

MANCHIN STATEMENT ON HOW THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN IS IMPACTING WEST VIRGINIA

Washington, D.C. — U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) released the following statement on how the partial government shutdown is impacting West Virginia. According to OPM, there are roughly 18,000 federal employees in West Virginia.

"I have always said we should never shutdown the government and governing this way is embarrassing for both Democrats and Republicans. This partial government shutdown affects every American, including the 18,000 federal employees in West Virginia. I am proud that many of these employees will continue to come to work without pay to make sure that our nation remains safe and secure, but I am very concerned that they will be missing critical paychecks — something that is always difficult, but particularly so during the holidays. That's why I remain committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to find a commonsense solution that reopens the federal government and funds our border security to keep

Americans safe," said Senator Manchin.

How the Shutdown Impacts West Virginia Workers

Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division, FBI: The FBI's largest division is located in Clarksburg and employs over 2500 federal workers — making it a substantial employer in central West Virginia. As a result of the shutdown, around two-thirds of these employees will be forced to work without pay, while the rest will be furloughed, or temporarily laid off, for the duration of the shutdown.

Bureau of Fiscal Service, Dept. of Treasury: The Department of Treasury employs around 2200 employees in Parkersburg. However, because a large number of employees are paid through a revolving fund separate from annual appropriations, almost 80% of employees in the Bureau are exempt from the shutdown. Those that are deemed essential may have to work without pay until the shutdown ends, however.

Bureau of Prisons, Dept. of Justice: The U.S. Bureau of Prisons has around 1000 employees at 7 federal correctional institutions, penitentiaries, and prison camps around the state, making it one of the largest federal employers in West Virginia. Nearly all of these staff, and particularly those working directly at federal prisons, are considered essential and will work without pay through the duration of the shutdown.

Coast Guard, Dept. of Homeland Security: The Coast Guard has over 400 employees at three facilities located in West Virginia, the Vessel Documentation Center in Falling Waters and the Operations Systems Center and National Maritime Center in Martinsburg, making it a significant employer in the Eastern Panhandle. Both the Vessel Documentation Center and the Operations Center have closed, and all civilian employees in the state are furloughed without pay for the duration of the shutdown. Active duty personnel report for duty as usual, but are not be paid.

Customs & Border Patrol Advanced Training Center, Dept. of Homeland Security: CBP operates its Advanced Training Center in Harpers Ferry, where hundreds of federal employees and contractors train over 8000 border agents each year. DHS does not deem training to be an essential activity during a shutdown, so DHS requires the Advanced Training Center to close when its students are able to be relocated.

Independent Verification & Validation Center (IV&V), NASA: NASA employees around 200 full-time federal workers and contractors at the IV&V Center in Fairmont. All but one of the federal workers will be furloughed during the shutdown. Federal contractors may continue to work if they have already received contracts and their work does not require supervision from federal employees

Green Bank Observatory, National Science Foundation (NSF): The Green Bank Observatory is a critical employer in Pocahontas

County. While it is operated by the National Science Foundation, which is closed during the shutdown, Green Bank's funding is provided by both NSF and other sources, so it will remain open at this time.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Dept. of Transportation: The FAA employs around 120 people throughout the state. Of these, around 20% have been furloughed, while some others are paid through funds not impacted by annual appropriations. Air Traffic Controllers, who keep our skies and airports safe from accidents and disasters, will work without pay.

Federal Courts: Federal courts in West Virginia have enough funding through court fee balances and other funds to operate until next week before they will be impacted by the shutdown. While many staff will continue to work without pay to ensure the judiciary and law enforcement continues, some employees will likely be furloughed.

National Parks and Forests: West Virginia has a number of National Parks and Forests throughout the state. These national recreation areas will remain open for visitors, but services will not be available, and non-essential employees will be furloughed. National Parks and Refuges such as the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and the New River Gorge National River are operated by the National Parks Service within the Department of the Interior. National forests such as the Monongahela National Forest and the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests are operated by the U.S. Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture, which also operates the Wood Education and Research Center in Princeton and a Research Center in Morgantown. Finally, wildlife refuges such as the Canaan Valley and Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuges are operated by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which also operates its National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown.

Ohio Heartbeat Bill

The Ohio Senate passed The Human Heartbeat Protection Act, also known as the "Heartbeat Bill," by a vote of 18 to 13 yesterday. HB 258 bans abortions on babies

when a fetal heartbeat can be detected, usually within a few weeks of conception. Liberty Counsel has offered free legal defense once it is signed into law.

Prior to the floor vote, the Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee added two amendments to the bill. One amend-

ment removed the mandate for transvaginal ultrasounds, which can pick up a heartbeat as early as six weeks, and instead simply requires abdominal ultrasounds.

M **2019 Northern Panhandle March for Babies**
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Another amendment requires the suspension of a provider's license who violates the provision of the bill while a criminal case is pending. Although the House already passed the bill with a veto-proof majority, they must now consider the two new amendments to the Senate version and vote again. If those amendments are accepted, the bill will be prepared and go to Governor Kasich's desk for a potential signature.

members in the Senate. "If the vilest criminal has human dignity that prevents cruel and unusual punishment, then how much more should laws protect an innocent unborn child from the most despicable form of torture and death," said Liberty Counsel Founder and Chairman Mat Staver. "Ohio has an incredible opportunity to make the Heartbeat Bill become law and help make the womb a safe place again," said Staver.

In the state of the Ohio, the governor is given ten days to sign a bill into law, to veto a bill, or to do nothing, which means the bill goes into law without the governor's signature. Should Governor Kasich veto the "Heartbeat Bill," the legislature can be called back into session before the end of the year to override the veto. Three-fifths of members in both chambers must vote to override a veto. That will require 60 of the 99 members in the House and 20 of the 33

Liberty Counsel is an international nonprofit, litigation, education, and policy organization dedicated to advancing religious freedom, the sanctity of life, and the family since 1989, by providing pro bono assistance and representation on these and related topics. Liberty Counsel provides broadcast quality TV interviews via Hi-Def Skype and LTN at no cost.

Last year in the United States:

- 1 in 10 babies was born prematurely.
- March of Dimes invested \$2.9 million in local programs to help moms and babies.
- More than 380,000 babies were born prematurely.
- We invested \$19.3 million in research to fight for healthy moms and strong babies.

The March for Babies community bands together to fight for the health of all moms and babies. We raise funds and awareness so that we can solve even the toughest problems. We celebrate our collective wins as we celebrate our 80th anniversary as an organization. When you March for Babies, you make a statement about the world you want to live in—one in which healthy moms and strong babies are a priority for us all.



EVENT INFORMATION

Oglebay Park
Saturday, April 13, 2019
Registration: 11:00 am
Walk starts: 12:00 pm

Lace up your sneakers and join over 400 Northern Panhandle residents who will take the 3 mile stroll through Oglebay Park for stronger, healthier babies. March for Babies provides a memorable and rewarding day for the whole family including a family fun area, music, face painting and more.

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Every March for Babies participant is a leader who has the power to make a huge difference for families. The Northern Panhandle March for Babies event is looking for individuals who wish to be a champion for babies by chairing the event, joining an executive leadership team, or providing sponsorship. By uniting the community, we're building a brighter future for us all. If you wish to learn more about our volunteer leadership opportunities, please reach out.

Please contact Sam Alkire with any questions or for more information 412-506-8621 or salkire@marchofdimes.org