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## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, at 2 p.m.

## Senate

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2025

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, You look down from Heaven upon humanity's children, seeking for those to use for Your glory. May our lawmakers live with such faithfulness that they will be Your redemptive instruments at a time when truth seems a rare commodity.

Lord, when a house is burning, the first step should be to unite in extinguishing the flames, not seeking to discover who started the fire. Today, inspire our lawmakers to unite in putting out the fire of this government shutdown that has already burned far more than anticipated.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUDD). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Iowa.

### GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on Thursday, I sounded the alarm as the lapse in government funding endangered food assistance for 42 million Americans and rapidly approached. That was November 1, the approach date. I called on Senator SCHUMER to end the partisanship and vote for a clean extension of government funding.

Forty-five Democrats have opposed a clean extension of funding 13 times. Republicans have voted for it 13 times.

The Trump administration is putting a temporary bandaid on the program, tapping into emergency funds that will cover half a month of food stamps.

Meanwhile, I have Iowans calling my office, asking me where they can get food for their families.

This is a sad commentary on the politics in our Nation—in a nation of abundance.

I always say you are only nine meals away from a revolution. Just think, if you are a family, you have children, 3 days without any food, what action you might take if you can't properly feed them. We have seen those sorts of revolutions in other countries.

So let's feed the American people with the bipartisan cooperation they deserve and the bipartisan cooperation

that has always been a part of the Food Stamp Program because, over decades ago, two famous Senators, Dole and McGovern, in a bipartisan fashion, came up with the idea that why should we have people that are nutrition deficient in the United States when the Federal Government has warehouses full of plenty of food. That is the basis for the Food Stamp Program. We should continue that bipartisan cooperation.

I hope the Democrats will wake up and give families a permanent solution to the government programs they rely on.

### NOMINATIONS OF JOSHUA D. DUNLAP AND ERIC CHUNYEE TUNG

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, if I may continue, I want to speak about a couple of judges that will be before us this week. We will be voting on a pair of highly qualified circuit court nominations.

Despite the ongoing Democratic government shutdown, the Senate Judiciary Committee remains hard at work. We are continuing to advance strong judicial nominees, like the two that I am about to alert my colleagues to.

The first is Joshua Dunlap, for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. The second is Eric Tung for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Both will make fantastic circuit judges, and I urge my colleagues to vote for them.

As Maine Senator COLLINS detailed last week, Mr. Dunlap graduated first

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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in his class from the University of Notre Dame Law School and then served as a clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Since then, he has earned a stellar reputation as an appellate litigator, throughout his decade-and-a-half tenure in private practice of law.

Mr. Dunlap noted, during his confirmation hearing, that Mainers—meaning residents of the State of Maine—I will start that quote over again:

Mainers are famously independent.

I am confident that we can expect no less from him as a fair and impartial judge. Indeed, Mr. Dunlap's career demonstrates that he is a thoughtful and sharp lawyer committed to the rule of law, and, in his own words, he believes "the law should be available to all and applied fairly to every litigant."

For these reasons, he has earned widespread support, including from his law school, his coclerks, and his law firm colleagues.

I am confident that Mr. Dunlap will make an outstanding judge on the First Circuit. I also trust he will take great pride in serving his State and our Nation.

President Trump and Senator COLLINS made an outstanding choice in Mr. Dunlap.

Eric Tung is another great selection. He completed his undergraduate degree at Yale and graduated with high honors at the University of Chicago Law School. He clerked for Justice Scalia on the U.S. Supreme Court, and he also clerked for Justice Gorsuch, both during his tenure on the Tenth Circuit and upon Justice Gorsuch's elevation to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Tung was a Bristow fellow in the Justice Department's Office of Solicitor General, where he worked on numerous cases before the Nation's highest Court.

During President Trump's first administration, he also worked as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Central District of California. As a Federal prosecutor, Mr. Tung handled a broad array of criminal matters, including firearm offenses, drug trafficking, and fraud.

In recent years, Mr. Tung has focused on civil litigation and appeals in private practice. He was appointed by the chief justice of the California Supreme Court to serve as the sole civil appellate practitioner on the Appellate Indigent Defense Oversight Advisory Committee.

In every facet, Mr. Tung has been an outstanding appellate lawyer. Based on his stellar credentials and his stellar reputation, it is no surprise that his nomination is supported by his law firm colleagues and the various coclerks that he has worked with at the Tenth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Like Mr. Dunlap, I believe Mr. Tung will make a phenomenal judge and serve this Nation honorably and with distinction. I encourage my colleagues

to support both of these fine circuit court nominees.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AND EXTENSIONS ACT, 2026—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 168, H.R. 5371.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 168, H.R. 5371, a bill making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes.

#### GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, it is November—November. It has been 5 weeks since Democrats shut down the government, and once again, we start this week by asking, is this the week that Democrats end their shutdown?

I have said before that there are no winners in a government shutdown. There are no winners, but there are plenty of losers. Chief among them is the American people. As the senior Democrat from Virginia said just last year, "Shutdowns aren't victimless crimes." And, after 5 weeks, the victims of the Democrats' shutdown are starting to pile up.

Military families have turned to food banks in significant numbers, and they are not the only ones. Food banks in this area and around the country have seen an influx of Federal workers who are missing paychecks due to the shutdown. And things are set to get much worse with SNAP running on limited emergency funds and its future uncertain. Thanks to the Democrats, millions more Americans—millions—are now at risk of going hungry. Yet the Democrats' shutdown marches on.

Of course, letting Americans go hungry is just the beginning. Thanks to Democrats, Head Start Programs are beginning to close, housing assistance programs are at risk, seniors and people in rural areas can't access telehealth services, National Guard training is on hold, and veterans programs are on pause. I am sorry to say I could go on. Actually, I could go on for a while. Shutdowns have consequences, and the pain is being felt around the country.

Last week, it seemed that Democrats were beginning to acknowledge that their shutdown was having consequences. We even heard Democrats express concern that Americans were suffering. But when they were given the chance to end all of that suffering, the vast majority of Democrats in this body were perfectly willing to prolong the shutdown and the American people's pain. The vast majority of Democrats voted once again against a clean continuing resolution—the only bill on offer that could end all this suffering literally in a matter of hours. It is the only bill in the Senate that would fix every single issue I just mentioned. It would pay our troops and fund SNAP, Head Start, veterans programs, and pay our staffers.

Three Democrat Senators already support that clean continuing resolution.

The Democrat from Maine, who supported the clean CR in the House, said:

There is a lot of important work to be done in Congress, none of which will be any easier if Mainers are suffering the harms of a government shutdown.

The Teamsters Union and the American Federation of Government Employees—more traditionally allies of Democrats, to be frank—have called for Congress to spare the American people further pain and to pass the clean continuing resolution, and they are far from the only ones.

It should not be this hard for a handful of Democrats to support a clean bill that simply reopens the government. It is a very straightforward proposition. It is a 24-page bill that is sitting right here at the Senate desk—not a single new Republican policy, no partisan policy riders, nothing that Democrats haven't supported before on numerous occasions. It just reopens the government, and it is just five Democrat votes away from being sent to the President, who would sign it literally in a matter of hours.

This bill is also the quickest way to get to discussions about healthcare—that is, if Democrats are serious about solving the ObamaCare problem and not just interested in using it as a political issue. As I have said more times than I can count, Republicans are more than willing to have a healthcare discussion with Democrats. In fact, had Democrats voted to reopen the government last week, President Trump would be meeting with them this week.

Unlike Democrats, who want to continue papering over the unaffordability of ObamaCare forevermore, Republicans have ideas for actually lowering healthcare costs—and lowering costs not just for Americans on ObamaCare but also for seniors, vulnerable Americans, and the majority of Americans who get their healthcare through their employers. So we are ready and willing to have that discussion, but first Democrats need to stop playing politics with people's lives and reopen the government.