



# Cordova for President

## *Moving Forward Together*

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### The United States Constitution

Article II, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution imposes only three eligibility requirements on persons serving as president, based on the officeholder's age, time of residency in the U.S., and citizenship status:

### U.S. Constitution – Presidential Candidate Eligibility

"No person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty-five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States."

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

# Ensuring the Continuity of Essential Human Services During Any Lapse in Federal Operations

**By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:**

### Preamble

For too long, the United States government has allowed the most essential protections of human life to be entangled in political conflict, used as bargaining tools, and placed at risk during shutdowns and fiscal standoffs. When the survival of children, families, seniors, veterans, and the most vulnerable is threatened—not by external enemies, but by the decisions and inaction of elected officials—the government has abandoned its most basic duty.

A nation cannot claim moral authority, constitutional legitimacy, or democratic integrity if it allows hunger, homelessness, untreated illness, and human suffering to become collateral damage in political negotiations. No society founded on the principle of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness can tolerate a system where access to food, medical care, housing support, and safety is suspended because of legislative dysfunction or partisan strategy.

Human life is not an appropriations line item.  
It is not a negotiation point.  
It is not a tool of leverage.

The federal government is obligated—ethically, morally, and constitutionally—to ensure that no American's life is endangered because elected officials failed to fulfill their responsibilities. The power granted to public office is not permission to gamble with human well-being; it is a solemn promise to protect it.



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Therefore, under my administration, the United States will establish a permanent, automatic safeguard to ensure that all essential human services continue uninterrupted—regardless of political conflict, budget impasse, or government shutdown. Never again will the survival of the American people be placed at risk as a consequence of political theater or institutional failure.

This Executive Order restores a foundational truth: **The government does not exist to threaten life. It exists to preserve it.**

## Section 1. Policy.

The Federal Government exists to safeguard the lives, health, and well-being of the American people. A lapse in appropriations or interruption of Federal operations must never jeopardize essential services that directly support human survival. Millions of Americans rely on nutrition assistance, medical care, housing programs, veterans' support, and critical public safety systems. Interrupting such services for political leverage constitutes an unacceptable threat to human life.

It is therefore the policy of the United States that **no political disagreement, shutdown, or lapse in funding shall be permitted to endanger or suspend essential human services.**

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## Sec. 2. Definitions.

For purposes of this order:

(a) *Essential Human Services* means Federal programs and operations whose interruption would risk loss of life, severe hardship, or immediate harm to individuals or families. These include, but are not limited to:

1. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP);
2. Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC);
3. School nutrition programs;
4. Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP);
5. Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
6. Veterans health and benefits programs;
7. Housing assistance administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD);
8. Disaster response and emergency relief programs;



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9. Air traffic control and aviation safety operations;
10. Federal public health, medical, and safety functions.

(b) *Shutdown* means any lapse in appropriations or cessation of federal operations resulting from a failure to enact funding legislation.

(c) *Continuity Funding Mechanism* means an automatic, self-executing source of temporary appropriations necessary to maintain Essential Human Services at full function during a shutdown.

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## Sec. 3. Continuation of Essential Human Services.

(a) Upon any lapse in appropriations, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) shall immediately activate the Continuity Funding Mechanism to sustain all Essential Human Services at the operational levels of the prior fiscal year.

(b) Federal departments and agencies responsible for Essential Human Services shall not suspend operations, furlough personnel, halt disbursements, close offices, delay benefits, or otherwise impede access to services.

(c) Contractors, service vendors, and partner entities supporting Essential Human Services shall be authorized to continue operations under interim funding authority until regular appropriations are restored.

(d) No individual or household shall lose access to food assistance, medical coverage, veterans' benefits, housing support, emergency response, or other life-preserving services due to a government shutdown.

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## Sec. 4. Fiscal Safeguards for Households.

During any period in which this order is in effect:

(a) SNAP, WIC, and all federally supported nutrition programs shall continue without disruption, delay, or reduction.



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- (b) Medicaid and CHIP eligibility and reimbursements shall remain active and uninterrupted.
- (c) Veterans' medical services, disability payments, and survivor benefits shall be issued on regular schedules.
- (d) HUD housing vouchers, rental assistance, and homelessness prevention programs shall continue to operate fully.

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## **Sec. 5. Prohibition on the Use of Essential Human Services as Political Leverage.**

It is contrary to the constitutional duty of public service for any official or institution to use the threat or suspension of services essential to human survival as a tactic in political negotiations.

The Federal Government shall not:

- (a) leverage the survival or well-being of the American people in fiscal disputes;
- (b) subject children, seniors, disabled individuals, or veterans to harm for political bargaining;
- (c) engage in actions that knowingly or foreseeably jeopardize Essential Human Services.

OMB, in coordination with the White House Counsel, shall refer any willful violation of this section to appropriate ethics and oversight bodies.

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## **Sec. 6. Independent Human Continuity Board (IHCB).**

(a) There is established an Independent Human Continuity Board composed of experts in emergency management, public health, constitutional law, operational logistics, and public advocacy.

(b) The IHCB shall:

1. monitor Federal agencies during shutdown periods;
2. issue compliance directives to ensure uninterrupted delivery of Essential Human Services;
3. publish real-time public updates regarding service continuity;
4. report any violations directly to the President.



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(c) The IHCB shall operate independently and transparently to uphold public safety.

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## **Sec. 7. Continuity Funding Mechanism.**

- (a) OMB shall establish an Automatic Continuity Reserve sufficient to maintain uninterrupted Essential Human Services during any lapse in appropriations.
  - (b) The Reserve shall be available without further congressional action upon activation.
  - (c) Funds shall be replenished upon restoration of regular government operations.
  - (d) The Reserve shall maintain a minimum threshold adequate to prevent loss of life or significant harm.
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## **Sec. 8. Continuity During Systemic Disruption.**

In any event involving systemic collapse, catastrophic disruption, or extended failure of Federal operations:

- (a) Essential Human Services shall transition to emergency command under the IHCB;
  - (b) State governments may administer services using federal continuity funds;
  - (c) Federal personnel performing life-saving or life-sustaining duties shall be exempt from furlough;
  - (d) Critical infrastructure—communication, transportation, energy, and water systems—shall maintain minimum operational levels necessary to preserve life.
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## **Sec. 9. Transparency.**

- (a) Upon activation of continuity measures, the public shall be notified within one hour.
  - (b) A publicly accessible portal shall display updated operational status for all Essential Human Services.
  - (c) No Federal official shall misrepresent the funding status or operational continuity of Essential Human Services.
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### **Sec. 10. General Provisions.**

- (a) This order shall be implemented in accordance with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations, except as expressly provided by the Continuity Funding Mechanism.
- (b) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair the constitutional duties of the executive branch.
- (c) If any provision of this order is held invalid, the remainder shall remain in effect.
- (d) This order is effective immediately.

**Signed,**

**Vincent Cordova**  
*President of the United States*

*January 20, 2028*