

May 14, 2020

Acting Chairperson Janice Roberts
California Employee Training Panel
1100 J Street Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairperson Roberts:

We are writing today to ask that the state's Employment Training Panel reject a request set to be considered at its May 15 meeting that would grant Space Exploration Technology Corp. (SpaceX) some \$655,500 in government subsidies.

SpaceX CEO Elon Musk is seeking the state funding because he says it is necessary to train existing workers and hire new ones. But Mr. Musk has been the recipient of billions of public dollars over the past decade for several of his companies, and he has used those dollars to run businesses that tamp down on the collective bargaining rights of employees and disregard the safety of workers.

In his role as Tesla CEO, Mr. Musk violated the National Labor Relations Act in 2017 when he illegally threatened and retaliated against workers who supported a union, as an administrative law judge ruled last September. He also violated Alameda County rules and reopened the luxury auto maker's plant in Fremont this week despite the county's health concerns.

At a time when too many hardworking Californians are lined up in miles-long food bank lines trying to feed their families, Mr. Musk is looking to fatten up at the public trough once again. He has a proven track record of enriching himself and his companies instead of being a good corporate partner who understands the value of operating a fair workplace. He, and his company SpaceX, are not deserving of taxpayers' dollars.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Ortega-Toro
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Alameda County Labor Council



Rome A. Aloise
President
Teamsters Joint Council #7



Art Pulaski
Executive Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Officer
California Labor Federation



Derecka Mehrens
Executive Director
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