

September 30, 2025



The Honorable John Thune

Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso

Majority Whip
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer

Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dick Durbin

Minority Whip
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators,

On behalf of the America First Policy Institute's (AFPI) Mayors Council, we urge the Senate to put the needs of the American people ahead of Washington politics by swiftly passing a clean, short-term funding extension. A government shutdown would create immediate hardship for families, seniors, veterans, and small businesses in every one of our communities.

Unlike Washington, mayors cannot gridlock; we face the real-world consequences when essential services are threatened. Our police, firefighters, and emergency responders should never have their paychecks jeopardized. Local seniors and veterans should never worry that benefits they rely on might be disrupted. Families in need should never question whether food assistance will reach them. These are not abstract issues; they are felt on Main Streets across America the moment Washington fails to act.

The House has already advanced a clean, bipartisan extension. The Senate supported this exact approach just six months ago. There is no justification for refusing the same commonsense solution now.

Americans do not want a bloated partisan budget that funds benefits for illegal immigrants while shortchanging investments that strengthen our communities. They want responsible leadership, stability, and accountability.

Passing a clean, short-term extension is the only way to protect our service members and veterans, maintain continuity in critical programs, and shield our local economies from unnecessary disruption. Mayors know firsthand how damaging uncertainty can be to small businesses, to public safety, and to trust in government itself.

We call on the Senate to act immediately. The American people deserve leaders who put America First and keep the government open.

Sincerely,

ON BEHALF OF THE AFPI MAYORS COUNCIL

Mayor Scott Singer
City of Boca Raton, Florida
AFPI Mayors Council Chair

Mayor Santiago Avila, Jr.
Deltona, Florida

Chairman Brad Bailey
Woodlands Township, Texas

**Mayor Margaret
"Peggy" Brown**
Weston, Florida

Mayor Amy Bublak
Turlock, California

Mayor Olivia Dawson
Burgaw, North Carolina

Mayor Mark Freeman
Mesa, Arizona

Mayor Daniel Graves
Elberton, Georgia

Mayor Luke Hellier
Lakeville, Minnesota

Mayor Tony Perry
Middletown, New Jersey

Mayor Bruce Rector
Clearwater, Florida

Mayor Daniel Rickenmann
Columbia, South Carolina

Mayor Patrick Rosenello
North Wildwood, New Jersey

Mayor DC Reeves
Pensacola, Florida

Mayor J.D. Stallings
Thomaston, Georgia

Mayor Paul TenHaken
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Mayor Josh Turner
Cleveland, Georgia

Mayor Bill Wells
El Cajon, California