

Government Shutdown

Exeter Political Union
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What is a Government Shutdown?

A shutdown of Government Services occurs when Congress does not pass a funding bill before the end of the fiscal year (October 1st).

The Government Services shutdown includes no pay for all federal workers (ex: TSA), working without pay for essential federal workers (ex: FAA Controllers, the Military).

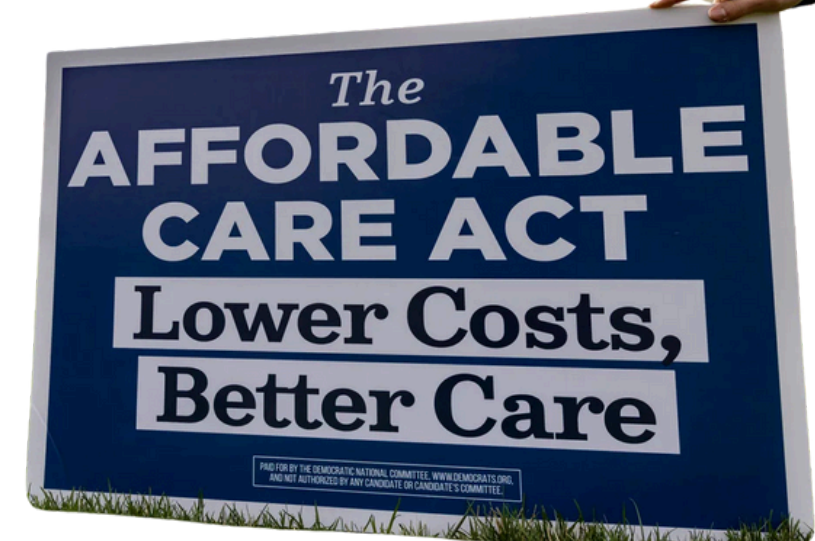
Government shutdowns also limit the ability for citizens to access government services. (ex: IRS, National Parks)



This Shutdown

Democrats in the Senate, even though they are in the minority, have been able to use the Filibuster (which requires 60 votes) to block a vote on the proposed appropriations bill.

Democrats wish to continue and expand healthcare subsidies under the Affordable Care Act, something that republicans are not willing to provide in their appropriations bill.





A History of Government Shutdowns

Trump 2018 – 34 Days

The longest Government Shutdown in U.S history, December 2018. Democrats disagreed with \$5.7 billion being used to build a southern border wall. The final bill included no money for a border wall.

Carter 1978 – 17 Days

Carter blocked Republicans' budgets over wasteful spending after Republicans attempted to pass a bill that included funding for a nuclear powered aircraft carrier. The succeeding bill didn't include this funding.

Clinton 1995 – 21 Days

Clinton vetoed the Republican's budget after a temporary funding bill was passed earlier in the same year. Republicans dropped in public polls and passed a bill that did not include raising Medicare premiums.

Obama 2013 – 16 Days

Republicans in the House attempted to diminish funding for Obamacare, and to delay its implementation by a year. The final bill failed to delay and tamper Obamacare.

Discussion Questions

- Who's fault is this?
- How long do we think it could last?
- Are filibusters a moral means of airing grievances?
- What is the impact of this on the everyday American?
- Should shutdowns be used as a bargaining chip for political gain?
- What do we think of the White House Instagram?



NEXT WEEK: IMMIGRATION

