
US Senate Approves Bill to End Record Shutdown



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Washington, November 11 (RKI) – The US Senate on Monday passed legislation to end the longest government shutdown in American history, now stretching into its 41st day.

With a 60-40 vote, senators approved the Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2026 (H.R. 5371), ensuring federal funding until January 30, 2026. The bill also includes multi-year funding packages for key federal agencies and reinstates employees affected by the shutdown.

Several Democrats, including Catherine Cortez Masto, Dick Durbin, John Fetterman, Maggie Hassan, Tim Kaine, Angus King, Jacky Rosen, and Jeanne Shaheen, joined Republicans in support of the measure. Republican Senator Rand Paul was the lone GOP dissenter.

“This has been a very long road – quite literally the longest shutdown in history. I am very, very happy to say we are coming to the end,” Senate Majority Leader John Thune said after the vote.

The bill now moves to the House of Representatives for final approval. The House is scheduled to reconvene Wednesday for the first time since September 19, after Speaker Mike Johnson urged members to return to Washington amid mounting disruptions to air travel and public services.

The shutdown, which began on October 1 following a budget impasse, has left thousands of federal workers furloughed or working without pay as essential operations were halted nationwide.