

RESOLUTION NO. 2863

WHEREAS, due to a lapse in appropriations a quarter of the Federal Government has been shutdown since December 21st, the longest period in our nation’s history; and

WHEREAS, this shutdown has impacted at least 800,000 Federal employees, with many idled without pay, and many forced to work without pay; and

WHEREAS, this shutdown also impacts families, especially children, who are dependent on Federal employees for health, nutrition, housing, education and basic well-being; and

WHEREAS, the shutdown imperils Federal “safety net” programs for the lowest income and most vulnerable in the City’s population; and

WHEREAS, the shutdown has also impacted contractors and service employees who are dependent on Federal appropriations and Federal employee spending; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria has one of the largest concentration of Federal employees, Federal contractors and those dependent on Federal spending in the nation; and

WHEREAS, this shutdown has negatively impacted the City’s residents, and its economy; and

WHEREAS, this shutdown is entirely unnecessary and is a troubling symbol of political dysfunction;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia, that the City of Alexandria calls on the President and Congress to immediately end this government shutdown and restore a fully functioning Federal government.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the City encourage Federal and State actions to protect our residents and businesses from harm during this, and any future, shutdowns, including:

- 1) Full availability of unemployment insurance benefits for idled workers and those deemed essential who remain on the job without compensation
- 2) Back pay for impacted Federal employees and contractors
- 3) Extension of applicable Federal and state “safety net” benefits for Federal employees, contractors and Federally-dependent private sector employees
- 4) Emergency financing or grants for small businesses impacted by the shutdown
- 5) Temporary delay of housing evictions or foreclosures for impacted residents
- 6) Continued funding of Federal “safety net” programs such as SNAP, TANF, Housing Choice vouchers and public housing assistance

Adopted: January 22, 2019

JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk