



Rep. Tom Emmer on NBC NEWS – 2025

NBC

Broadcast: September 30, 2025 • Location: WASHINGTON, D.C. • Duration: 6:52

HALLIE:

That's House Majority Whip Tom Emmer, Republican from Minnesota. Congressman, thanks for being back on the show.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Good to be with you, Haley.

HALLIE:

Let me start here with that. Yeah, I've heard it all. All good. Let me start with sort of your shutdown meter watch. And I understand there's you have a lot of thoughts about it. But is the government like where we are now? Is the government going to shut down? What's going to avoid this at midnight? Anything?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Yeah. Chuck Schumer and Democrats voting for the CR that the House has already passed. This is a nonpartisan CR, a seven week extension to allow Republicans and Democrats who, by the way, Haley, I don't think a lot of viewers understand that probably since the first time since 2014, the House and the Senate both both made motions to go to conference with each other. They're close on the first three appropriations bills. This gives them a little time to wrap that up. The goal is to get back to a regular order appropriations process. And literally the nonpartisan CR that was passed is current funding levels. This is something that all of the Senate Democrats or the Senate Democrats and Chuck Schumer actually supported just six months ago and more importantly, that they all voted on the exact same thing, 13 times under Biden. So the way you avoid it is you got to have seven or more Democrats voting with the Republicans tonight to pass the short term CR.

HALLIE:

And do you think I'll ask you, I want to follow up in a second, but you don't have any sense there are seven Democrats right now, right? Arkell, I can only think of one, but.

REP. TOM EMMER:

I think there's at least six or seven right now that have a very difficult choice. I mean, do they vote against this? And when federal employees are out of work and federal contractors are out of money and people can't get into state parks and can't get the services that they expect, they're going to go home and say, I had a chance to keep it open by keeping current funding levels with no Republican what teasers in there, nothing. I gave the Republicans nothing. Or do I go home and say because Chuck Schumer is scared of losing his job, I decided to support Chuck Schumer at your expense? I think you're going to see

HALLIE:



Congressman. Can I just ask you this, though? Because when you look at numbers, because I've heard you say this. I know you did our friends over at CNBC earlier today and you called this a, quote, Schumer shutdown here. But when you look at some of the numbers, look at the New York Times poll out. Like a lot of Americans blame all of you. A third of Americans blame both you, Republicans and Democrats. They're they're done with that, right? Like they they blame everybody involved. Like how much is that kind of blowback a concern for you? Because I obviously you've said what you're saying here. But to a lot of Americans, they just look at Congress. They look at the building you're in and they go, oh, enough.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, Hallie, if you're talking about the New York Times, you're not talking about a lot of Americans. Let's talk about reality, reality here. No, I disagree with you totally. Pick whatever poll you want. What I'm telling you is that that New York Times does not speak for America. And what Americans know is House Republicans have done their job. We have a current funding level bill in place. Chuck Schumer, who has said you do not hold the government hostage in these things, is doing exactly that. And why? Because he's afraid of losing his job. And he's trying to play politics with his base instead of putting the American people first. I'm telling you right now, if the government shuts down at twelve oh one tonight, it's because of Chuck Schumer and the Democrats in the Senate. And Americans are smarter than the New York Times and all these other political elites give them credit for. They'll understand this. This is going to land right in Chuck Schumer's lap. It is the Chuck Schumer shutdown.

HALLIE:

Can I, Congressman, the literal last thing I want to do is I get into a discussion in the weeds of like New York Times, but it is I would just say it is other polls beyond the nearest Marist, for example, says four into even more Americans would blame Republicans. I just want to make that point. I don't need to litigate it with you, but I feel compelled to point that out. Let me ask you this, because we have

REP. TOM EMMER:

no response for me, even though you know that the polls are going to say whatever they say based on the question that's asked, there's so much more to these polls and you rely on the New York Times. You might as well say the Washington Post. They both are completely skewed.

HALLIE:

I'm not relying on the time just point. It's just a data point. We could have picked a million of them and I will. We'll put it we'll put them up in just a second here. But let me ask you this, because I've covered a lot of shutdowns. Right. I mean, I was there, obviously, for the twenty nineteen one twenty eighteen was short. You've been through this. How do we get out of this cycle? You want to change the fiscal calendar. Is that enough or is that just a bandaid?

REP. TOM EMMER:

The bottom line is you are in a place where we're finally moving back towards a regular order appropriations process. The House and the Senate both made motions to go to conference. Hallie, I don't think that's happened since 2014. That was done the second week of September. They're very close. The conference committee on wrapping up the first three bills with another three ready to go. This is giving them time to finish that appropriations process. Nobody in the C.R. from the House is asking for anything more, anything less. It is a flat spending deal that keeps spending levels right where they're at. No partisan issues involved. And what do we get in response? We've got Chuck Schumer spouting about how this is wrong and he wants one point five



trillion dollars more in spending. He wants to wind down or wind back the reforms we did to Medicaid, because apparently he and his colleagues want to see one point four million illegals have taxpayer funded health care again.

HALLIE:

Well, the Democrats, the Democrats push back on that. They say, obviously,

REP. TOM EMMER:

they can push back all they want, Hallie. But look at the bill filed in the Senate. It's right on that lawful. They want to undo the reforms to Medicaid and they want to allow that one point four million illegals to go back on a taxpayer funded health care. They want 500 million to go to a radical news outlets. They want to take 50 billion dollars away from rural health care. And they want to fund billions of climate projects in foreign countries. That's not negotiating. That's foolish. This should be voted on tonight.

HALLIE:

Congressman, tough Democrats say this issue of undocumented immigrants getting health care is simply not true. There's nothing in the paper that says it. Respectfully,

REP. TOM EMMER:

look at their bill. So are you talking about lawful presidents? Are you what are you talking about? What they're going to vote on tonight? That's exactly. Is there anybody beyond DACA recipients who you would put in that category based on take a look at the bill they filed tonight? What they want to do is the Medicaid reform we put in place to make sure that the verification happens, that Medicaid is actually going to the people it was intended to and not to illegal aliens who it's not intended for. They want to unwind that it's in their bill, Hallie.

HALLIE:

Again, I will. We'll have a I know we'll have a top Democrat joining us next hour. Congressman Emmer, really appreciate you being on. You got a lot. Are you going to be in town the next couple of weeks then? Right. You're here for the duration.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, hopefully they come to their senses and they fund the government tonight and we can put the American people first and get moving on.

HALLIE:

Congressman Emmer, thanks for being on. Really appreciate your time. Let's get you to the.

This transcript was independently produced by MN-06 Watch for accountability and archival purposes.

Source: NBC (September 30, 2025)

Archived: February 04, 2026

Source URL: <https://youtu.be/pK21pZ-2Abw>

For questions or corrections: mn06watch@gmail.com