

The Delray Democrat

Abnormal Circumstances¹

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Under normal circumstances, the actions of an incoming President don't have an immediate effect on the economy, and it is reasonable to conclude that the policies of the previous administration remain in place while the new policies are adopted. Actions can be by executive order, or by having bills introduced in Congress to implement new policies.

The current situation is not normal. The one thing I know for sure about industry is the mantra that businesses want stability. You cannot plan for the future without knowing what the future is likely to bring. Trump's tariffs by executive order, the constant back and forth, do not provide industry with stability, to say the very least.

Presidents usually take credit for good things that happen but blame their predecessor for anything bad. However Biden left a surprisingly strong and resilient economy considering the impact Covid had on the world, and Trump instituting tariffs through executive orders bypasses the usual lawmaking process, however akin to sausage making that might be. By using EO which he reverses almost daily, no one has any idea what the plan is, or if there is a plan, outside of the administrative insiders making a killing on the market gyrations. But one thing is sure, the best part of the economy still belongs to Biden, and the insanity of Trump's gyrations belong solely to him.

Trump is also doing through EOs what should be done through laws. Trying to institute English as the official language, or denying Birthright Citizenship are concepts that must be done through laws where they can be debated. This is all part of the Unitary Executive idea, that we should have a strong executive and weak Congress. That, of course, is a fascist approach backed by US fascists.

¹ [*The Delray Democrat*](#), May 2025, page 1.