

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 7, 2025

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Senator
United States Senate
425 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tina Smith
Senator
United States Senate
720 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar and Senator Smith,

The country is now on day seven of the government shutdown, which is actively contributing to the economic hardship in the state and to the people of Minnesota. We are urging you to support H.R. 5371, *the Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2026*, and end this unnecessary government shutdown.

On September 16, 2025, the House of Representatives passed legislation to continue fiscal year 2026 (FY26) appropriations to federal agencies through November 21, 2025. We were all proud to support this common-sense, short-term extension as it provides Congress with time to develop and pass the remaining appropriations bills for FY26. However, we were disappointed to see Minnesota's senators vote against a simple seven-week extension of funding.

This clean continuing resolution, which came with no policy riders, has been supported on a bipartisan basis thirteen times during the Biden Administration. It was also supported by Democrats just six months ago. It is unjust and irresponsible to hold the federal government hostage for partisan programs that are completely unrelated to government funding, including providing noncitizens with free healthcare, bailing out liberal news programs, and reversing provisions in the *Working Families Tax Cuts Act*, all of which total \$1.5 trillion in additional spending.

Specifically, there are approximately 33,000 Minnesotans working for the federal government and are now furloughed or working without pay, living with uncertainty and anxiety of when they will receive their next paycheck.¹ Every day the government is shut down is another day that federal workers in Minnesota are not getting paid, our troops and federal law enforcement are not receiving a paycheck, and low-income mothers are having to worry about their ability to feed their families. The longer the shutdown lasts, the longer Minnesotans and the country will suffer.

We are now approaching the sixth time you will be voting for the consideration of the *Continuing Appropriations and Extension Act, 2026*, and we urge you to think of the Minnesotans you represent, support the clean continuing resolution, and reopen our government.

¹ *Economic Impacts of the Government Shutdown in Minnesota*. (n.d.). Retrieved October 6, 2025, from <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Minnesota-Shutdown-One-Pager.pdf>.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Tom Emmer in black ink.

Tom Emmer
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Michelle Fischbach in black ink.

Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Brad Finstad in black ink.

Brad Finstad
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Pete Stauber in black ink.

Pete Stauber
Member of Congress