



January 17, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

The ongoing federal government shutdown — now the longest shutdown in the history of our nation — is threatening the well-being of Minnesotans, putting our state tax dollars at risk and forcing Minnesotans to deal with declining federal services like the Transportation Security Administration.

As the President, and leader of our nation, we count on you to set the tone and consider the national interest over any one political goal. You can end this shutdown immediately, re-open the government, and then resolve your differences with Congress on border security.

This government shutdown is hurting the lives of real people. The impacts of this shutdown to Minnesotans are severe.

- 6,000 federal employees working in Minnesota are furloughed or working without pay. Another 3,000 workers are at risk because their positions are funded by federal dollars.
- 400,000 low-income Minnesotans on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will lose that assistance when funding expires February 28.
- Funding for ten critical public safety programs (including prescription drug monitoring, anti-heroin programs, and battered women shelters) could expire on January 18.
- Minnesota's tribal communities have been disproportionately impacted by the shutdown, with immediate cuts to tribal governments and health service offices. Indian Health Services has had to furlough staff.
- Important funding for pesticide, groundwater, and surface monitoring expires February 5.
- \$30 million per month for school nutrition programs (11 million meals/month to 1700 public schools, 269 private schools and 51 residential child care locations) will expire at the end of the month.
- Funding for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) for five food shelf grantees to provide services to approximately 13,000 seniors per month expires February 28.
- Housing assistance for 21,000 Minnesota households could expire February 1.
- The federal government is not fully operating the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness or Voyageurs National Park, harming local communities and economies that rely on these beautiful national parks.

The consequences and harm to Minnesotans will only become greater the longer this shutdown continues. We urge you in the strongest possible terms to end this gridlock, end the shutdown, and reimburse Minnesota for any state funds that may be used to make up for the failure to meet the federal government's obligations.

Sincerely,

Melissa Hortman

Melissa Hortman  
Speaker of the House

Ryan Winkler

Ryan Winkler  
Majority Leader

Michelle Harris

Lyndon R. Carlson

Alise Hausman

Patty Aronks 44B

Liz Olson

[Signature]

Cal Mann 65B

Chris Murray

David Hering

[Signature] 40B

Todd Rippe

Zack Stephenson

Jahul 37A

Mark Farber

Jim Darnie

Henny Keworn

Sonnie Bernardy

Mary Murphy 36

Jim BF 42B

Cheryl Youakim 46B

Sandra Masin 51A

~~Mark Farber~~ 53A

J. C. 56A

Kelly Manion 33B

Wolub 40A

Luck Jansa 52A

Anne Claflin 54A

Carla ~~K~~ 48B

Gene Sumrell 53B

Rob Ecklund 3A

Ed Ellis 49B

Jay Terry 67B

Robert ~~B~~ 57A

Sherry Christensen 39B

J B/H 57B

Ann Wayland 38B

Ron Maran 65A

Laurie 48A

Mike Smith 11A

John 55A

~~Harold~~ 60B

Frank Honsten 61A



Ronald 59B

W B 19A

Anthony 64A

Benji 4A

Andrew Carlson 50B

Tim Hilling 26A

Diane Loeffler 60A

Dave Pits 64B

Yang 45B

Mann 56B

Krista Bahner 34B

James Gray 61B

Dan Lagunas 63B

Jim Melny 67A

Hodan Hassan 62A

Laura Loh 51B

W. B. ... 71B

R. Gardner 57B

W. G. ... 14B

H. ... 49A

W. ... 42A

J. L. ... 5A

J. ... 6A

E. ... 31A

J. ... 9B

J. ... 43A

J. ... 27B

C. ... 14B

Cc: Governor Tim Walz  
Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan  
Senator Amy Klobuchar  
Senator Tina Smith  
Representative Collin Peterson  
Representative Betty McCollum  
Representative Tom Emmer  
Representative Ilhan Omar  
Representative Angie Craig  
Representative Dean Phillips  
Representative Pete Stauber  
Representative Jim Hagedorn