

US Government Shutdown After Senate Dems Block Funding Measure

A last-ditch effort to pass a short-term federal funding measure failed in the Senate last night. At the center of the standoff: deep cuts in Medicaid and safeguards on the president's power to cut future spending.

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The ongoing push to prevent the government shutdown fell short in the Senate after the House had approved a temporary funding patch. It had been tied to the president's spending bill that cut nearly a trillion dollars from Medicaid over the next decade – a sticking point for Democrats.

"This truly is a Democrat-owned shutdown – a Chuck Schumer-owned shutdown," said Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY). "There is no negotiation, it's a shakedown when you ask for a trillion dollars for four weeks. It's absurd."

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Republicans needed eight Senate Democrats to cross over to their side, but only three did.

"I tell you; we have \$17 trillion being invested, the last person who wants it shut down is us," President Donald Trump

told reporters in the Oval Office Tuesday.

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It's the first shutdown since 2018 during the president's first term, which was the longest in 40 years. While the president says he doesn't want a shutdown, he suggests he can use it to make even more cuts that Democrats oppose.

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