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## Supreme Court Decision Allows Trump to Restructure Education Department

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The Supreme Court has paved the way for President Donald Trump’s administration to significantly reduce the size of the United States Department of Education, authorizing the dismissal of approximately 1,400 federal employees. Supporters say this move will streamline operations and return more authority to local schools, while critics warn it could erode safeguards for students.

In a 5–4 decision, the Supreme Court sided with the White House’s plan to restructure the agency, which President Trump has long described as an example of federal overreach into areas better handled by states and communities. Justice Sonia Sotomayor, writing in dissent, cautioned that eliminating large segments of the Department could “unleash untold harm,” leaving students more vulnerable to discrimination, sexual assault, and civil rights violations. However, proponents argue that the Department of Education, established in 1979, has grown bloated and inefficient, and that states are better positioned to address the unique needs of their schools without federal interference.

While the administration’s plans have attracted legal challenges, supporters maintain that reducing the size of the federal bureaucracy is consistent with President Trump’s broader goals of decentralization and fiscal discipline. As part of this agenda, the White House has also withheld about \$6.8 billion in congressionally approved funding for kindergarten through 12th grade education, prompting a lawsuit from a coalition of mostly Democrat-led states.

Elsewhere, the president drew attention to foreign policy. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy expressed gratitude after Trump suggested European countries, including Germany and Norway, purchase United States-made Patriot missile defense systems to help Ukraine repel Russian attacks. In remarks that confused, Trump warned of imposing “very severe tariffs” on Russia within 50 days if hostilities do not end, mentioning what he called “secondary tariffs” without elaboration.

Meanwhile, the president continued a public feud with Jerome Powell, the chair of the Federal Reserve, calling him a “knucklehead” and demanding interest rates be cut to 1 percent or below. Separately, questions resurfaced about the administration’s reluctance to release additional records related to the late financier and convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. California Congressman Ro Khanna announced he had filed an amendment urging the immediate disclosure of those documents, pressing House leadership to bring the matter to a vote.

The administration’s moves underscore its determination to scale back federal influence over education policy and reassert a model that gives states more direct control. While detractors see these actions as dismantling important protections, supporters argue that smaller government is a necessary step toward restoring accountability and local decision-making in American schools.