



## Rep. Tom Emmer on The Record

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**\*\*HOST (GRETA):**

\*\* House Majority Whip and Minnesota Republican Congressman Tom Emmers joins me. Nice to see you, sir.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Good to see you, Greta.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* This is really the problem on the other side of the hill right now. But tell me, what do you see transpiring at this point?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Well, it's pretty outrageous what's happened. The House voted back on September 21st on a clean continuing resolution. What does that mean? It means that we are going to keep continuing current funding levels through November 21st. Why did we do that? There was a negotiation between Republicans and Democrats, by the way, back I think the second week of September. For the first time since 2018, both the Senate and the House passed motions to go to conference on appropriations bills. They're very close to wrapping up the first three. They want to move on to three right after that. So the idea is to get back to a regular order appropriations process. This extension was supposed to allow that. Then it went over to the Senate and it just sat there. And now we understand why. Because Chuck Schumer, who's afraid of losing his leadership post. This is what it's all about. Because if you look back just six months ago, he supported the exact same type of CR. And by the way, he and his colleagues in the Senate, Greta, supported the same CR 13 times under the Biden administration. The only thing that's changed is that Donald J. Trump is in the White House. And these guys want to pick a fight at the expense of hardworking Americans who you just mentioned the air traffic controllers. But let's talk about the TSA agents. Let's talk about Customs and Border Patrol. Let's talk about our servicemen and women who, when we get to the 15th, they're already not working for pay. But on the 15th, they won't get their paychecks. And it's all because Chuck Schumer and Democrats in the Senate want to have some kind of fight to make a point for their base, the terrorist wing of their party, that they're fighting with Donald Trump.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* But a fight is a good thing politically if in the end you think you're going to win. I mean, because, you know, I mean, it's maybe not a good thing for the American people. But I don't see what, you know, the Republicans are basically asking for a same court of continuance to November 21st. You can work out your issues with the Democrats. But I don't see, what can he possibly, what would be a win so that he could like, so he could go to the steps of the Capitol and say, we won, we fought the good fight. I mean, what could he possibly achieve?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**



\*\* Well, right now there is no win for the American people because of Chuck Schumer. And think about this, Greta. It'd be one thing for them to message that this is about health care, right? But they filed a bill in the Senate that is a counter to the clean CR. What does that bill provide? \$1.5 trillion more in spending. That's not what the American people want. That's not what they voted for last November. They want to put illegals back on taxpayer funded health care. In the Working Families Tax Cut Act, the CBO estimated that the verification tools that we put in that bill for Medicaid will remove 1.4 million illegals. They want to put them back on.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* Okay. This show starts at four o'clock, so I'm here on time at four o'clock every day. Actually, I come much earlier. I have never understood this year or years past is that everybody in Congress and your party as the majority knows you've got this drop dead date of September 30th. You got it. We got to fund the government, be ready to go at 1201, October 1st, yet for some reason you guys don't do your homework or something. Can you explain to me why? Knowing that deadline and knowing you're going to have it next year and the year after, why is it that you can never meet this deadline and we have this big drama and sometimes shutdowns?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Well, this time it's all about Chuck Schumer in the Senate. We did do our homework and we did negotiate this. The House did. The House did. September 21st.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* Well, except, no, not exactly. You wanted to postpone them until November 21st, so it's sort of like your papers due on the 15th of December and you ask the professor, you get in on the 20th, so you're asking for a little bit of something.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* If we're going to talk about CRs, I don't like them. There's no Republican that I know that likes a CR. The problem is the system has been broken for decades. You have to do 12 appropriations bills. You got to do it regular order and you get them done by midnight on September 30th. The last time that happened was in the 90s. We are trying to get back to that.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* Why did it happen in the 90s? Why could they do it in the 90s and not now?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* That's a great question. Why can't we do it now is a better question. The House has been less than relevant for a long time. The Senate and the White House usually do these deals right at the end of September and then guess what? You get a CR and then you get another one, then you get another one, and then you get one of these big, massive, omnibus bills come next July where everybody wins. No, they don't. The American people lose because everybody gets what they want and you just keep spending and spending. What Republicans are talking about and what the President wants, 12 appropriations bills that actually fund the government for a year instead of some big Christmas tree that everybody puts their light and their ornament on before it's over.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* You know, I guess as a lawyer, I think a worst case scenario and I'm sort of not a fear monger, but I'm always worried something really bad is going to happen. And while this sort of the shutdown is sort of an interesting



opportunity for us to learn a lot of issues about how Congress is run or doesn't run. But I'll tell you, if one airplane has one problem, there's going to be a lot of blood on a lot of hands. And when I see, when I read every day about the stress on these workers who do show up, who aren't calling out sick, and I already know that they were stressed out before this. We saw all the problems in the Newark airport a couple of months ago before September 30th. It scares me. And it's like, I know, I don't know why, but you know, that's my big fear.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* I'm with you totally, Greta, but this could have ended six times already. All you got to do is pass the clean CR that is sitting in the Senate. Hopefully they'll do it tomorrow. We've got to get this thing done. And everybody who's watching, call your Democrat senators. I've got two of them in Minnesota.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* You've got to call Rand Paul. He's a Republican. He's not on your side on this either.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Great. Great. We only need four more Democrats and Rand Paul, you can call him as well. We need the votes. It's four people. That's all we need to get this thing across the line in the Senate without hurting our passengers, air traffic controllers, TSA, our military men and women, women and children and infants on WIC benefits. Thankfully, the president's going to fund those somehow. But it's like all you got to do is vote for it.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* What happens if they vote for it tomorrow? And also the shutdowns lifted and it's voted so that there's a continuing resolution November 21st. Can you tell me what happens November 22nd?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Well, we had Tom Cole at the press conference this morning on the Hill, and Tom Cole's our appropriations chair. He told us you've got three bills that are very close to being closed. You reopen the government. We can get those closed, move on to the next. So we're not. So we're not going to all of a sudden have that. November 21st, we'll have the scramble again. There's a shutdown on the 21st until Christmas, and we see who wants to go home to spend Christmas with his family. Not with Republicans. You won't. But remember, we control the House where we need a simple majority. Democrats have seven votes that they have to give us in the Senate if we're going to get something to the floor and they're blocking it right now.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* I mean, it's just I mean, this is just incredible. I mean, it's like, you know, I mean, there's so many issues on the table and, you know, and it's annoying and hurts a lot of people. A lot of people live paycheck to paycheck, a lot of people protecting us, and that's bad. But it's you know, it's the big thing that could happen.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* I totally agree with you, Greta, but again, this doesn't have to be this way. You just need to get Chuck Schumer and company to vote for you. So you got your deal passed the House. Congratulations. It's not you guys. It's the Senate.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* What are the Democrats saying to you in the House?



**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Well, the Democrats in the House have no leader. They have no message. I mean. But they've managed to get it by, but I guess it's right. Party lines with one Democrat vote. Who is that? Every other Democrat. Jared Golden from Maine voted with the Republicans. There were a couple others. The vote closed that came running down that I think wanted to vote for it, but they weren't there. Now, that's another thing. Not showing up for the vote. I mean, that's it. I show up at four o'clock every day. You know, you've got to be on time. You're hired to do a job. You show up and you do your job in this case, though. Now you hear them crying about we need to call the House back because we need to vote to pay our troops. We need. You already had the vote. You all voted no. You voted not to vote to support the troops, not to support TSA, not to support air traffic controllers. Now you want to come back and revote after you got buyer's remorse. Call your senators and tell them to vote for the CR so that we can get this thing open and get our job done.

**\*\*GRETA:**

\*\* The vast majority whip Tom Emmer from the great state of Minnesota. Thank you, sir.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Thank you very much.

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For questions or corrections: mn06watch@gmail.com