GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS DON’T JUST HURT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Who are TSA employees?

- We shop at the same stores.
- We eat at the same restaurants.
- We attend the same PTA meetings.
- We worship at the same churches, synagogues, mosques and temples.
- We are veterans and some of us are disabled.
- We are someone’s spouse, parent, grandparent, child and neighbor.

Consider that 1 in 3 federal worker is a veteran of the U.S. military.

- In the case of a government shutdown, customer service-based agencies such as Veterans Benefits Administration and Social Security Administration will experience serious backlogs, delaying the distribution of important benefits to the American people.
- The perceived threat, or actual government shutdown, places unnecessary stress on the health of veterans suffering from any type of stress-related disorder.

TSA employees are deemed excepted or “essential” and must work without pay.

- If Congress fails to fund the government, TSA employees do not get paid, even though we must show up to work.
- During the last government shutdown, TSA employees went 5 weeks without a paycheck. It was difficult for workers to afford to commute to work, pay living expenses and take care of our families.

SOLUTION:

Congress should fully fund the government by passing full year appropriations for all federal government agencies for FY 2024.

Congress needs to pass the Fund the TSA Act (H.R. 3394), which restores revenues from passenger security fees established following September 11, 2001, to help finance the cost of aviation security. This ensures that TSA workers get paid during a shutdown.