



ALEX PADILLA
California Secretary of State

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CONTACT:

SOS Press Office

(916) 653-6575

California Secretary of State Alex Padilla Statement Following Reports that US State Department has Failed to Spend Allocated Funding to Combat Russian Meddling

SACRAMENTO, CA – It has been [reported](#) that the US State Department has spent none of the \$120 million allocated to the department to combat Russian meddling. California Secretary of State Alex Padilla issued the following statement.

“Time and time again President Trump has refused to take the threat of Russian activity seriously. Now inaction by the US State Department is squandering bipartisan funding to combat Russian misinformation campaigns and attempts to meddle in our democracy. The US State Department is either sitting on their own hands or being forced to sit on their hands by this Administration. State and local officials will remain vigilant as the 2018 elections gear up, but the Russian threat requires the mobilization and leadership of the entire federal government. President Trump and his administration will own the failures of their inaction.”

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