



Rep. Tom Emmer on THE BRIAN KILMEADE SHOW

FOX RADIO

Broadcast: November 15, 2025 • Location: REMOTE • Duration: 16:57

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** Congressman Tom Emmer here, he's the House Majority Whip, and what a job he has. I mean, when you talk about a slim majority, you cannot, there's almost no margin for error, and that's what's on his plate on a daily basis out of Minnesota. Congressman, I was going to apologize for how cold it was here this week in New York, but you don't care.

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** It's beautiful. This is like tank top weather for you. It's beautiful. I walked over here. It's awesome.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** Right. Yeah, which is good. I mean, a little bit earlier, but are you used to it? I mean, is Minnesota as cold as they say?

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Well, for me, it hasn't been. We've had two wimpy winters in a row, but yes, we'll have a stretch in the past few years with the exception of the last two where you get to, I remember it was raining on Christmas Day. This is within the last five years, and for the next six to eight weeks, the temperature was somewhere around 20 below. I mean, it just stayed there, right? And everybody's thinking, oh, it's global warming. We're not going to have this. And then boom, it's so cold that your tires will freeze where they sit. So when you start driving the next morning, it'll be a little bit of the thump thump until it warms up.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** Wow. I mean, that's incredible. I remember during the Super Bowl that you guys hosted, they would tell our reporters, you cannot take off your gloves, whatever you do. So and you got to cover your face or whatever. But you guys are tough by nature. So it's great to see you. Did anything surprise you about the final tally? I talked to you in the morning before the final vote on on the CR that you got back from, got back from the Senate. Tom Massey didn't vote for it, but you lost Greg Stubbe to well, and I never had a chance to talk to Greg. We tried.

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** But Greg was part of a larger group that we ran into a problem that we didn't expect. And you may not be surprised to know that the Senate snuck a provision in the the when they did it at the night they did it. They put in a provision which on its face made sense to clarify a certain Senate statute that applies to senators when you are taking or taking records or getting a subpoena. There's a statute that, as I understand it, says the senators are supposed to be notified. And as we know, Jack Smith, in his Arctic Frost investigation, I took I think it's eight senators went and got their phone records without their knowledge.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**



** We just found out Kip McCarthy, too. OK, well, the House doesn't have these protections because it was also Mike Kelly.

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** But there is a statute that actually is supposed to protect senators from the standpoint they're supposed to get notice even when there's a subpoena. Well, they clarified that statute because it apparently it wasn't clear if it applies to cell phones, other things. So they did that. But then, Brian, they put a private cause of action in it and said damage is not less than five hundred thousand dollars per occurrence. We almost had a complete jailbreak over that. Our guys were so frustrated by that because it when it looks bad to not sure why they think they're going to get half a million dollars or more for this. But think about this. The frustration in the House, which is kind of a lunch pail, blue collar institution compared to the silk stockings in the Senate, Jack Smith didn't just go after members of Congress. He was serving subpoenas on American citizens and American organizations outside of Congress. Why is it that people in elected office are entitled to greater protection than people that he was attacking? Bad message and unnecessary message. And we're going to fix it. But that I think that's how you lost him.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** Right. So it did pass. You got a few Democrats to cross over. Tom Massey just on another planet. He's got a personal problem with the president of the United States. So we'll see what happens where we go from here. People keep saying, well, didn't you just postpone the next shutdown? It's going to happen January 30th. And I thought one one way to solve that would be to get your appropriations bills done, get everything done ahead of time. You don't have anything to negotiate. Right.

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** That is exactly right. And I you know, people it's it's mostly the media. And I bless you, Brian Kilmeade, for recognizing that this is about getting back to a regular order appropriations process. It's not about, oh, we're going to report. You just have the next shutdown on January 30th. No, no. What we were doing in September was getting back to this regular order appropriations. There were three bills and now you've seen them because they came across with the same CR that we had sent them on the 19th, with the exception of that January date. Now, those three bills, they were ready to close them back in September. I'm told there's another six up to six right now that are that close on the House side to get to the Senate and the Senate. The House passed all 12 out of our appropriations committee. We passed a handful off the House floor. But you'll remember, it's probably old news now. At the beginning of September, both the House and the Senate made motions on their respective floors to go to conference on those first three. So these conference, the communications between Republicans and Democrats in the House and the Senate have been going on since September, Brian. We get those, the appropriations chair in the House, Tom Cole from Oklahoma, who, I mean, you can set your watch to Tom. He believes that he can get 10 of the 12 done in short order and it'll come down to, for instance, the defense appropriations bill and the labor housing bill.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** So let me ask you, did the Democrats, I know for the longest time when you guys were in the minority, you felt like you had no voice in those committees. Did Democrats get, do they speak up? Do you guys work together when they're in committee or do they have a role?

****REP. TOM EMMER:**



** If you are a reasonable, left of center Democrat who wants to govern, and there are some, right? You had six that crossed over to open the government in the House the other night. Tom Suozzi, Jared Goldin. Yeah, I mean, you got people who want to do that kind of work and there's more than that, by the way. There are just others that feared their violent left, I think, more than these guys. Yes, people work together. Believe it or not, to get these things out of committee, to get them across the House floor and now that they're doing conferences, you know, that formal conference committee, Brian, I was told that hadn't happened since 2019. How crazy is that? It's just, there are good things happening.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** But I think that with your role too, because your job, that's your job. I think that you should be doing a lot of that defining, like there's a lot of people that are very smart people. They just have no idea, like the political interwork is having taken American government since 11th grade. Just say, guys, here's the goal. If the goal is to hash it out in committee, the minority has a voice. We get that bill forward, we meet in a conference, we haven't done it yet. And I wonder too, because I know you stayed so late to do the big, beautiful bill, but did anyone consider working through August? I know you guys can't do this and stay away from your families, everyone's got vacation, but I knew that Chuck Schumer couldn't possibly keep his job if he didn't refuse to do your CR after the blowback he got in March. So that was happening, let's say so done. Did you guys discuss that at all, staying in August?

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Oh, there was definitely discussion and the issue though, and it happens every time you run into this impasse and you're getting to the end of July. The issue is the calendar is set, like in the next two, three weeks, we will all get a calendar that Steve Scalise, the majority leader. And before that it would have been Steny Hoyer. They will publish a calendar for the next year. And the closer you get to that August date, the harder it's going to be for you to change that because people are setting. But reality, and this is just one man's opinion, not the whip's opinion, because this is as a member, you should change that. We should do something about the August recess. It's in the wrong place. And by the way, you should also think about changing the September 30th funding deadline. Put it on a regular year schedule, like most businesses are. I did not know that we weren't shutting down the government until 1978.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** Do you see a way that Congress can function without giving either side that shutdown option? Can you put that into language? Because it really hurts people that have no business being hurt. Like for example, the airline industry, like for example, TSA, air traffic controllers, 1.4 million federal workers, and your staff. Is it possible or you don't think that's ever going to happen?

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Well, first off, I'm going to put it in these terms. I've been saying this for a couple of weeks because I get asked, who won the shutdown? Nobody wins shutdowns. And Democrats who did this this time should have read the book because Republicans wrote the darn book on shutdowns. You cannot leverage your policy agenda from the minority by shutting down the federal government. It never works because of what you just said. You are harming everybody that has no, there's no reason to harm 42 million low income Americans who rely on SNAP. There's no reason to shut down the airspace because our air traffic controllers aren't getting paid and TSA and our Capitol Police, etc. But I'm a little different. I believe we're going to have to grow up again. You've already said you've got a lot of people who are very smart people, but they haven't studied civics, American civics, or how it works since the 11th grade. We've got a lot of people coming into Congress that are



going to have to learn very quickly and the American public's going to have to hold them accountable how the art of constitutional governance is supposed to work. This is what has been lost over the last 30 years as we have gone farther and farther apart. You do an army bust, you just fund it. We don't know what's in it. It's a joke.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** And then there's Christmas. Yeah. And we go, what's in this? And Trump said the first time, what the hell is going on here? Basically, I'm new to this. So you just sign this again. Yeah. So you're trying never to give him another omnibus. And I think that's great.

****ANNOUNCER:**

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****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** I want you to hear what AOC said that she finds that Republicans are saying to her 28. I'm sorry, cut 20.

****AOC (AUDIO CLIP):**

** I fully welcome Trump voters into our coalition, and I know that sounds crazy to some people, but just hear me out. I cannot tell you. It just happened to me like two weeks ago. I can't tell you how many times someone has pulled me aside and said either. I was once a big Trump voter and Trump supporter, and I watched Fox News every day. But then I started to kind of expand my world and where I got information. And now I've learned and now I've changed and I'm with you and I learn from you.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** So I that's what she's experienced in real base. She wanted to say that they wanted mega people wanted to try socialism. So the chances of these people really since you've number one, that they exist or number two, that they're saying that I could see mega people saying, you know, I like this about Trump. I don't like that about Trump. I could see that. But I never thought AOC was an option. What about you, Tom Emmer?

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** Miss Ocasio-Cortez is smoking crack because she's not telling you that is not happening. I'm sorry. She lives in a fairytale world that, you know, money grows on trees and, you know, she and Bernie Sanders at all. And now this Marxist communist, I would mom, Tommy. Yeah, this guy's crazy. These guys are not living in reality. There is a reason why 77 million Americans voted for Donald Trump. Do they all love our president's



pugnacious behavior? No. Do they recognize the ideas we're talking about, which is individual freedom, economic liberty, safety and security, a country that's a country because you've got a secure border and getting the worst of the worst, the murderers, the the human traffickers, the those that have committed sexual assault, getting in the heck out of our country, Brian. That's what Americans are excited about. And Miss Ocasio-Cortez is probably like all these other delusional Dems, socialist, communist, whatever, that think that the Tuesday night a week ago or whenever the elections were in Virginia and New York City and in New Jersey, they somehow are trying to spin that as a big win for themselves when, in fact, they won where they were supposed to win. And Jack Cittarelli, he had gubernatorial turnout. Trump's not on the ballot. And he got 100000 more votes than he got with Trump on the ballot or the last time he ran.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** But do you also agree that affordability is a message that you want to take away from that? I would love to have affordability be the message. That's where it's going to work. Yes. Portability on mortgages and other things. Yes. I don't know what legislation would do, but we've got to find a way to unfreeze the market while we wait for rates to come down. You have a if Tom Emmer has a three point five percent mortgage and you want to get a bigger house, it doesn't make financial sense for you to go to a six percent mortgage and make that move. So no one's making that move. Therefore, we don't have the starter homes available to the next generation. This is the economic theory we're hearing. Affordability is going to be the issue.

****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** I love the fact that Donald Trump thinks outside of the box. I mean, talking about a 50 year mortgage. Why not? Right. I mean, there there have to be creative solutions. And by the way, the Fed has got to wake up soon because the current Fed chair has been slow to act all through and now he's indicating he's not going to cut. And that's why the market's taking a hit. It's just it's petty. It's petty. The president has looked at this and been very vocal about it. It'll change by the spring. And guess what, Brian? We passed that bill with the largest middle class tax cut in the history of this country. Largest cut in spending in the history of this country. And permanent tax policy that told the money that was sitting on the sidelines last July. You now know how you're going to be treated. Started in January of twenty six. We don't know what the big beautiful bill does yet because it's not there. It's passed. But now it's not. But it's coming. It's coming to work.

****BRIAN KILMEADE:**

** Tim Walz. Listen to what he said yesterday. Cut 23.

****TIM WALZ (AUDIO CLIP):**

** Because I'd spent some time in China. I taught in China. You might have heard that last fall. God forbid your vice president would like no China and could speak a little Chinese. You know, that would be a horrible thing to have happen now to actually understand China. But Gwen always joked and said, Tim, you did your

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

Source: FOX RADIO (November 15, 2025)

Archived: February 04, 2026

Source URL: <https://youtu.be/5O-zf2ZhCEE>

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