

Oct. 24, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson and Minority Leader Jeffries,

On behalf of the National Conference of State Legislatures, the bipartisan organization representing the legislatures of our nation's states, territories, commonwealths and Washington, D.C., we are writing to express our concern with the current extended lapse in federal appropriations.

We recognize that negotiating annual appropriations is a complex and nuanced process. However, as you know, a prolonged shutdown has real and far-reaching consequences not only for your state partners but for the American people who are our mutual constituents. We urge Congress to take swift action and enact a spending bill to ensure the operation of government services, maintain our nation's infrastructure and safeguard our national security.

We thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,



Rep. Marcus C. Evans Jr.
NCSL President
Illinois House of Representatives



Sen. Barry Usher
NCSL President-Elect
Montana State Senate



Bob Duff
NCSL Vice President
Connecticut State Senate



Sen. Wayne A. Harper
NCSL President Emeritus
Utah State Senate

Marcus C. Evans Jr.

President, NCSL
Assistant Majority Leader,
Illinois

Barry Usher

President-Elect, NCSL
Senate Majority Whip,
Montana

Bob Duff

Vice President, NCSL
Senate Majority Leader,
Connecticut

Wayne A. Harper

President Emeritus, NCSL
Senate President Pro Tem,
Utah

Tim Storey

Chief Executive Officer,
NCSL