



January 29, 2019

**'WHATEVER IT TAKES': AS GOVERNMENT STARTS TO REOPEN**

**Please pray that our governmental policies will be held to the highest standards of good governance.**

***[B]ut it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another. (Ps 75:7)***

With the longest federal government shutdown in U.S. history over, the clock is now ticking for Congress to strike a deal on border security funding, for shuttered agencies to get up and running again and for federal employees who were furloughed or working without pay to get reimbursed.

Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney said Sunday that President Trump is prepared to orchestrate another shutdown or declare a national emergency to secure funding for a U.S.-Mexico border wall if Congress can't strike a security deal by the new funding deadline of Feb. 15.

"He's willing to do whatever it takes to secure the border," Mr. Mulvaney said on CBS's "Face the Nation." "He does take this very seriously. This is a serious humanitarian and security crisis."

The shutdown, which started on Dec. 22, has resulted in a total of about 800,000 federal employees either furloughed or working without pay.

Mr. Trump signed legislation [last] Friday that the House and that Senate sped through earlier that day to temporarily extend funding for nine shuttered departments and other agencies through Feb. 15.

The short-term legislation doesn't include money for new construction on Mr. Trump's desired wall — a concession the White House repeatedly demanded throughout negotiations. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and other Democrats refused to budge on that demand.

Mr. Mulvaney said Democrats indicated that they would be willing to negotiate on a "barrier" but not while the government was shut down.

"One of the reasons he agreed to open the government this week was to essentially take the Democrats at their word," he said.

House and Senate leaders have named negotiators from both parties who are tasked with crafting a Homeland Security Department spending bill that is agreeable to Congress and the White House.

Sen. Lamar Alexander, Tennessee Republican, said Sunday that he thinks lawmakers can strike a deal with some money for a wall.

“They’d be smart not to recommend something the president couldn’t sign, because under the Constitution, if you want a law, the president has to sign it,” Mr. Alexander said on Fox Business Network....

“Feb. 5 is a date that seems to work well,” Mr. Scalise said on Fox Business Network, adding that he thought it was “disgraceful” that Mrs. Pelosi essentially rescinded an invitation to Mr. Trump.

Upon becoming speaker this month, Mrs. Pelosi invited the president to address a joint session of Congress on Jan. 29. She later wrote a letter suggesting that he consider delivering the address after the shutdown ended, prompting Mr. Trump to respond that he still planned to go through with the speech.

After Mrs. Pelosi wrote back to say she wouldn’t take up a joint resolution allowing him to deliver the address in the House chamber, Mr. Trump backed down.

The president also has been considering declaring a national emergency, which could allow him to circumvent Congress and task the military with building the wall....

Federal agencies affected by the shutdown are grinding back into gear after the extended lapse in funding started to take a tangible toll.

Hours before Mr. Trump signed the stopgap funding bill into law, the Federal Aviation Administration temporarily halted flights into New York City’s LaGuardia Airport amid a staffing shortage that helped lead to delays across the Northeast....

Tax-filing season starts Monday, presenting a huge challenge for an IRS that tried to recall thousands of employees to work without pay during the shutdown.

Federal employees affected by the shutdown should receive back pay immediately, said Tony Reardon, president of the National Treasury Employees Union, which represents federal employees who work at the IRS and other agencies....

Mr. Trump earlier this month signed into law a measure ensuring that affected federal workers would get paid for lost wages during the shutdown.... (Excerpts from David Sherfinski article in [The Washington Times](#))

### **VERMONT’S RADICAL BILL TO PROTECT ‘FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT’ TO UNLIMITED ABORTIONS**

**Pray that this bill will be blocked and that the death of future generations will be thwarted.**

***Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! (Is 49:15)***

Not to be outdone by New York’s recently enacted law to permit abortions at virtually any point in pregnancy as a “fundamental right,” lawmakers in Vermont have introduced an abortion-protection law that may in some ways be even more extreme.

More than 90 members of the state House are cosponsoring legislation to codify a “fundamental right” to “have an abortion,” CBS affiliate WCAX reports. The bill is meant to ensure abortion remains legal in Vermont regardless of a future Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

“States are a critical backstop to the further erosion and restriction of reproductive health care,” said Meagan Gallagher of Planned Parenthood-Northern New England. “We must pass the House abortion rights bill and the Senate equal rights constitutional amendment to ensure that reproductive rights are protected in Vermont.”

The pro-abortion proposal has the support of liberal Republican Gov. Phil Scott.

The bill’s language declares that “every individual has the fundamental right to choose or refuse contraception or sterilization,” and that “every individual who becomes pregnant has the fundamental right to choose to carry a pregnancy to term, give birth to a child, or to have an abortion.”

Vermont already lacks a law requiring parental consent if a minor is procuring an abortion. The bill makes no mention of an age restriction on individuals choosing to be sterilized, and its reference to pregnant women as “individuals” rather than females or mothers is likely a nod to transgender ideology and the now-common liberal claim that men can be pregnant.

“No State or local law enforcement shall prosecute any individual for inducing, performing, or attempting to induce or perform the individual’s own abortion,” it says, as well as prohibiting any “public entity” from restricting any sort of benefits or services on the basis of an individual’s decision to have or a medical worker’s decision to commit an abortion. The language suggesting there be no prosecution for do-it-yourself abortions raises questions about whether there would be adequate legal protections against infanticide in Vermont.

For good measure, it also declares that a “fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus shall not have independent rights under Vermont law.” The bill doesn’t include New York’s language stripping preborn babies from state homicide laws, but Vermont already lacked protections for babies killed in attacks on their pregnant mothers....

Pro-abortion activists are also pushing a state constitutional amendment affirming a “right” to abortion, which is currently pending before the state Senate. (Excerpts from Calvin Freiburger on [Life Site News](#))

### **TERRORIST AT HEAD OF DRUG CARTEL ON TEXAS BORDER**

**Pray for our law enforcement officers along our southern border. Pray for wisdom and their protection as they perform a very important role in the service of our country.**

***But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one. ([2 Thes 3:3](#))***

A verified and convicted terrorist who attacked a U.S. Consulate with a grenade and automatic rifle fire has taken over the ruthless Los Zetas cartel, a group headquartered at the Texas border in the Nuevo Laredo-Laredo metropolitan border area. Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, sits immediately across the border from Laredo, Texas, and is the only urban location along the entire U.S.-Mexico Border that does not have any fencing or constructed security barrier of any kind. The convicted terrorist, Hector Raul Luna Luna, is known as “El Tory” and was convicted in the 2008 terror attack on the U.S. Consulate in

Monterrey, Mexico. He was released from prison due to bribes paid by Cartel Jalisco New Generation (CJNG) and has now taken over the dominant faction of Los Zetas, Cartel Del Noreste (CDN), to open up the lucrative and unsecured border corridor into Texas.

Under El Tory's new reign, Los Zetas is linked to a level of brutality that had not been seen in prior years. Gruesome executions, dismemberments, targeted attacks on police and military officials, and the general use of intimidation have become commonplace in parts of northern Mexico as El Tory and Los Zetas try to expand their operations....

Most recently, Breitbart News reported exclusively on a series of threats made by El Tory, who claimed he would blow up the headquarters of a state police agency in Nuevo Leon. The threats were made through several narco-banners that Los Zetas hung throughout the industrial city of Monterrey. The threats are considered credible by law enforcement in Mexico, since El Tory has a history of targeting police and has used grenades in the past.

El Tory was released from a Mexican federal prison in mid 2017 with the help of his close friend and ally Eleazar "El Chelelo" Medina Rojas and his new ties with CJNG, so the two could help establish a Los Zetas-CJNG corridor from Monterrey to Nuevo Laredo and into Texas....

Soon after their release, the two cartel bosses began to leave a trail of bodies behind them as they tried to solidify their positions within the CDN faction of Los Zetas and against the other cartels. Breitbart News reported on the arrest of El Chelelo in the southern state of Yucatan in December 2018. Soon after his arrest, a local state judge tried to release El Chelelo but federal authorities were able to re-arrest him for extradition purposes. Even without El Chelelo, El Tory continued to wage a fierce war against a rival faction of Los Zetas called "Old School Z" and has killed hundreds of their members in the border states of Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas....

In 2008, the man known as El Tory led and participated in a grenade attack against the U.S. Consulate General in Monterrey. El Tory and his men fired several weapons at the U.S. building and threw an explosive device. While the grenade did not explode, the gunfire broke several windows and caused other damage to the building. No injuries were reported. In 2008, Los Zetas were one of the most dominant cartels in all of Mexico and managed to make a name for themselves as one of the most brutal and sadistic organizations.

The Mexican military caught up with El Tory in 2010, however, Los Zetas responded by setting up blockades and threatened local police into staying out of the way while they tried to unsuccessfully prevent the capture of their leader. The troops arrested El Tory and some of his top men who carried machine guns, a 50-caliber rifle, and grenades. The arrest led to the sentence of more than 20 years—only to be cut short by a Mexican federal judge. (Excerpts from Brandon Darby & Ildefonso Ortiz article on [Breitbart News](#))

## **MASS NON-CITIZEN VOTING IN TEXAS EXPOSED**

**Pray for a restoration legal voting throughout our nation and that corrupt organizations will be found and exposed.**

***While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. (2 Pet 2:19)***

The top election official in Texas said that his office discovered that nearly 95,000 non-U.S. citizens are registered to vote in the state and that about 58,000 of them have voted at least once.

Texas Secretary of State David Whitley said that his office identified potentially tens of thousands of illegal votes.

Voting in an election when the voter knows he or she isn't eligible to vote is a second-degree felony in Texas. Whitley said his office sent the data to the Texas Attorney General's Office to investigate and prosecute those who illegally voted.

"Integrity and efficiency of elections in Texas require accuracy of our state's voter rolls, and my office is committed to using all available tools under the law to maintain an accurate list of registered voters," Whitley said in a statement.

"Texas voters ... should not have their voices muted by those who abuse the system," he added....

"Our agency has provided extensive training opportunities to county voter registrars so that they can properly perform list maintenance activities in accordance with federal and state law, which affords every registered voter the chance to submit proof of eligibility," Whitley said.

Groups that advocate for everyone possible to vote admitted that illegal voting does happen, but said it doesn't happen very much....

Meanwhile, Attorney General Ken Paxton confirmed that his office received the information from Whitley's office.

"Every single instance of illegal voting threatens democracy in our state and deprives individual Texans of their voice. We're honored to have partnered with the Texas Secretary of State's office in the past on voter initiatives and we will spare no effort in assisting with these troubling cases. My Election Fraud Unit stands ready to investigate and prosecute crimes against the democratic process when needed," he said in a statement....

### **Illegal Immigrant Sentenced for Voting**

The news came during the same week that an illegal immigrant from Mexico who admitted to voting was sentenced to 30 months in prison.

Enrique Salazar Ortiz, a native of Mexico, was convicted of making a false statement on a passport application, unlawful voting by an illegal alien, and aggravated identity theft, reported the San Antonio Express-News.

Ortiz used a stolen identity to vote in the 2016 presidential election. The name on the stolen ID was Jesse Vargas Jr....

A public defender told District Judge Fred Biery that the Vargas identity was used by four men in total and that Ortiz had just used it in the 2016 election.

Ortiz began using the name several years ago after buying it from a man in a bar for \$20, she added.

In late 2018, Ortiz admitted to voting in the 2016 election but refused to tell authorities if he had voted in any other elections, reported the Express-News....

When asked in court whether he knew what he was doing was illegal, Ortiz said he did.

“Unfortunately, yes, I knew it was,” Ortiz said. (Excerpts from Zachary Stieber article in [The Epoch Times](#))