



September 29, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso
Majority Whip
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Minority Whip
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators,

As September 30th draws near, we urge you to prevent a government shutdown by immediately passing the clean, short-term funding extension that passed the House of Representatives. The lives of hard-working Americans in every state depend on your putting partisanship aside to pass this budget extension before the looming deadline passes.

A clean, short-term continuing resolution keeps the government functioning at current levels to give the parties time to negotiate. CRs may not be the ideal way for governments to operate, but they are the responsible thing to do under the circumstances.

This commonsense option keeps the servicemen and women, border agents, and TSA screeners who keep us safe paid. It keeps grant funding for state and local law enforcement and first responders going. And while Social Security checks would still be mailed out in a shutdown, benefit verification and card issuance would pause, affecting seniors in potentially dire ways. A government shutdown would disrupt our economy, threaten public safety, and further erode the people's confidence in public institutions, but all of that is entirely avoidable.

The irony is that under the Biden Administration with Democrat leadership, Congress passed 13 clean funding extensions. In fact, only weeks ago, Democrats were pressing for just this yet again – a clean, short-term continuing resolution to keep government working while Congress negotiated the budget. But now, at the eleventh hour, that is apparently not enough, and Democrats are holding all of government hostage, seeking a \$1.5-trillion ransom, laden with poison-pill riders and partisan policy initiatives.

Last year, with Democrats controlling the White House and Senate, not even one of the annual appropriations bills even made it to the Senate floor for consideration. In fact, for the very first time in history, the U.S. Department of Defense operated under a year-long continuing resolution.

This year, for the first time since 2018, the Senate passed several individual, annual appropriations bills before August recess. And we appreciate Senate Majority Leader Thune's commitment to bring more to the floor in the coming weeks. Passing a short-term, clean CR gives us an opportunity for regular order, responsible budgeting that has been absent from the halls of Congress for many years.

We represent the same hard-working Americans you do. Failure to pass a clean, short-term continuing resolution – no poison pills, no gimmicks – before midnight on September 30 will cause them real pain. They deserve to be treated with greater respect than this.

Sincerely,



Lynn Fitch
Attorney General of Mississippi



Raúl R. Labrador
Attorney General of Idaho



Steve Marshall
Attorney General of Alabama



Theodore E. Rokita
Attorney General of Indiana



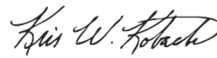
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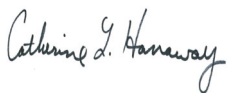
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