Biden signs a short-term spending bill swiftly passed by Congress, averting a government shutdown.

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Racing to avoid a government shutdown at midnight, President Biden signed a spending bill on Thursday evening that extends federal funding through early December and provides emergency aid to support both the resettlement of Afghan refugees and disaster recovery efforts across the country.

The president's signature came after lawmakers hastily cleared the measure in both chambers earlier in the day. The Senate's vote was 65 to 35; the House's was 254 to 175.

"This is a good outcome — one I am happy we are getting done," said Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the majority leader, speaking on the Senate floor ahead of the vote. "With so many things happening in Washington, the last thing the American people need is for the government to grind to a halt."

Lawmakers reached a deal on the spending legislation after Democrats agreed to strip out a provision that would have raised the federal government's ability to continue borrowing funds through the end of 2022. Senate Republicans blocked an initial funding package on Monday over its inclusion, refusing to give the majority party any of the votes needed to move ahead on a bill to avert a first-ever federal default in the coming weeks.

The legislation keeps the government fully funded through Dec. 3, giving lawmakers additional time to reach consensus over the dozen annual bills that dictate federal spending. It provides $6.3 billion to help Afghan refugees resettle in the United States and $28.6 billion to help communities rebuild from hurricanes, wildfires and other recent natural disasters.

"This bill is not a permanent solution," said Representative Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut, the chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee. "I look forward to soon beginning negotiations with my counterparts across the aisle and across the Capitol to complete full year government funding bills."

"The American people are capable of building a future that is stronger and more prosperous as long as they have the tools they need to do it," she added. "This bill helps ensure that they have those tools."

The disaster funding is intended to help communities across the country continue recovering from the damage inflicted in recent years by natural disasters, including Hurricanes Ida, Delta, Zeta, and Laura, as well as wildfires, droughts and winter storms.

The aid for Afghan refugees including funds for emergency housing, English lessons and additional resources.

Before agreeing to the details of the spending bill on Thursday morning, the Senate defeated an amendment proposed by Senator Tom Cotton, Republican of Arkansas, that would have curtailed the duration of some of the benefits for Afghan refugees.

Senators also voted down an amendment, offered by Senator Roger Marshall, Republican of Kansas, that would have barred funds from going toward the implementation and enforcement of Mr. Biden's coronavirus vaccine mandate, as well as an amendment that would deny lawmakers pay should they fail to pass a budget resolution and the dozen spending bills by Oct. 1.

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