



Rep. Tom Emmer on Mornings with Maria – February 2, 2026

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MARIA BARTIROMO:

me now is Minnesota Congressman and the House Majority Whip Tom Emmer. Congressman, it's great to see you. Thank you so much for being here. What a mess once again. How do you think this plays out?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, good morning, Maria. The Republicans in the House, Republicans in general are the party of responsibility. We've already passed all 12 spending bills out of the House. The Senate with agreement of Democrats and the White House passed 11 of the 12 back. And as you've just pointed out, the 12th, the Homeland Security Bill has a two week CR. We're going to get it done tonight and we're going to govern for the American people.

MARIA BARTIROMO:

Yeah. It's funny because President Trump mentioned this the other day and he pointed out that isn't it interesting that every time your colleagues agree to funding, they do it right before a really important thing like so you're funded until September, right? Right before the midterm elections.

REP. TOM EMMER:

That is correct. And it does seem to be more than just a coincidence, Maria. But on this one, look, we passed all these House Republicans are taking back the power of the purse. You heard our speaker talk about it. We passed all these across. They should have been passed by the Senate last week. But they've got a problem with the Homeland Security bill. They say because of ICE. Think of this, Maria. We've already funded ICE through 2029. We put \$30 billion into President Trump's big, beautiful bill. So, how can that even be the issue? And now here they are. Hakeem Jeffries and his sorry leadership is going to hold the American people hostage again by trying to obstruct funding when it comes to TSA, when it comes to the Coast Guard, when it comes to FEMA. It's just foolish. It's exactly what they did back in September. It does no one any good. And by the way, Republicans will get this done with President Trump.

MARIA BARTIROMO:

So Congressman, explain how that happens. Is it because you say it's funded already, right? You've already funded these operations and yet your colleagues are saying they're only allowing money for the next two weeks, right?

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Well, they want to negotiate quote unquote reforms in the bill and these are primarily Democrat senators because clearly on the House side, they don't have any answers. All they have is just say no, just be



obstructionist, just hold TSA, FEMA, the border patrol, hold them hostage, hurt the American people. At the end of the day, what happens is that \$30 billion that was passed that funds ICE, the immigration customs agents through 2029. \$30 billion in this bill. There's \$10 billion in the bill that supposedly goes to ICE, but Maria, if you look at it, it's for unaccompanied minor children. That money is in there because the Biden administration lost some 400,000 minors that were flowing across our southern border. In the Trump administration, President Trump is trying to use a government of the whole approach to not only find those kids, but also any kids coming across unaccompanied minors, making sure that they go to family members or responsible adults as opposed to those who might traffic them and abuse them. So, I don't understand why Hakee thinks this is a good idea to harm the children because that's what you're doing.

****MARIA BARTIROMO:**

** Wow. That is just incredible. I mean at the end of the day though, you've got this razor thin majority. I mean, are you going to be able to get this done? You say you are going to be able to vote tomorrow and reopen government, right?

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Rules is meeting tonight as you previously reported. We'll vote on that rule tomorrow morning if all goes well about 11:00. Remember, we're dealing with storms across the country. We expect to have all of our members here at this point. Something could change, but we'll vote on the rule at 11 and we'll vote on the package of bills later in the day tomorrow.

****MARIA BARTIROMO:**

** Congressman, what are the chances that you do another reconciliation bill at the end of the year?

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** That's in large part up to our members. This is something that our speaker is committed to going through the process because quite frankly there's a lot of great stuff that was left on the cutting room floor last summer Maria and we do have the opportunity to do another reconciliation bill which as you know only requires 50 plus one votes in the Senate which is why it's so attractive. We'll see how that process goes here in the next few weeks.

****MARIA BARTIROMO:**

** Meanwhile, a federal judge is declining to halt the administration's immigration crackdown in Minnesota. She says she did not have the authority to do so. The Saturday ruling in response to Minnesota now suing the government, alleging the administration is using operations to coerce changes in state policies and punish Democrat officials. The White House press secretary Caroline Levitt told me on Sunday the president will not waver on his policies on illegal immigration. Watch this. The president will be the decider on any policy changes. But what I know in talking with the president and seeing what this administration has done over the course of the last year is that President Trump is never going to waver in the commitment that he made to the nearly 80 million Americans who voted for him to deport illegal alien criminals who broke our nation's laws to get here and then have committed further crimes of violence against American citizens. And that's why ICE and Border Patrol are true patriots. The Democrats need to agree to stop demonizing them. We've heard despicable rhetoric from people on the left comparing ICE to the Nazi Gestapo, Donald Trump's police force. That is egregious language that has led to the increase in violence, threats, and attacks against ICE agents who are brave men and women who put on the uniform to enforce our nation's immigration laws.



****MARIA BARTIROMO:**

** Well, the rhetoric is just incredible, Congressman. And then, of course, there's Tim Walz who is about to testify. Your thoughts on that because the governor and the AG of Minnesota will be testifying in front of the oversight committee. Minnesota governor and the attorney general are going to do so in front of the house oversight committee on March 4th. James Comer, chairman, saying that it's all part of his investigation into the Minnesota welfare fraud. I know you introduced the Stop Citizenship Abuse and Misrepresentation Act. You're calling it the Scam Act, allowing the government to revoke naturalized citizenship of anybody convicted of fraud within 10 years of becoming an American citizen.

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Yeah, it's just expanding and clarifying on the current law that we already have. Maria, I believe that if you come to this country and this great country and you become a citizen, you should be assimilating. You should be trying to be a great American. If you engage within 10 years of becoming a citizen in espionage, an aggravated felony, or you're working with a foreign terrorist group, you should be denaturalized and sent back to where you came from because clearly you don't appreciate the citizenship opportunity that you have in this country. When it comes to Tim Walz and Keith Ellison, look, Tim Walz said the fraud is make believe, Maria. They're going to come in and testify on March 4th in front of Jamie Comer's oversight committee. And if it's make believe, Tim, where did the \$250 million go that it's estimated that the fraud that went out from your administration the last nine years? And by the way, the \$250 million feeding our future largest pandemic fraud case in the country, Maria, it ain't fraud. They've already indicted 96 people, 85 from our Somali community, and 60 of them have been convicted. There's housing fraud, there's daycare fraud, there's child center fraud. You saw the learning center that Nick Shirley in a matter of hours, Maria found more fraud than Tim Walz and Keith Ellison have found in the last seven years. And it's only because he was looking for it.

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