



September 30, 2015

Congress Passes Short Term Funding Bill

After a bit of back and forth...will they or won't they... Congress passed a funding bill earlier today that will keep the federal government operating through December 11, 2015.

President Obama is expected to sign the bill later this evening. While not unanimous, the vote was overwhelming supportive in keeping the federal government open.

- House vote: 277-151
- Senate vote: 78-20

What's Next?

Averting a shutdown is terrific news, but this is not the end of the debate.

Congress will need to address the larger issue of funding caps. Several years ago, Congress established funding limits on non-defense programs (such as workforce development, economic development, education, etc.) as well as defense programs. Unless Congress increases those caps, our programs may face sequestration again in early 2016.

In addition to the current funding bill, Congress will need to increase the deficit level this fall. Addressing these issues, plus the fact that the House will be under the leadership of a new Speaker once John Boehner leaves at the end of October, seems to indicate that it could be an interesting 10 weeks.

What is NAWDP's Position?

NAWDP continues to support you and your programs!

We believe that any funding bill that is passed should strengthen the economic competitiveness of the country through ensuring an investment in talent management, job training, and workforce development. We will continue to work with our elected officials towards full funding for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) and to strengthen funding for all workforce programs.

We appreciate all of your support for workforce development funding and for the work that you do on behalf of our nation's job seekers and businesses.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Bridget Brown, CWDP
Executive Director