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THE CONTEXT

We Averted a Shutdown—But At What Cost?

Thank you for joining us for **Sunday Brunch with Higher Heights**—a space where we gather to build power, hold leaders accountable, and create change.

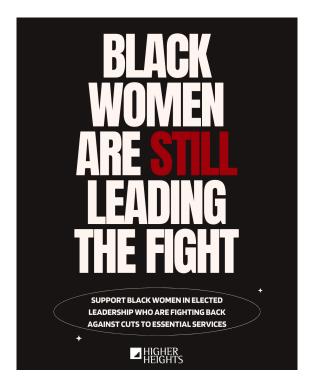
Washington may have avoided a government shutdown, but let's be clear—our communities are still paying the price. Instead of standing firm to protect working families, students, and essential services, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and other Senate leadership caved to a deal that leaves Black women and our families behind. This isn't a win—it's a warning.

- Mass layoffs at the Department of Education Over 800 workers were let go, disproportionately impacting Black women and families who rely on student loan services and federal education programs.
- Funding cuts that hit US the hardest While billionaires and corporations
 continue to get tax breaks, Black women are forced to bear the brunt of
 budget cuts that strip essential resources from education, healthcare, and
 social services.
- A pattern of political surrender When push comes to shove, leadership folds instead of fighting for the people who put them in power.

Black women have always been at the forefront of change, and we refuse to accept leadership that sacrifices our families and futures for the sake of political convenience. We need real fighters in office—leaders who won't back down when our communities are on the line.

What Can We Do?

- Call Senate leadership and demand answers and accountability.
- Support and elect Black women leaders who will fight for us.
- Use our collective power to ensure Washington works for US.



DOWNLOAD GRAPHIC

CELEBRATE BLACK WOMEN LEADERS

Senator Angela Alsobrooks

"I will be voting 'no'... We need to make sure that we pass a bill that represents the best of the American people, not a one-sided sham for Elon Musk." – @AlsobrooksForMD #BlackWomenLead #HoldTheLine

Representative Lauren Underwood

"The Trump administration's flurry of executive orders and policy actions are harming our communities... Our rights are getting stripped away." – @RepUnderwood #ProtectOurCare #BlackWomenLead 🔾

Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester

"I am deeply concerned about the administration's moves to shut down all EPA Environmental Justice offices... These actions disproportionately affect our most vulnerable communities." – @RepLBR #EnvironmentalJustice #BlackWomenLead

Call to Action Posts

Stand w/@AlsobrooksForMD, @RepUnderwood, and @RepLBR who exemplify the resilience and advocacy of Black women in politics, standing firm against policies that undermine the well-being of our communities. #BlackWomenLead

Black women are leading the fight for our families and futures. Stand with leaders like @AlsobrooksForMD, @RepUnderwood, and @RepLBR who refused to back down! #BlackWomenLead #WeWillNotBeSilenced

CALL TO ACTION: CONTACT SENATE LEADERSHIP

Tell them we need leaders who fight for US, not billionaires. Call the Senators that voted to advance this devastating government spending bill:

Call Schumer: 202-224-6542
Call the others who voted Yes:

Cantwell: 202-224-3441

Cortez Masto: 202-224-3542Duckworth: 202-224-2854

• Durbin: 202-224-2152

Fetterman: 202-224-4254
Gillibrand: 202-224-4451
Hassan: 202-224-3324
Hirono: 202-224-6361

Tag Senate Leadership on Social Media:

Use your voice online—let them know we are watching.

- → Chuck Schumer <a>@SenSchumer (Twitter/X), <a>@chuckschumer (Instagram)
- → Maria Cantwell @SenatorCantwel
- → Catherine Cortez Masto <u>@SenCortezMasto</u>
- → Tammy Duckworth @SenDuckworth
- → Dick Durbin @SenatorDurbin
- → John Fetterman @SenFettermanPA
- → Kirsten Gillibrand @SenGillibrand
- → Maggie Hassan @SenatorHassan

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS & GRAPHICS FOLDER HERE

We averted a shutdown—but at what cost? Mass layoffs at the Dept. of Education. Cuts to programs Black women rely on. Call Senate leadership and demand answers.

202-224-6542 #BlackWomenLead #HoldTheLine

800+ jobs lost at the Department of Education. Black families will feel the impact. This isn't leadership—it's a betrayal. **Tag your Senators & demand accountability.** #WeDeserveBetter #BlackWomenLead

Budget cuts for working families. Billions for billionaires. The cost of avoiding a shutdown shouldn't fall on Black communities. **Join us in holding the Senate accountable.** #StandUpForUS #BlackWomenLead

if our leaders won't fight for us, we'll elect those who will. This is why Black women vote. Strategize together during our weekly Sunday Brunch. RSVP: HHFA.US/2025-BRUNCH #PowerInAction #BlackWomenLead

The Real Cost of the Spending Bill: Black Women vs. Billionaires

- ★ Who Benefits?
- Billionaires & corporations keep their tax breaks
- Defense contractors get billions more in funding
- Wall Street continues to cash in on our economy
- Who Pays the Price?
- X 800+ workers laid off at the Department of Education
- X Cuts to student loan servicing, making repayment harder for Black borrowers
- X Reductions in essential social programs, hitting Black women the hardest
- X No real investment in childcare, healthcare, or working families

The message is clear: **our communities are not the priority.** And that's exactly why we must hold leadership accountable. **Call. Tag. Vote. Organize.**#BlackWomenLead

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Black women are the architects of democracy. If we want real change, we have to demand it. Take action with Higher Heights!

- Follow & engage with us: @HigherHeights
- 📩 Sign up for updates and Become a Member
- Invest in our movement: https://secure.actblue.com/donate/hhfa-2025

#BlackWomenLead #HigherHeights