

Trump concedes to temporarily end shutdown

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(CNN) — President Donald Trump conceded Friday to [mounting pressure that he reopen the federal government](#), agreeing to a temporary funding measure that would allow federal employees to return to work but that does not include the billions of dollars in border wall funding he's spent the past month demanding.

The [outcome of the 35-day standoff](#) leaves Trump politically chastened.

Democrats have insisted since December that he sign a measure reopening the government before they sit for talks on border wall funding. After weeks of resistance, Trump agreed to just that on Friday, rendering the past month of stalemate a futile exercise in brinkmanship that left hundreds of thousands of federal workers unpaid and anxious.

With Trump's signal of support, lawmakers moved quickly to pass spending bills that allowed shuttered federal agencies to reopen. Trump signed a bill passed by the House and Senate to reopen the government Friday night, ending the partial shutdown.

In his Rose Garden remarks, Trump did not appear conciliatory nor did he concede defeat; instead, he continued to paint the matter as a national security crisis and said another shutdown is possible if lawmakers cannot agree to new border wall funding.

"As everyone knows I have a very powerful alternative but I'm not going to use it at this time," Trump said after declaring he'd struck a deal to reopen government. [CNN reported exclusively](#) on Thursday that a national emergency proclamation had been drafted that would allow for potentially billions of federal dollars to be put toward wall construction.

"If we don't get a fair deal from Congress, the government will either shut down on February 15 again, or I will use the powers afforded to me under the laws and the Constitution of the United States to address this emergency," Trump said. "We will have great security."

Nearly his entire Cabinet and many of his senior advisers had assembled along the Rose Garden colonnade to listen to Trump speak. They offered enthusiastic applause during his speech, which Trump opened by saying he was "very proud to announce today that we have reached a deal to end the shutdown and reopen the federal government."

The measure Trump agreed to would allow federal workers to resume being paid as Democratic and Republican lawmakers convene to discuss the administration's

requests for border security funding. Trump spent the past weeks demanding that any measure reopening the government include \$5.7 billion in funding for a barrier on the US-Mexico border, which was a signature campaign promise.

A deal gets struck

But amid mounting pressure from Republican lawmakers and a budding air travel meltdown, Trump yielded to Democrats' request that government be reopened before the border wall funding issue be debated. The measures being considered by Congress include no new border wall funding.

Democrats emerged proclaiming victory.

"Our unity is our power -- and that is maybe what the President underestimated," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi told reporters in the Capitol after Trump spoke.

At a White House meeting with Hispanic pastors after announcing the temporary agreement, Trump said he was optimistic a more permanent deal could be reached.

"I think we have a good chance," he said. "We'll work with the Democrats and negotiate and if we can't do that, then we'll do a -- obviously we'll do the emergency because that's what it is. It's a national emergency."

Polls have shown Trump is receiving the overwhelming blame for the shutdown. The [latest Washington Post/ABC poll](#), released in the moments before Trump spoke on Friday, indicated 53% of respondents blamed Trump and the GOP for the shutdown while 34% blamed Pelosi and the Democrats. About 10% said both are equally responsible.

Inside Trump's own camp, there appeared to be intense dismay. A Trump adviser offered a pretty stark assessment of what happened on the shutdown.

"A humiliating loss for a man that rarely loses," the adviser said.

"I miss winning," the adviser added.

Acknowledging the new political reality with Pelosi in charge of the House, the adviser said the only way forward for Trump is "compromise."

The adviser went on to question whether Trump will continue to listen to aide Stephen Miller on immigration.

"Today is not a cave, but a grave for Stephen Miller policies," the adviser said, though it's not clear at all that Trump is ready to make that kind of course correction.

Trump himself tried to spin the decision as anything but a concession.

"I wish people would read or listen to my words on the Border Wall. This was in no way a concession. It was taking care of millions of people who were getting badly hurt by the Shutdown with the understanding that in 21 days, if no deal is done, it's off to the races!" he tweeted Friday evening.

The standoff was also set to deprive Trump of a key presidential privilege: [the yearly State of the Union address](#), which Pelosi said on Thursday could not occur in the House chamber while the shutdown dragged on. Trump was unwilling to deliver the address in an alternative location; it wasn't clear Friday whether the speech would proceed after all.

Speaking after Trump, Pelosi said she would discuss a "mutually agreeable date" for the State of the Union with the White House.

The escalating political toll came as the consequences of the shutdown became more apparent. Pressure to end the shutdown increased on Friday after air traffic was delayed at two New York-area airports -- LaGuardia and Newark -- in addition to Philadelphia International Airport due to staffing issues at a Federal Aviation Administration regional air traffic control center.

Trump's aides, along with his outside political advisers and his allies on Capitol Hill, have worried major flight issues would amplify the blame Trump is already facing for the shutdown. They, too, believed that major disruptions to air travel would ramp up pressure to reopen the government without wall funding.

Earlier in the day, one of Trump's top allies suggested the delays could shake loose a deal.

"I think the problems at the airport are a sign of things to come and I've been ready for weeks now to reopen the government and give us a chance without a shutdown hanging over us to reach a compromise," Sen. Lindsey Graham told reporters on Friday.

Mounting tension

Trump: We need fair deal, or government will close again 01:19

A day earlier, Republican lawmakers vented their frustration at Vice President Mike Pence during a tense lunch over a lack of a strategy out of the shutdown. Trump spent much of Thursday evening and Friday on the phone with Republican leaders, who worked to convince him to end the shutdown.

The pressure increased when two competing proposals to end the deadlock failed in the Senate on Thursday. After those measures collapsed, Republican and

Democratic leaders began frenzied negotiations to end the shutdown, which left 800,000 federal workers without another paycheck on Friday. That resulted in the three-week stopgap funding measure that would fund the government and allow workers to be paid.

Trump said on Thursday he would accept such a measure only if it included a "prorated down payment" on the border wall. Neither he nor his aides specified a dollar figure for the down payment, and there was no mention of the "down payment" in Friday's remarks.

Once the short-term measure is passed, lawmakers will return to negotiations over the money while federal workers return to their jobs. Federal workers have now gone two pay periods without paychecks. Trump said from the Rose Garden that workers, who went for weeks without pay, would receive wages soon.

"I will make sure that all employees receive their back pay very quickly or as soon as possible. It'll happen fast," Trump said.

Criticized over the course of the shutdown for appearing to lack empathy for unpaid workers, Trump on Friday offered effusive praise for the federal workforce, thanking employees for their "devotion in the face of this recent hardship."

"When I say make America great again -- it could never be done without you," Trump said, calling federal workers "great people."

CNN's Dana Bash, Jim Acosta, Jeff Zeleny and Tammy Kupperman contributed to this report.