

NTEU Monday Minute for the Week of February 5, 2018: Information about Potential Government Shutdown and Opportunity to Celebrate Black History Month

Government Shutdown Update:

At this time, neither congressional chamber has acted on a measure to fund federal agencies, and the current Continuing Resolution (CR) expires Thursday evening at midnight.

Last night, House Republican leadership released the text of a fifth stopgap spending bill, H.R. 1892, which would fund the government through Friday, March 23, and provide full year funding for the Department of Defense. The Continuing Resolution (CR) also includes a slew of health care provisions, including a two-year extension for community health centers, and several funding requests from the White House. However, the bill does not contain the requested \$90 million for Internal Revenue Service computer system upgrades to help administer the new tax law or language to address the debt limit. As you know, the Treasury Department currently believes the U.S. government's ability to continue to borrow and keep the government operating may run out by the end of February. If Congress does not raise the debt ceiling, the United States would begin to default on payments that it is legally obligated to make, payments that Congress has already promised that it will make. Such a situation could create significant disruption in markets and the economy.

The House Rules Committee met today at 1:00 pm to consider the bill, and the full House is expected to vote on it later today. However, it is widely expected that the Senate will not accept the House CR, and its funding of the Department of Defense for the remainder of the fiscal year without an agreement on funding for non-defense agencies. As such, it remains unclear what the path forward is between the House and the Senate, and whether a lapse in appropriations could occur again this week.

If you are an NTEU member, please make sure to provide your home email address to [NTEU National](#) so that they can provide information to you in the event that there is a shutdown.

In Case You Missed It:

The Advisory Committee for African Americans (ACAA) cordially invites you to celebrate National African American History Month by attending its annual dinner on February 15, 2018, from 5:30 to 8 PM in the TWFN Auditorium. The theme for this year's celebration is African Americans in Times of War. This year's speaker will be Dr. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Professor of History and African American Studies at Harvard University. A full dinner buffet catered by Dixie Bones will be served. Come enjoy networking and socializing with NRC managers, colleagues, and friends. The cost is \$28.00 per person (\$10.00 per child - 12 and under). Please RSVP and provide payment to one of the following ACAA contacts by COB, February 13, 2018. OWFN: Latosha Greene, 301-287-3626, OWFN 15C14; Austin Young, 301-415-1123, OWFN 11 H 22; TWFN: Jennene Littlejohn, 301-415-0452, T-10 A6; Haile Lindsay, 301-415-0616, T-4 D8; and 3WFN: Jazel Parks, 301-415-1636, T10A36.

Cash and check payments are accepted. Make all checks payable to Jennene Littlejohn.

Someone Said: “Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly.” —Langston Hughes, American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright, and columnist