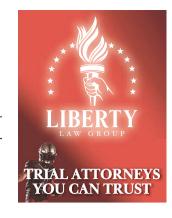
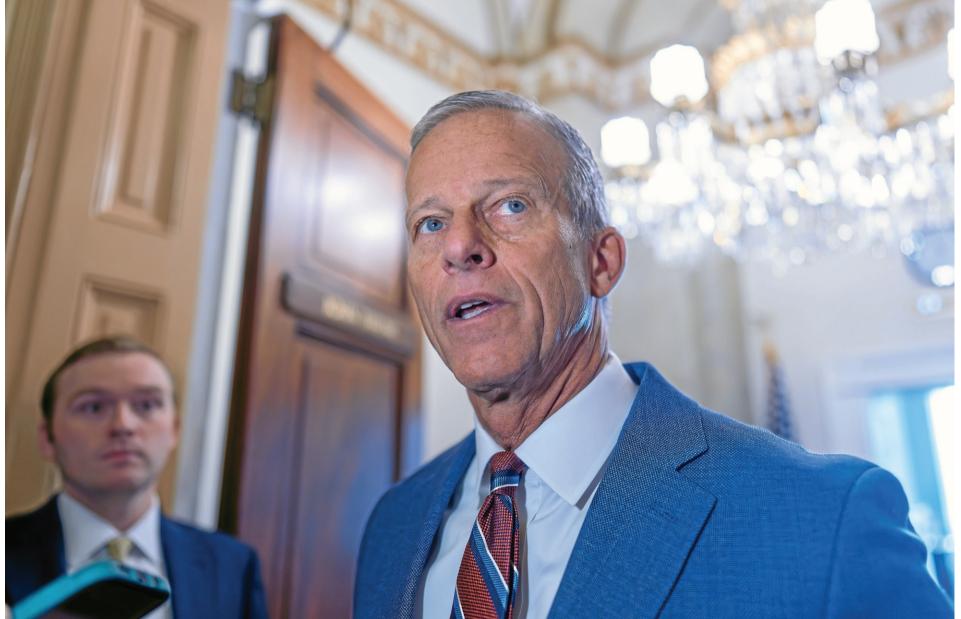
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WASHINGTON

SENATE APPROVES BILL TO END SHUTDOWN



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., speaks to reporters Monday as he arrives at his office after a weekend vote to move forward with a stopgap funding bill to reopen the government at the Capitol in Washington.

Small group of Dems votes with GOP to send legislation to House

MARY CLARE JALONICK, LISA MASCARO AND KEVIN FREKING

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Senate passed legislation Monday to reopen the government, bringing the longest shutdown in history closer to an end as a small group of Democrats ratified a deal with Republicans despite searing criticism from within their party.

The 41-day shutdown could last a few more days as members of the House, which has been on recess since mid-September, return to Washington to vote on the legislation. President Donald Trump has signaled support for the bill, saying Monday that "we're going to be opening up our country very quickly."

The final Senate vote, 60-40, broke a grueling stalemate that lasted more than six weeks as Democrats demanded that Republicans negotiate with them to extend health care tax credits that expire Jan. 1. The Republicans never did, and five moderate Democrats eventually switched their votes as federal food aid was delayed, airport delays worsened and hundreds of

thousands of federal workers continued to go unpaid.

House Speaker Mike Johnson urged lawmakers to start returning to Washington "right now" given shutdown-related travel delays.

"We have to do this as quickly as possible," said Johnson, who has kept the House out of session since mid-September, when the House passed a bill to continue government funding.

After weeks of negotiations, a group of three former governors — New Hampshire Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, New Hampshire Sen. Maggie Hassan and Independent Sen. Angus King of Maine — agreed to vote to advance three bipartisan annual spending bills and extend the rest of government funding until late January. Republicans promised to hold a vote to extend the health care subsidies by mid-December, but there was no guarantee of success.

Shaheen said Monday that "this was the option on the table" after Republicans refused to budge.

"We had reached a point where I think a number of us believed that the shutdown had been very effective in raising the concern about health care," she said, and the promise for a future vote "gives us an opportunity to continue to address that going

The legislation includes a reversal of the mass firings of federal workers by the Trump administration since the shutdown began on Oct. 1.

It also protects federal workers against further layoffs through January and guarantees they are paid once the shutdown is

In addition to Shaheen, King and Hassan, Democratic Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia, home to tens of thousands of federal workers, also voted Sunday in favor of moving forward on the agreement. Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, the No. 2 Democrat, Pennsylvania Sen. John Fetterman and Nevada Sens. Catherine Cortez Masto and Jacky Rosen also voted yes. All other Democrats, including Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York, voted against it.

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Flight cancellations expected to drag on after shutdown ends

Trump suggests docking pay for air traffic controllers who haven't stayed on job unpaid

RIO YAMAT AND JOSH FUNK

Air travelers should expect worsening cancellations and delays this week even if the government shutdown ends, as the Federal Aviation Administration rolls out deeper cuts to flights at 40 major U.S. airports, officials said Monday.

The fourth day of the flight restrictions saw airlines scrap over 2,200 flights Monday and more than 1,000 flights set for takeoff Tuesday.

Unpaid for more than a month, some air

traffic controllers have begun calling out of work, citing stress and the need to take on second jobs.

President Donald Trump took to social media on Monday to pressure controllers to "get back to work, NOW!!!" He called for a \$10,000 bonus for those who've stayed on the job and suggested docking pay for those who haven't.

Rep. Rick Larsen, the top Democrat on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Sen. Tammy Duckworth, ranking member of the Senate's Aviation Subcommittee, condemned the president's remarks, saying controllers deserve appreciation and support - not attacks.

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ADAM GRAY. ASSOCIATED PRESS

American Eagle and American Airlines planes sit at gates Sunday at LaGuardia Airport