

THE UNITED STATES CAN'T AFFORD THE OPPORTUNITY COST OF STEPHEN MILLER'S BIGOTRY

HuffPo had a story describing how Trump has hired 50,000 new people while firing a bunch more in the parts of government that make your lives better,

The U.S. government has hired 50,000 employees since President Donald Trump took office, his top personnel official said, with the new staff largely in national security positions reflecting the administration's policy focus.

The bulk of the new hires, reported first by Reuters, work at Immigration and Customs Enforcement, said Scott Kupor, the federal government's human resources director, in an interview on Thursday night.

The staff changes are part of Trump's campaign to recast the government while sharply cutting other federal jobs.

"It's about reshaping the workforce to focus on the priorities that we think are most important," Kupor said.

The administration brought on the new employees while freezing hiring and laying off workers in other parts of the government, such as the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Health and Human Services.

The administration expects to shed about 300,000 workers this year, Kupor said in August.

Meanwhile, the Daily Beast has yet another story about the continued shitshow of the effort to expand Kristi Noem's goon squad, this time with the price tag associated with getting people to do such morally repugnant work.

DHS insiders said the money on offer has lured back former executive-level leaders from HSI and Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO)—with some of them taking home north of \$250,000 for office-based shiftwork, per multiple sources who spoke to the Beast.

According to those familiar with the packages, the most senior HSI rehires return as GS-13s on the federal pay scale. With locality pay in high-cost areas—such as parts of Texas, California, and New York—adding 35 percent or more to a basic salary, agents can earn up to \$137,000 in the majority of the country. This rises to \$171,268 in more expensive parts of the country, such as San Jose and San Francisco.

Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP) adds a further 25 percent for being available for substantial unscheduled duty beyond 40 hours. Add in ongoing federal pensions worth around \$8,000–\$9,000 a month, and some rehires can land well in excess of a quarter of a million annually, sources said.

50,000 ICE goons in, 300,000 people out, including people who cure cancer, help learning disabled kids get through school, protect our National Parks, ensure your Social Security comes on time, and care for veterans.

After I pointed this out, Christopher Ingraham did a handy graphic to show the trade-off.

Shifting priorities

New federal hires in immigration and security offset purges elsewhere



Source: Reuters, Partnership for Public Service. Job loss data through Oct. 23, 2025

Note: Reuters reporters 50,000 new hires "largely in national security positions reflecting the administration's policy focus," with the "bulk" of those hires at Immigration & Customs Enforcement.

Christopher Ingraham

Stephen Miller's dragnet is unpopular in the abstract and wildly unpopular in the lived sense, even – if meekly – among local Republican leaders.

But it still retains support of a big chunk of the population, probably because Trump officials routinely blame their own failures to address American problems on migrants, when as often as not, Trump's response to immigration is the source of the problem.

America can't have nice things, like cures for cancer and welcoming public schools, because Republicans in Congress took the money used to pay for those things and gave it to Stephen Miller to use to invade America's neighborhoods.

We need to start making that more obvious.