



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Affiliated with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



NFFE News Release

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Federal Union Responds to Trump Calling for Government Shutdown: “There is No Such Thing as a Good Shutdown”

Washington, D.C. – Today, NFFE National President Randy Erwin condemned President Trump for calling for a government shutdown on Tuesday when he tweeted “our country needs a good shutdown in September.”

In response, Erwin said the following:

“There is no such thing as a good shutdown.

“Before Tuesday, it was inconceivable that a sitting President would dare suggest that a government shutdown is a good thing or is in some way useful to the American people. This is a shocking indictment that proves President Trump’s lack of understanding about the job the American people have asked him to do.

“This is not a game. The federal government is our nation’s biggest employer, and a government shutdown means hundreds of thousands of Americans spread across the country will be sent home without pay. President Trump must understand what a loss of income means to middle class families. It is devastating. It is immature and wrong for President Trump to root for something that harms Americans and their families.

“It is clear that President Trump does not understand the seriousness of a government shutdown. Many federal workers live paycheck to paycheck. A shutdown that cuts off federal employees’ income, even for a short period of time, can be disastrous. President Trump taunting Congress to shutdown the government is inappropriate and cruel.

“There is no good reason why a President should ever endorse a shutdown of his own government. It clearly demonstrates that Trump is more focused on playing politics than doing what is best for the American people.

“I sincerely hope that President Trump will not push for a government shutdown this October, nor should he use the threat of a shutdown as an attempt to force the Senate to change its time-honored procedures which serve as a critical check against unbridled power in Washington.”

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Established in 1917, the National Federation of Federal Employees is the oldest union representing civil service federal employees. NFFE represents 110,000 federal employees in 35 departments and agencies government-wide, including nurses, doctors and other health care professionals at 17 VA hospitals across the country. NFFE is affiliated with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO. For more information, go to www.nffe.org.