Capital One	426.78
Cappel's Ace Hardware	49.94
Cass County Agricultural & Education Association	40.00
Cass County Health System	770.00
CFI Tire Service Inc	2,640.00
Charles Parkhurst	47.25
C Johnson	250.00
Choice Printing	459.50
Clarinda Area Volunteers	694.00
Coach and Equipment Mfg Corp.	170.79
Community 1st Credit Union	5,000.00
Commute with Enterprise	3,019.35
Concerned, Inc	2,490.60
C Schoemann-Jones and C Jones	15.00
Council Bluffs Water Works	35.86
Country Tire Shenandoah	771.17
Cox Business	221.00
Culligan of Atlantic	110.00
D Schumacher and M Frazier	15.00
Danielle Briggs	124.87
D Denholm	15.00
Dinges Auto Glass	495.00
SWIPCO Employee	228.30
DSI Medical Services, Inc	360.00
Erin Hudson	148.07
Express Lube & Tire, LLC	138.26
Feld Fire	267.00
First Unum Life Insurance Company	1,586.22
Fred Pilecki	11.24
Globe Life Liberty National Division	42.44
Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Devepment	2,022.10
Great Outdoors Lawn & Landscape, Inc	365.00
Green Acres, Inc	170.00
GreenState Credit Union	5,000.00
Gregg Young Automotive Of Atlantic	66.85
Harbin Construction Inc	25,230.00
HCRI, Inc.	45,100.00
H Hammer	250.00

Payee	Check Amount
Hepler Sanitation, Inc	70.00
hibu Inc. West	109.00
Innovative Credit Solutions, Inc	75.00
Interstate Battery System of Sioux City	581.80
Iowa Land Records E-Submission	75.00
Iowa Public Employment Retirement System	44,281.17
Jon Clemens	5.00
Kinzler Construction Services	1,588.00
L Coats	15.00
Mark Lander	146.51
Mastercard-First Interstate Bank	5,773.56
M Pierce	15.00
Max I Walker Uniform & Apparel	249.65
Mcatee Tire & Service	1,165.92
Mediacom	432.43
Meredith Communications LC	209.00
merry maids	444.00
Methodist Physicians Clinic	115.00
MidAmerican Energy Company	322.27
Midwest Title Inc., a Nebraska Corporation	5,000.00
MK Ventures LLC	240.00
MMB LLC	66.47
Mo Valley Tires, LLC	231.00
Molded Products, Inc.	344,000.00
Montgomery County Memorial Hospital	345.00
Motion Auto & Repair	74.99
Myrtue Medical Center	98.00
Nishna Productions Inc	3,037.56
NISHNANET, LLC	119.99
OBrien Settlement Services	5,000.00
Oreilly Automotive, Inc.	456.71
Otto Lorence and Wiederstein PLLC	5,000.00
Page County Treasurer	2,340.00
P Pierce & R Pierce	15.00
Papillion Sanitation	84.59
Perfection Plus Cleaning Services	1,050.00
Principal Life Insurance Company	1,505.47
Proliant Atlanta	68,141.37
Rick's Auto Clinic	11,128.26
Rob Braunersrither	5.75
Robert Lytle	14.00
R Beals	250.00
Secure Shred Solutions, LLC	54.00
Stone Printing and Office Supplies	1,852.92
Struble, Sherman	78.30
SW IA Tire & Service LLC	799.91
Terry Arentsen	47.25
The Downtowner Cafe and Catering LLC	920.00
Title Core National LLC	5,000.00
Todd Valline	43.20
Tony Smith	82.35
Trivium Life Services	11,476.00
T Nester	15.00
United States Postal Service	700.00
US Bank	3,022.64
Valley Safety Services Associates, Inc.	45.00
Verizon Wireless	5,525.15
Web Venture Inc dba Fusebox Marketing	360.00
Wellmark Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Iowa	31,714.95
Wex Bank	39,043.18
WEX Health, Inc.	4,843.55
Report Total	765,727.52