



South Dakota Secretary of State

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Secretary of State

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SECRETARIES OF STATE CALL ON U.S. SENATE TO PASS CLEAN FUNDING EXTENSION AND PREVENT GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

PIERRE, S.D. – Secretaries of State from across the nation, including South Dakota Secretary of State Monae L. Johnson, are urging the U.S. Senate to act immediately to pass a clean short-term funding extension to prevent a government shutdown ahead of the midnight deadline.

In a letter addressed to Senate leadership, the Secretaries stressed that a shutdown would have devastating impacts far beyond Washington, D.C., threatening essential services for millions of Americans. From delayed paychecks for military service members and first responders to disruptions in food assistance programs, senior services, and veterans' benefits, the Secretaries warned of "real and immediate consequences" for families in every state.

"Government shutdowns are not abstract political fights—they directly harm hardworking Americans," the Secretaries wrote. "Our families and communities would feel the pain with immediate effect and confusion. Put simply, a government shutdown should not be used as political leverage to pass partisan reforms."

The Secretaries emphasized that the solution is already on the table: a clean, short-term funding extension passed with bipartisan support in the House of Representatives. They pointed out that under both Republican and Democratic leadership, Congress has passed numerous clean funding extensions in recent years, prioritizing stability over partisanship.

The letter concluded with a direct appeal to the Senate: "We urge the Senate to do the right thing and act swiftly to pass a clean funding extension. The American people are relying on their leaders to put good governance over politics. For the sake of security and stability, we respectfully call on you to act without delay."

The letter was signed by Secretaries of State from Alabama, Mississippi, Idaho, Missouri, Indiana, Nebraska, Kansas, Ohio, Kentucky, South Dakota, Louisiana, and Wyoming.

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