

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

TRUMP HOSTS SENATE REPUBLICANS



MANUEL BALCE CENETA PHOTOS, ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Donald Trump speaks Tuesday at a lunch with Republican senators on the Rose Garden patio at the White House in Washington.

President touts US as ‘hottest country’ amid shutdown

LISA MASCARO, MARY CLARE JALONICK
AND SEUNG MIN KIM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Head Start programs for preschoolers nationwide are scrambling for federal funds. The federal agency tasked with overseeing the U.S. nuclear stockpile started to furlough its 1,400 employees. Thousands more federal workers are going without paychecks.

But as President Donald Trump welcomed Republican senators for lunch in the newly renovated Rose Garden Club — with construction underway on the new White House ballroom — he portrayed a different vision of America as a unified GOP refuses to yield to Democratic demands for health care funds and the government shutdown drags on.

“We have the hottest country anywhere in the world, which tells you about leadership,” Trump said in opening remarks, extolling the renovations underway as senators took their seats in the newly paved-over garden-turned-patio.

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From left, Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., and Secretary of State Marco Rubio are seen Tuesday at a lunch hosted by President Donald Trump on the Rose Garden patio at the White House in Washington.

700K in Wisconsin could lose food stamp benefits

Evers warns government shutdown poised to hit SNAP starting in November

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About 700,000 Wisconsinites who receive federal food assistance will see their monthly benefits end next month if the federal government shutdown drags on, Gov. Tony Evers warned Tuesday.

The federal government informed states it didn’t have the funds for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also commonly referred to as food stamps, starting in November, the Democratic governor said.

The food assistance program is still fully funded by the federal government. Starting in 2027, the federal government will require states to start picking up a portion of the tab as part of a budget reconciliation bill championed by President Donald Trump and congressional

Republicans. It could cost Wisconsin as much as \$314 million to fill that gap, and additional work requirements could affect around 88,000

“With rising costs and President Trump’s chaotic trade wars, Wisconsin families are already struggling to make ends meet and put food on the table, and every day that Republicans continue this reckless and harmful shutdown is another day that our kids, families, farmers, veterans, seniors, and communities fall even further behind,” Evers said in a

statement.

Senate Democrats have not budged on their demands that Republicans agreed to extend Affordable Care Act tax credits and reverse Medicaid cuts, warning that premiums for 24 million Americans will skyrocket if the subsidies are allowed to lapse. Those ACA rate increases have already been rolled out in some states.

Each month, food assistance recipients in Wisconsin are collectively allocated around \$114 million in benefits, with an average of \$170 in assistance per person.