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GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

Trump, Dems trade blame

750K federal workers could be furloughed

Joey Garrison, Bart Jansen, Zac Anderson and Erin Mansfield  
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump and congressional Democrats traded blame after the federal government shut down at 12:01 a.m. ET on Oct. 1.

The White House website featured a clock counting the amount of time “Democrats have shut down the government,” while the Democratic National Committee wrote on social media, “Republicans own this shutdown.”

It marked the 15th government shutdown since 1981.

There was no immediate end in sight to the bitter standoff over funding the government: Congressional Democrats demanded health care policy changes – including the reversal of Medicaid cuts – that Trump and Republicans refused to entertain.

Senate Democrats on the night of Sept. 30 again blocked a Republican proposal to keep the government at existing funding levels through Nov. 21. The bill received 55 yeas, short of the 60-vote threshold to defeat a Democratic filibuster. Sens. John Fetterman, D-Pennsylvania; Catherine Cortez Masto, D-Nevada; and Angus King, a Maine independent who caucuses with Democrats, joined Republicans in backing the GOP bill.

Congressional Democratic leaders – Sen. Chuck Schumer, of New York, and Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, of New York – issued a joint statement at 12:01 a.m. on Oct. 1 saying Trump and Republicans shut down the government “because they do not want to protect the health-care of the American people.”

The Senate was scheduled to reconvene Oct. 1, and was expected to vote on the funding legislation again. However, House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-Louisiana, planned to keep House lawmakers in recess in order to pressure Democrats.

About 750,000 federal employees ranging from workers at national parks to financial regulators could be furloughed each day, according to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, withholding about \$400 million in daily

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Shutdowns aren't uncommon for the U.S. government. The latest was a partial shutdown in 2018, which lasted for 35 days, while the last full shutdown was in 2013. NATHAN HOWARD/REUTERS

## How will Indiana be affected?

### Inside

- Find out what is open and closed in Indiana during the federal government shutdown. **6A**
- A look at how long past shutdowns lasted. **6A**
- President Trump has played role in five shutdowns. **7A**

### Get the latest

Find updates on the federal government shutdown at [usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com) and in Nation & World Extra, a subscriber-only feature in your eNewspaper.

### Marissa Meador

Indianapolis Star  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The federal government shut down Wednesday morning after Congress failed to approve new spending bills, delaying pay for federal workers and putting some aid programs in limbo.

Shutdowns aren't uncommon for the U.S. government. The latest was a partial shutdown in 2018, which lasted for 35 days, while the last full shutdown was in 2013. They're typically uneventful, particularly if they're short, said IU professor and former Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke.

But this time, President Donald Trump is threatening mass layoffs of

government workers deemed nonessential, according to a memorandum from the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. That's new and “a lot more extreme,” according to Helmke.

The memo directs agencies to issue reduction in force notices until they only employ enough workers to carry out each agency's statutory duties.

A short government shutdown would likely not affect the average Hoosier. Government services deemed essential, such as the military, Social Security payments and Immigration and Customs Enforcement, will continue to operate. Planes will continue to fly safely, and mail will continue to be delivered.

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## Carmel leaders bicker over accusations of ‘inappropriate conduct’



Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam has knocked actions by City Council Vice President Matthew Snyder and Councilor Ryan Locke. GRACE SMITH/INDYSTAR FILE

Jake Allen  
Indianapolis Star  
USA TODAY NETWORK

There's a widening schism between Carmel's elected leaders, spotlighted by accusations of harassment and inappropriate conduct, in the midst of an extremely difficult budget season.

The latest conflict involves Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam reprimanding two city councilors for a comment and emails that she believes “fall short of the

standards required in a professional workplace.”

Finkam, in a Sept. 24 email sent to all nine city councilors, criticized behavior from City Council Vice President Matthew Snyder and Councilor Ryan Locke. Finkam's email was obtained by IndyStar via a public records request.

Snyder and Locke have denied any wrongdoing and other city councilors have come to their defense.

The most recent disagreement between Finkam, who is in her first term as

mayor, and the city councilors speaks to a larger issue in Carmel's government, according to City Council President Adam Aasen.

“This is indicative of a much larger issue we are dealing with and that is the relationship between the City Council and the mayor is broken down,” Aasen told IndyStar. “We've tried. We've scheduled meeting after meeting to try and find ways to collaborate on projects.”

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