

Morning News

Monday, February 2, 2026 • Florence, South Carolina

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

The voice of the Pee Dee • scnow.com

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

JOHNSON: DON'T EXPECT QUICK HOUSE VOTE



ALBERTO PEZZALI, ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson leaves 10 Downing Street after meeting British Prime Minister Keir Starmer on Jan. 19 in London.

Speaker blames partial shutdown on Dems over ICE demands

LISA MASCARO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Speaker Mike Johnson said Sunday it will be a few days before a government funding package comes up for a vote, all but ensuring the partial federal shutdown will drag into the week as Democrats and Republicans debate reining in the Trump administration's sweeping immigration enforcement operations.

Johnson signaled he is relying on help from President Donald Trump to ensure passage. Trump struck a deal with senators to separate funding for the Department of Homeland Security from a broader package after public outrage over two shooting deaths during protests in Minneapolis against Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

The measure approved Friday by the Senate would fund DHS temporarily, for two weeks, setting up a deadline for Congress to debate and vote on new restrictions on ICE operations.

"The president is leading this," Johnson, R-La., told "Fox News Sunday."

"It's his play call to do it this way," the speaker said, adding that the Republican president has "already conceded that he wants to turn down the volume" on federal immigration operations.

Johnson faces a daunting challenge ahead, trying to muscle the funding legislation through the House while Democrats refuse to provide the votes for speedy passage. They are demanding restraints on ICE that go beyond \$20 million for body cameras that already is in the bill. They want to require that federal immigration agents unmask and identify themselves and are pressing for an end to roving patrols, amid other changes.

"What is clear is that the Department of Homeland Security needs to be dramatically reformed," said House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York said on ABC's "This Week."

Jeffries said the administration needs to begin negotiations now, not over the next two weeks, on changes to immigration enforcement operations.

"Masks should come off," he said. "Judicial warrants should absolutely be required

consistent with the Constitution, in our view, before DHS agents or ICE agents are breaking into the homes of the American people or ripping people out of their cars."

It's all forcing Johnson to rely on his slim House GOP majority in a series of procedural votes, starting in committee on Monday and pushing a potential House floor vote on the package until at least Tuesday, he said.

House Democrats planned a private caucus call Sunday evening to assess the next steps.

Meanwhile, a number of other federal agencies are snared in the funding stand-off as the government went into a partial shutdown over the weekend.

Defense, health, transportation and housing are among those that were given shutdown guidance by the administration, though many operations are deemed essential and services are not necessarily interrupted. Workers could go without pay if the impasse drags on. Some could be furloughed.

Please see JOHNSON, Page A2

Local school, government closures announced

EMMY RIBERO
Staff Writer

FLORENCE, S.C. — Winter Storm Gianna swept through the Pee Dee Saturday, leaving a layer of snow and ice in some areas.

Snow levels reached as high as eight inches in areas of Florence County, according to Jessica Joe, Florence County EMD Public Information Officer.

Some schools and offices in the area are closed or operating remotely due to the inclement weather.

Florence County

Francis Marion

Francis Marion University announced that all classes and activities will be cancelled on Monday, Feb. 2.

Florence County schools

All Florence County School districts are operating as an eLearning day on Monday, Feb. 2.

Florence County

Florence County offices are closed Monday, Feb. 2nd.

City of Florence

City of Florence offices

will be closed on Monday, Feb. 2. Police, Fire, Public Works and utilities are still operating as needed.

Residential and commercial garbage collection services are not running on Monday and will run an assessment on Tuesday morning to determine if they will operate.

Darlington County

Darlington County

Darlington County government services will be closed on Monday, Feb. 2. This includes all

government services except for public works and public safety.

Darlington County

Council

The Darlington County council meeting scheduled for Monday, Feb. 2 at 6 p.m. has been cancelled.

Darlington County

schools

Darlington County school district will be closed on Monday, Feb 2nd and will announce a makeup date in the future.

will be closed on Monday, Feb. 2 and will reopen at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday.

Trinity Collegiate

School

Trinity Collegiate School will be operating an eLearning day for Monday, Feb. 2nd.

Marion County

Marion County

Marion County School Districts are operating as an eLearning day Monday, Feb. 2.

City of Marion

The city of Marion

administrative offices will be closed on Monday, Feb. 2.

Marion County

Administrative offices

Marion County administrative offices are closed Monday, Feb. 2 and will reopen at their regular time on Tuesday.

City of Mullins

The City of Mullins administrative offices will be closed Monday, Feb. 2. Monday trash will be collected on Tuesday and every other function will operate on a normal schedule.