
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Council unanimously approves legislation calling for an end to the United States government shutdown

The Common Council today approved a resolution urging Federal leaders to end the government shutdown in Washington D.C., now in its 24th day, the longest government shutdown in the nation’s history.

The resolution – Council File #181506 – introduced by **Alderman Milele A. Coggs** and approved unanimously by the Common Council - urges the President and the U.S. Congress to act quickly to end the shutdown now, as Milwaukee’s residents and businesses are adversely affected.

“The Federal government shutdown has furloughed hundreds of thousands of government employees, leaving them facing the uncertainty of lost wages, while thousands of essential government workers have been required to continue to work without compensation,” said Ald. Coggs. “The harm to Milwaukee residents and businesses because of this shutdown is immediate and on-going.”

The closure of Federal offices and loss of funding has caused hundreds of government-backed programs to completely cease or reduce operations, including:

- Federally-subsidized housing programs that provide housing for low-income households, including the Section 8 voucher program, could result in tenant evictions;

-More-

U.S. Government Shut-Down Legislation/ADD ONE

- A growing concern that a prolonged shutdown could cause Department of Agriculture-run programs, including SNAP and WIC programs, that provide nutritional assistance to low-income individuals and their children, to run out of funds and miss payments as soon as February 2019;
- A halt in the issuance of small business loans and permits needed by local businesses to maintain and expand operations, and has interfered with hiring by closing down employee verification systems;
- The Internal Revenue Service has been largely shuttered, leaving significant doubt as to whether tax refunds will be processed in a timely manner; and
- Mortgage approvals under programs designed to help individuals purchase homes with low down-payments and at low interest rates have been halted.

“We call on the President of the United States and the United States Congress to act quickly to pass legislation ending the Federal government shutdown, get federal employees back to work and paid, and ensure all federal programs and initiatives are back on track,” said Ald. Coggs.