Full-Year Date-Change Continuing Resolution Would Hurt the American People and Threaten National Security

Speaker Johnson and the House Freedom Caucus have threatened to keep the government running on autopilot for the rest of the year, locking it into the current Continuing Resolution (CR) with no changes aside from the end date (a “full-year date-change CR”). Not only does this proposal lack credibility and support—from Democrats and Republicans—but it would also trigger indiscriminate across-the-board cuts that would hurt the American people and undermine investments in our national security.

Speaker Johnson and the House Freedom Caucus’ full-year date-change CR would require much steeper cuts for domestic programs than the April 30 Appropriations Process Sequestration (explained in the Committee’s fact sheet available here).

Under a full-year date-change CR, non-exempt nondefense discretionary funds would be slashed by $73 billion and defense programs would be shortchanged by $27 billion.

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS: The impacts would be catastrophic.

The Congressional Budget Office currently estimates that a full-year date-change CR would require the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to implement across-the-board cuts to all domestic programs totaling at least $73 billion. OMB does not have discretion in applying cuts and all non-exempt programs, projects, and activities could be cut by almost 10 percent or more.

A full-year date-change CR would:

- Cut more than three times the 2013 sequestration, taking back special emergency funding previously provided for disaster relief, infrastructure investment, gun safety, and violence prevention.
- Threaten many communities—including veterans and tribal communities—with an October shutdown by removing all advance appropriations. Just a few of the ramifications would mean:
  - Veterans medical care would face a shutdown threat for the first time in over 15 years.
  - Veterans’ disability and compensation advance funding would be zeroed out for the first time in over 7 years.
  - Indian Health Service would have its shutdown protection removed just 1 year after Congress put it into place for the first time.

DEFENSE PROGRAMS: A full-year CR threatens our national security.

Under this scenario, $27 billion for our nation’s defense would be left on the table. It would:

- Undercut the defense industrial base—and the jobs that Americans depend on—across the country.
- Prevent all new starts and prohibit rate of production increases, forcing our military to fund last year’s priorities instead of adapting to the current threat environment.

Officials across the Department of Defense have sounded the alarm on the dangers of a full-year CR in letters to the Appropriations Committee linked on the following page.

A year-long CR would:
Summarized from **Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Charles Q. Brown, Jr.’s letter:**

- Create a $5.8 billion shortfall in military personnel funding and exacerbate recruiting and retention challenges.
- Jeopardize $1.3 billion in investments critical to DoD’s INDO-PACIFIC posture.
- Delay nuclear triad modernization and could prevent the award of the second Columbia class ballistic missile submarine.
- Prevent DoD from awarding multi-year procurement contracts to increase production capacity or replenish inventories for critical munitions.
- Prevent the start of all new military construction projects, causing delays to readiness and improving quality of life.

Summarized from **Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin’s letter:**

- Prevent 129 military construction projects including Pacific Deterrence Initiative projects, family housing, medical, and research facilities, and modernization efforts.
- Force reductions in military personnel and harm military readiness and slow the pace of innovation and modernization efforts.
- Significantly delay military permanent change of station moves, creating gaps in military units, disrupting military families, and reducing morale.

Summarized from **Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall’s letter:**

- Risk the credibility of U.S. nuclear deterrence and undermine two legs of the nuclear triad at a time when the PRC has built 100 new missile silos.
- Stops 89 new starts and 19 specific initiatives to counter the PRC intended to close key capability gaps and assure U.S. advantage.
- Prevent 34 new major construction projects, including new weapon system beddowns, quality of life facilities, and three Indo-Pacific projects.

Summarized from **Secretary of the Army Christine E. Wormuth’s letter:**

- Delay the initiation of 35 military construction projects, including five barracks and four family housing projects.
- Delay eight projects vital to the Organic Industrial Base including military construction projects at the Detroit Arsenal, Letterkenny Army Depot, and Red River Army Depot, as well as three upgrade efforts in Lima, OH, and one each in Watervliet, NY, and Rock Island, IL.

Summarized from **Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro’s letter:**

- Cancel or postpone 30 projects across the U.S. and abroad, including three child development centers and 12 PDI projects on Guam, necessary to blunt Chinese expansionism.
- Cut resources for Service Member pay, housing, subsistence, and relocation, creating hardships for military families and lowering morale across the force.
- Jeopardize upcoming deployments by delaying or canceling surface ship maintenance.
- Prevent the construction of one Submarine Tender, one Frigate, and two Littoral Combat Units. For the Virginia-Class Submarine, only one ship requested could be awarded.

**OTHER RELEVANT FACT SHEETS:** (1) [Extreme House Republicans Do Not Want to Follow the Budget Agreement, They Want to Disable Government](https://example.com) & (2) [Sections 101 and 102—A Tale of Two Sequestration Scenarios](https://example.com)