

Several Republican Senators Who Signed Onto A Letter In Support Of The MAGA Default Bill Have Previously Voted To Raise The Debt Ceiling Numerous Times Under President Trump

Summary: On April 19, 2023, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) [released a Republican](#) plan to raise the debt ceiling by \$1.5 trillion. The plan, described as a "[ransom note](#)," calls for significant spending cuts, ends funding for the IRS, and abolishes funding for other policy priorities of President Biden. On April 26, 2023, the House of Representatives [ultimately passed](#) Speaker McCarthy's debt limit bill. On May 6, 2023, 43 Republican Senators—led by Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT)—sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) saying they are "[united](#)" behind Speaker McCarthy's bill. Republicans wrote they will "[not be voting for cloture](#)" if the bill to raise the debt limit does not include "[substantive spending and budget reforms](#)."

However, during the Trump Administration, Republicans in the Senate [voted three times](#) to suspend or raise the debt ceiling. A review of votes by Accountable.US found that of the 43 signatories of the letter to Majority Leader Schumer, **26 Republicans voted to raise the debt ceiling at least once during the Trump Administration** and **11 Republicans voted all three times** to suspend or raise the debt limit as a member of the House or Senate:

- **Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)**—[chair](#) of the Senate Republican Conference—voted all three times to suspend or lift the debt limit under President Trump.
- **Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)**—who signed onto the Republican letter affirming support for the U.S. House bill—previously said he did not want debt ceiling fights to shut down the government or prevent it from "[paying our bills](#)."
- **Sen. Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV)**—who signed onto the Republican letter—voted in support of raising the debt limit in 2019, saying it's not in "[anybody's best interest to have](#)" a debt ceiling fight that close to the deadline.
- **Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX)**—who joined Republicans in their letter to Sen. Schumer—said in 2019 that one of the most important effects of getting a deal passed was to "[provide stability for our nation](#)" and avoid a potential government shutdown.
- **Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-ND)**—who signed onto the Republican letter and voted twice as a member of the House to raise the debt ceiling and once as a Senator—said in July 2019 it was important to raise the debt ceiling "[at some point](#)," adding not doing so would be "[a cascading problem of an economic response](#)" and "[would have ramifications for the stock market](#)."
- **Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND)**—who joined fellow Republicans affirming support for McCarthy's plan—supported the August 2019 budget deal and released a statement that praised the deal as "[fund\[ing\] the government and ensur\[ing\] our nation meets its financial obligations](#)."
- **Sen. Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY)**—who signed onto the Republican letter—urged Congress during 2019 floor remarks to vote in favor of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, stating Congress "[need\[ed\] to address the debt limit and secure the full faith and credit of the United States](#)."
- **Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD)**—who signed onto the Republican letter—said Republicans "need to support" President Trump by raising the debt ceiling, praising the August 2019 deal for "[prioritiz\[ing\]](#)

[veterans while simultaneously avoiding a default on our debt.](#)

- **Sen. John Thune (R-SD)**—the current [Senate Minority Whip](#)—stressed the importance of raising the debt ceiling in 2019 in order to "[fund the government and make sure we don't default on our obligations.](#)"
- **Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS)**—who signed onto the Republican letter—had faith in 2019 that "[in the end there will be enough members to do the responsible thing](#)" by joining him in voting to raise the debt ceiling.
- **Sen. Todd Young (R-IN)**—who joined Republicans in signing the letter to Sen. Schumer—praised the 2019 debt ceiling increase as "[provid\[ing\] funding certainty for our armed forces and ensur\[ing\] our military readiness.](#)"

Table Of Contents

Background on House Republican Default Bill.....	4
Background on Senate Republican Letter Supporting House Republican Default Bill.....	5
Background on Debt Limit Increases During Trump Administration	6
Letter Signatories Support For Debt Limit Increases During Trump Administration.....	6
Past Statements In Supprot Of Debt Limit Increases During Trump Administration	8
Sen. John Boozman (R-AR).....	8
Sen. Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV).....	8
Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX).....	8
Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-ND).....	9
Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND).....	11
Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS).....	12
Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY).....	12
Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD).....	14
Senate Republican Whip John Thune (R-SD).....	15
Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS).....	16
Sen. Todd Young (R-IN).....	16

On April 19, 2023, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy Released A Republican Proposal To Raise The Debt Limit By \$1.5 Trillion, Returning Spending To 2022 Levels And Capping Annual Spending Growth At 1%, While Also Gutting The IRS, Ending Tax Incentives For Green Energy And Ending Biden's Student Loan Forgiveness Plan, Among Other Cuts.

On April 19, 2023, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) Unveiled A Republican Plan To Raise The U.S. Debt Ceiling By \$1.5 Trillion, Returning Spending To 2022 Levels, While Capping Annual Spending Growth At 1 Percent.

April 2023: House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) Announced A Republican Plan To Raise The U.S. Debt Ceiling By \$1.5 Trillion, While Calling For Spending To Return To 2022 Levels And Capping Annual Spending Growth At 1 Percent. "Republican U.S. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy on Wednesday unveiled a plan to raise the nation's debt ceiling by \$1.5 trillion and cut federal spending by three times that amount, laying out an opening position in what is likely to be a tense partisan debate over government borrowing. McCarthy's proposal, which he unveiled on the floor of the House of Representatives, would cut the total amount of domestic and military spending to 2022 levels and cap growth at 1% annually in years to come. It would not touch retirement and health programs that are projected to expand dramatically as the population ages." [Reuters, [04/19/23](#)]

The Proposal Would Also Rescind Funding For The IRS, End Tax Incentives For Companies To Invest In Green Energy, And End Biden's Student Loan Forgiveness Plan, Among Other Spending Cuts.

The Proposal "Would Rescind Funding For 87,000 IRS Agents"—Part Of Biden's Inflation Reduction Act —And Would "End Tax Incentives For Companies That Invest In Green Energy And Eliminate Biden's Student Loan Forgiveness Plan." "McCarthy said the legislation would rescind funding for 87,000 IRS agents outlined in Biden's Inflation Reduction Act, end tax incentives for companies that invest in green energy and eliminate Biden's student loan forgiveness plan." [USA Today, [04/19/23](#)]

- **Other Provisions "Include Raising The Age Limit On Work Requirements To Receive Federal Food Aid" And "Prevent[ing] The Biden Administration From Limiting Consumer Access To Gas Stoves Or Ovens."** "Other proposed cuts include raising the age limit on work requirements to receive federal food aid from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, from 50 to 56 years old. The bill would also prevent the Biden administration from limiting consumer access to gas stoves or ovens – a new rallying cry for Republicans." [USA Today, [04/19/23](#)]

On May 6, 2023, A Group Of 43 Republican Senators Led By Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) Said They Were "United" Behind House Republicans' Debt Limit Proposal, Described As A "Ransom Note" By House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), In A Letter Sent To Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY).

On May 6, 2023, 43 Republicans Led By Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) Sent A Letter To Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) Saying They Were "United" Behind House Republicans And Would Oppose Raising Or Suspending The Debt Ceiling Without "Substantive" Spending Cuts.

May 6, 2023" 43 Republican Senators Led By Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) Sent A Letter To Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) Saying They "Oppose Raising The Debt Ceiling Without Substantive Spending And Budget Reforms." "Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) leads a group of 43 Republican Senators in sending the letter below to Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer. The letter expresses a collective commitment to oppose raising the debt ceiling without substantive spending and budget reforms." [Senator Mike Lee, [05/06/23](#)]

- "The letter is signed by Senators Mike Lee, John Barrasso, Marsha Blackburn, John Boozman, Mike Braun, Ted Budd, Shelley Moore Capito, Bill Cassidy, Katie Britt, John Cornyn, Tom Cotton, Mike Crapo, Ted Cruz, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, Joni Ernst, Deb Fischer, Lindsey Graham, Chuck Grassley, Bill Hagerty, John Hoeven, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ron Johnson, James Lankford, Cynthia Lummis, Roger Marshall, Mitch McConnell, Jerry Moran, Markwayne Mullin, Pete Ricketts, James Risch, Marco Rubio, Mike Rounds, Tim Scott, Rick Scott, Eric Schmitt, Dan Sullivan, John Thune, Thom Tillis, Tommy Tuberville, J.D. Vance, Roger Wicker, and Todd Young." [Senator Mike Lee, [05/06/23](#)]

The Letter States, "The Senate Republican Conference Is United Behind The House Republican Conference In Support Of Spending Cuts." "The Senate Republican conference is united behind the House Republican conference in support of spending cuts and structural budget reform as a starting point for negotiations on the debt ceiling." [Senator Mike Lee, [05/06/23](#)]

The Group Of Senate Republicans Ended The Letter Saying They "Will Not Be Voting For Cloture" Unless Raising The Debt Ceiling Includes "Substantive Spending And Budget Reforms." "As such, we will not be voting for cloture on any bill that raises the debt ceiling without substantive spending and budget reforms." [Senator Mike Lee, [05/06/23](#)]

On April 28, 2023, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) Described The Republicans' Debt Limit Plan As A "Ransom Note."

April 28, 2023: After House Republicans Passed Their Debt Limit Proposal, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) Described The Legislation As "A Ransom Note." "Democrats lashed out at House Republicans for passing a bill with deep spending cuts in exchange for raising the nation's debt limit. 'House Republicans produced a ransom note,' House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries told reporters on Friday (April 28)." [Reuters, [04/28/23](#)]

During The Trump Administration, Republicans Passed Three Measures To Suspend Or Raise The Debt Ceiling, Including Those "Increas[ing] Discretionary Spending Limits For Defense And Nondefense Spending."

During The Trump Administration, Republicans Agreed To Suspend Or Raise The Debt Limit Three Times In Order To "Accommodate," The United States' Debt Obligations.

September 2017: "H.R.601 - Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018 And Supplemental Appropriations For Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2017," Was Signed Into Law Suspending The Debt Limit Through December 8, 2017, And Increasing The Limit On December 9, 2017. "Suspends the public debt limit

through December 8, 2017. Increases the limit on December 9, 2017, to accommodate obligations issued during the suspension period." [Congress.gov, accessed [05/08/23](#)]

February 2018: "H.R.1892 - Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2018" Was Signed Into Law On February 9, 2018, Suspending The Debt Limit Until March 2019 And Then Raising It "To Accommodate Obligations Issued During The Suspension Period." "The public debt limit is suspended through March 1, 2019. On March 2, 2019, the limit is increased to accommodate obligations issued during the suspension period." [Congress.gov, accessed [05/08/23](#)]

August 2019: "H.R.3877 - Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019 Was Signed Into Law On August 2, 2019, "Increasing Discretionary Spending Limits For Defense And Nondefense Spending." "The bill increases the FY2020 and FY2021 discretionary spending limits for defense and nondefense spending. The bill also (1) specifies limits for Overseas Contingency Operations funding, which is exempt from discretionary spending limits; and (2) requires the FY2020 discretionary spending limits to be adjusted to accommodate specified funding for the 2020 Census." [Congress.gov, accessed [05/08/23](#)]

26 Of The Group Of 43 Republican Signatories Voted To Raise The Debt Ceiling At Least Once During The Trump Administration, And Of These, 11 Voted To Raise The Debt Ceiling All Three Times, Including Votes As Members of the House Of Representatives.

26 Out Of 43 Letter Signatories Voted To Raise The Debt Ceiling During The Trump Presidency With 11 Signatories Voting To Raise The Debt Ceiling All Three Times, Including Votes As Members of the House Of Representatives.

26 Signatories Voted At Least Once To Raise The Debt Ceiling During The Trump Administration, Including As A Member Of The House Of Representatives.

11 Signatories Voted For All Three Debt Ceiling Increases During The Trump Administration, Including As A Member Of The House Of Representatives.

Senator	H.R. 601 (09/08/17)	H.R. 1892 (02/09/18)	H.R. 3877 (08/02/19)	Total Votes To Raise The Debt Ceiling During Trump Administration
Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT)	NAY	NAY	NAY	0
Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)	--	--	NAY	0
Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
Sen. Mike Braun (R-IN)	--	--	NAY	0
Sen. Ted Budd (R-NC)	NAY*	NAY*	NAY*	0
Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA)	YEA	NAY	NAY	1
Sen. Katie Britt (R-AL)	--	--	--	0
Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR)	YEA	YEA	NAY	2
Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID)	YEA	NAY	YEA	2
Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX)	YEA	YEA	NAY	2
Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-ND)	YEA*	YEA*	YEA	3
Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT)	NAY	NAY	NAY	0

Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA)	NAY	YEA	YEA	2
Sen. Deb Fischer (R-NE)	NAY	YEA	NAY	1
Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	NAY	YEA	YEA	2
Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA)	NAY	NAY	YEA	1
Sen. Bill Hagerty (R-TN)	--	--	--	0
Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS)	--	--	YEA	1
Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI)	NAY	NAY	NAY	0
Sen. James Lankford (R-OK)	NAY	NAY	NAY	0
Sen. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY)	--	--	--	0
Sen. Roger Marshall (R-KS)	--	--	--	0
Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS)	NAY	YEA	YEA	2
Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-OK)	NAY*	YEA*	NAY*	1
Sen. Pete Ricketts (R-NE)	--	--	--	0
Sen. James Risch (R-ID)	NAY	NAY	NAY	0
Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Not Voting	YEA	NAY	1
Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)	YEA	YEA	NAY	2
Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL)	--	--	NAY	0
Sen. Eric Schmitt (R-MO)	--	--	--	0
Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AR)	Not Voting	YEA	YEA	2
Sen. John Thune (R-SD)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC)	YEA	YEA	NAY	2
Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-AL)	--	--	--	0
Sen. J.D. Vance (R-OH)	--	--	--	0
Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
Sen. Todd Young (R-IN)	YEA	YEA	YEA	3
YEA Votes	16	22	18	

*Vote made as Member of the House of Representatives

Several Republican Signatories That Voted To Raise The Debt Ceiling During The Trump Presidency Cited A Variety Of Reasons For Doing So, Including The Need To Avert A Government Shutdown And That "Failing To Pass An Agreement Would Have Sent The United States Into Default For The First Time In Its History."

Sen. John Boozman (R-AR), Who Voted In Support Of Raising The Debt Limit Every Time During The Trump Presidency, Said He Wanted To Raise The Limit To Avoid Shutting Down The Government.

September 8, 2017: Senator Boozman Voted In Support Of H.R. 601, The Continuing Appropriations Act Of 2018, Which Increased The Debt Limit. [United States Senate, accessed [09/08/17](#)]

- **H.R. 601 Suspended The Debt Limit Through December 8, 2017, And Increased The Limit On December 9, 2017. [Congress.gov, accessed [05/08/23](#)]**
- **August 6, 2017: Senator Boozman Said He Did Not Want Debt Ceiling Negotiations To Shut Down The Government Or Prevent The Government From "Paying Our Bills." "Well I certainly don't want to shut down the government over it in the sense of not paying our bills. On the other hand,**

when you look traditionally many times, we've been able to get really significant promises, significant legislation tied with that that's controlled our spending." [YouTube, [08/06/17 \(05:27\)](#)]

Senator Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV), Who Voted in Support of Lifting the Debt Ceiling in August 2019, Voiced Urgency In The Need To Get A Budget Deal Done Because It Is Not In "Anybody's Best Interest To Have That Fight In September Up Against The Debt Limit."

August 1, 2019: Senator Capito Voted In Support Of H.R. 3877, The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit. "A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, to establish a congressional budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, to temporarily suspend the debt limit, and for other purposes." [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

In July 2019, Senator Capito Voiced Urgency In The Need To Get A Budget Deal Done In Order To Address The Debt Limit, Arguing It Was Not In "'Anybody's Best Interest To Have That Fight In September Up Against The Debt Limit.'" "I think we need to hustle to a caps deal as soon as we possibly can and include the debt limit in it, no doubt,' said Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. [...] Shelby said the mere possibility that the debt ceiling could be breached in September should give 'more sense of urgency' to Congress taking quick action, while Capito said it was not in 'anybody's best interest to have that fight in September up against the debt limit.'" [The Hill, [07/10/19](#)]

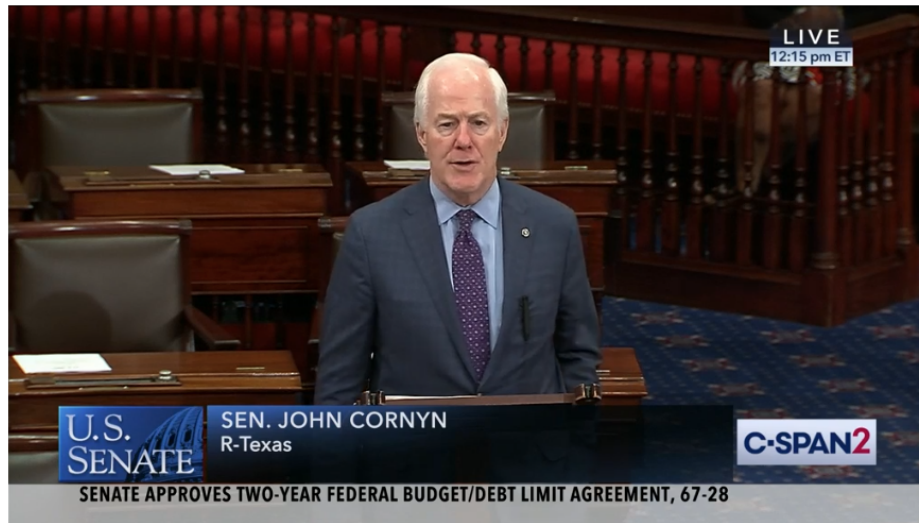
Senator John Cornyn (R-TX), Who Voted In Support Of Lifting The Debt Ceiling In August 2019, Believed One Of The Most Important Effects Of Getting The Deal Done Was To "Provide Stability For Our Nation" And Avoid A Potential Government Shutdown.

August 1, 2019: Senator Cornyn Voted In Support Of H.R. 3877, The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit. "A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, to establish a congressional budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, to temporarily suspend the debt limit, and for other purposes." [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

Speaking Of The Budget Deal, Senator Cornyn Said One Of Its Most Important Effects Was Avoiding A Potential Government Shutdown. "The bill raises spending by \$324 billion and lifts the debt ceiling for two years. But Texas Republican John Cornyn says most importantly: passing the funding agreement will help avoid the possibility of a government shutdown. Cornyn says the deal would also boost defense spending and provides more money for things like border patrol, forest management and civil rights enforcement." [ABC27 News, [08/01/19](#)]

Cornyn Said, "The Funding Agreement We Just Passed Will Provide Stability For Our Nation Through 2020," That It Would Help Avert A Government Shutdown, And "Provides Us The Time And Space For Wide-Ranging Debate" About Spending. "With the passage of this bipartisan budget deal, we've now taken care of our final piece of business for this work period. The funding agreement we just passed will provide stability for our nation through 2020 and deliver on some of the administration's key priorities. It's been the result of extensive negotiations between President Trump and Speaker Pelosi and represents a compromise between two sides that typically don't agree on much. And yeah, compromise is still not a dirty word. [...] By passing this funding agreement, we are avoiding the possibility of government shutdown again this fall. Instead, it provides us the time and space for wide-ranging debate about our government's spending habits." [C-SPAN, [08/01/19 \(02:45:00\)](#)]

Video:



[C-SPAN, [08/01/19 \(02:45:00\)](#)]

Prior To The Budget Deal That Lifted The Debt Ceiling In August 2019, Senator Kevin Cramer (R-ND) Said "We Have To Raise The Debt Ceiling At Some Point," Noting That Not Doing So Causes "A Cascading Problem Of An Economic Response" And Would "Have Ramifications For The Stock Market."

August 1, 2019: Senator Cramer Voted In Support Of H.R. 3877, The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit. "A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, to establish a congressional budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, to temporarily suspend the debt limit, and for other purposes." [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

As Congress Worked Towards A Budget Deal To Increase The Debt Ceiling, Senator Cramer Spoke Out On The Impact It Would Have On North Dakotans, Specifically Citing The Negative Effect A Government Shutdown Would Have On The "Agricultural, Energy And Retail Sectors Of North Dakota." "As Congress works to pass a deal that would raise the debt ceiling before September, Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-ND) describes how North Dakota will be impacted. [...] The agricultural, energy and retail sectors of North Dakota would all be impacted if the debt ceiling fails to be raised as industries that rely on government funding, Cramer explained. 'Those days where you're not getting the dollar are lost forever, and it does disrupt the flow,' Cramer said. 'It's also disheartening. It has a societal effect.'" [Gray DC, [07/17/19](#)]

July 17, 2019: Cramer Said, "We Have To Raise The Debt Ceiling At Some Point," Noting That Not Doing So Would "Have Ramifications For The Stock Market." "So the debt ceiling is going to be hit sooner than they thought. And by that, I mean the government runs out of borrowing money to pay the bills. And that's going to happen probably in mid-September. And the reason that's urgent in early July is because of course Congress is not in session for about five weeks through August and early September. But that means the sooner we deal with it the better. Okay, We have to raise the debt ceiling at some point, because if we don't, we can't pay our bills and then we're on a cash-only basis. That would have ramifications for the stock market. It would mean the country could probably, well we'd pay cash, but that's not nearly enough day to day for all of the things that we fund." [Gray DC, [07/17/19 \(00:05\)](#)]

Cramer Said Not Raising The Debt Ceiling Would Create "A Cascading Problem Of An Economic Response," Adding "We Don't Want That To Happen." "So, you would have bills not getting paid. You would have promises not being kept. You'd have an obvious problem. But beyond that you'd have a cascading problem of an economic response, including the stock markets, and confidence would sink. So, it's really a cascading problem. We don't want that to happen. It's not going to happen. We will pass a debt ceiling increase." [Gray DC, [07/17/19 \(00:48\)](#)]

On The Budget, Cramer Said Of Avoiding A Government Shutdown, "I Think Everybody Has Learned Their Lesson." "On the budget side I am pretty confident of that. I think everybody has learned their lesson. Everybody that's currently in office, from the Congress to the White House. I think people know that's not, that's not a repeat that we're looking forward to – that is either a total or partial government shutdown. People are so committed on the defense side." [Gray DC, [07/17/19 \(09:53\)](#)]

VIDEO:



[Gray DC, [07/17/19](#)]

Leading Up To The Budget Deal, Senator Cramer Even Praised Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) For Her Work In Negotiating A Deal, Stating That "She Seems To Want A Deal As Much As The President Wants A Deal, And She Should." "Republican Sen. Kevin Cramer praised House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's work on the debt ceiling, telling CNBC on Friday that the final deal "doesn't need to be perfect." 'I've been pretty impressed with the way Speaker Pelosi has negotiated with Secretary Mnuchin in the past week or two. She seems to want a deal as much as the president wants a deal, and she should. Good politics is good for all players,' Cramer said on 'Squawk Box.'" [CNBC, [07/19/19](#)]

Senator John Hoeven (R-ND), Who Supported The August 2019 Budget Deal, Released A Statement Following Its Passage That Praised The Deal As "Fund[ing] The Government And Ensur[ing] Our Nation Meets Its Financial Obligations."—In 2011, Hoeven Said "The Uncertainty With The Spending And The Debt Ceiling Issue Is Part Of What's Holding Private Investment Back."

August 1, 2019: Senator Hoeven Voted In Support Of H.R. 3877, The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit." "A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, to establish a congressional budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, to temporarily suspend the debt limit, and for other purposes." [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

Following Passage Of The Bipartisan Budget Act, Senator Hoeven Released A Statement In Which He Praised The Deal As "Fund[ing] The Government And Ensur[ing] Our Nation Meets Its Financial Obligations At A Funding Level Below The House-Passed Appropriations Bills." "Senator John Hoeven released the following statement after Congress passed a bipartisan two-year budget agreement: 'The Trump Administration negotiated with House Democrats to reach an agreement that will allow us to fund the government and ensure our nation meets its financial obligations at a funding level below the House-passed appropriations bills.'" [Office of Senator Hoeven, [08/01/19](#)]

Hoeven's Statement Goes On To State That The "Budget Deal Ensures That We Can Continue To Make Critical Investments To Rebuild Our Military And Support Our Veterans." "While I would have liked to find additional savings, the Administration negotiated the best deal they could and secured \$77 billion in offsets. At the same time, the budget deal ensures that we can continue to make critical investments to rebuild our military and support our veterans." [Office of Senator Hoeven, [08/01/19](#)]

June 29, 2011: Hoeven Said, "The Uncertainty With The Spending And The Debt Ceiling Issue Is Part Of What's Holding Private Investment Back," Which He Said Was Needed "To Get Our Economy Going."

"From what we've seen, this would send a tremendous signal to the markets that would help with private investment that we need to get our economy going, that we need for job creation, that we need for economic growth. This is fundamentally important because this provides the certainty that we need to get economic growth going. The uncertainty with the spending and the debt ceiling issue is part of what's holding private investment back. We need that private investment to get our economy going, to get job creation going. And that, combined with controlling our spending is what's going to get us out of the deficit and the debt problem that we face." [C-SPAN, [06/29/11 \(15:39\)](#)]

- **Hoeven Was Speaking At A Press Conference In Which Senate Republicans Discussed Debt Ceiling Negotiations And A Balanced Budget Amendment.** "Senate Republicans talked about their support for a constitutional balanced budget amendment. The amendment would require the president to submit and Congress to pass a balanced budget each year, cap federal spending at 18 percent of gross domestic product, and also require a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate to raise taxes. They also talked about the state of the negotiations on the raising the federal debt ceiling." [C-SPAN, [06/29/11](#)]

VIDEO:



[C-SPAN, [06/29/11 \(15:39\)](#)]

Following Her Decision To Support The August 2019 Budget Deal, Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) Released A Statement Asserting That "Failing To Pass An Agreement Would Have Sent The United States Into Default For The First Time In Its History."

August 1, 2019: Senator Hyde-Smith Voted In Support Of H.R. 3877, The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit. "A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, to establish a congressional budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, to temporarily suspend the debt limit, and for other purposes." [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

Senator Hyde-Smith's Office Described Her Vote For The Bipartisan Budget Act As "The Responsible Choice Needed To Continue The [President Trump's] Agenda To Rebuild The U.S. Military, Secure The Border, And Protect The Full Faith And Credit Of The United States." "U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) today said her vote for a two-year budget agreement was the responsible choice needed to continue the President's agenda to rebuild the U.S. military, secure the border, and protect the full faith and credit of the United States." [Office of Senator Hyde-Smith, [08/01/19](#)]

Hyde-Smith's Press Release Goes On To State That "Failing To Pass An Agreement Would Have Sent The United States Into Default For The First Time In Its History." "Without the agreement, budget sequestration mandated in the 2011 Budget Control Act would have forced steep indiscriminate spending cuts across all federal departments, agencies, and programs, including those serving the military, veterans, farmers, and seniors. In addition, failing to pass an agreement would have sent the United States into default for the first time in its history." Office of Senator Hyde-Smith, [08/01/19](#)

In August 2019, Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) Voted For A Bipartisan Bill Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit" Through July 21, 2021, Stating That The Senate "Need[ed] To Address The Debt Limit And Secure The Full Faith And Credit Of The United States"...

Senator Mitch McConnell Is The Current Senate Republican Minority Leader. [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

August 1, 2019: Senator McConnell Voted In Support Of H.R. 3877, The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit." "A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, to establish a congressional budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, to temporarily suspend the debt limit, and for other purposes." [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

- **"The Bill Suspends The Public Debt Limit Through July 31, 2021."** [Congress.gov, accessed [06/24/21](#)]
- **The Bipartisan Bill Passed The Senate By A Vote Of 67-28 And The House By 284-149.** [Congress.gov, accessed [06/24/21](#)]

During Floor Remarks Made In Support Of The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Senator McConnell Stated The Senate "Need[ed] To Address The Debt Limit And Secure The Full Faith And Credit Of The United States." "But today, the Senate will turn our attention to legislation. We need to address the debt limit and secure the full faith and credit of the United States. We need to continue to secure the funding that our national defense demands. Fortunately, the pending legislation will accomplish precisely that." [Office of Republican Leader McConnell, [08/01/19](#)]

McConnell Had Been "Lobbying GOP Senators Hard" To Secure Support For The Deal. "The Senate passed a two-year bipartisan budget deal and sent it to President Donald Trump's desk for his signature, putting an end to the threat of a debt crisis this fall and easing the path toward funding the government past Sept. 30. The vote was 67-28, with a majority of Senate Republicans supporting the measure. Trump and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) had been lobbying GOP senators hard the past several days to gain their approval, and their efforts paid off Thursday morning." [Politico, [08/01/19](#)]

...McConnell Said That, Due To The Deal, "Congress Will Not Throw This Kind Of Unnecessary Wrench Into The Gears Of Our Job Growth And Thriving Economy."

McConnell Added That, Due To The Debt Agreement Reached In The Act, "Congress Will Not Throw This Kind Of Unnecessary Wrench Into The Gears Of Our Job Growth And Thriving Economy."

"Fortunately, the pending legislation will accomplish precisely that. In recent weeks, key officials on President Trump's team engaged in extensive negotiations with Speaker Pelosi and the Democratic House. Given the exigencies of divided government, we knew that any bipartisan agreement on funding levels would not appear perfect to either side. But the administration negotiated a strong deal. 'First and foremost, it ensures our federal government will not approach any kind of short-term debt crisis in the coming weeks or months. It secures our nation's full-faith and credit and ensures that Congress will not throw this kind of unnecessary wrench into the gears of our job growth and thriving economy.'" [Office of Republican Leader McConnell, [08/01/19](#)]

In September 2017, McConnell Supported A Continuing Resolution Which "Suspended The Debt Limit Through December 8, 2017"—At The Time, He Said It Was The "Definition Of An Emergency" That Treasury's Borrowing Was Limited By The Debt Ceiling.

September 8, 2017: A Continuing Resolution Was Enacted Which "Suspended The Debt Limit Through December 8, 2017." "On March 16, 2017, the debt limit was reset at \$19,809 billion, which triggered the use of extraordinary measures. On September 8, 2017, P.L. 115-56 was enacted, which included a continuing resolution and suspended the debt limit through December 8, 2017." [Congressional Research Service, [04/01/21](#)]

- **H.R.601 - Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018 and Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2017, Which Became Public Law 115-56, Passed The Senate By Voice Vote On August 1, 2017, And Was Passed 80-17 As The Senate Resolved Differences With A House Amendment On September 7, 2017.** [Congress.gov, [01/23/17](#)]
 - **McConnell Was Among The 80 Senators Who Voted To Concur With The House Amendment.** [U.S. Senate, accessed [06/29/21](#)]

Just Days Before This Resolution Was Enacted, Senator McConnell Tweeted That "We Must Act Quickly When It Comes To The [Debt Limit]."



Leader McConnell ✓
@LeaderMcConnell

...

We must act quickly when it comes to the [#DebtLimit](#) given the new uncertainty from the large costs of storm recovery.

4:09 PM · Sep 5, 2017 · Twitter Web Client

[Twitter, [09/05/17](#)]

September 7, 2017: McConnell Said It Was The "Definition Of An Emergency" That The Treasury Secretary Had To Borrow More Money Than Was Allowed By The Debt Ceiling. "We have the debt ceiling expiring because there's more borrowing the Secretary of the Treasury needs to do than the current debt ceiling allows him. If this isn't a definition of an emergency I don't know what is." [C-SPAN, [09/07/17](#)]

- **McConnell Said He Would Try And Advance A Debt Ceiling Suspension If It Was What Then-President Trump Negotiated With Then-Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer And Speaker Nancy Pelosi.** "In the meeting down at the White House, as I indicated, the president agreed with Senator Schumer and Congresswoman Pelosi to do a three-month CR and a debt ceiling into December. And that's what I will be offering, based on the President's decision, to the bill. And then we'll try to get 60 votes and move forward." [C-SPAN, [09/07/17](#)]

- **Asked If He Was Surprised That Trump Sided With Democrats On A Budget Deal, McConnell Said Trump's "Feeling Was That We Needed To Come Together, To Not Create A Picture Of Divisiveness At A Time Of Genuine National Crisis."** Reporter: "Were you surprised that the president sided with Democrats against the longer-term measure that Republicans were seeking?" McConnell: "Look, the president can speak for himself. But his feeling was that we needed to come together, to not create a picture of divisiveness at a time of genuine national crisis." [C-SPAN, [09/07/17](#)]

In August 2019, Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD) Said "'We Need To Support The President'" In Raising The Debt Ceiling, Praising The Bipartisan Budget Agreement For Spending For "Veterans While Simultaneously Avoiding A Default On Our Debt."

August 2019: Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD) Said "'We Need To Support The President On This'" In Regard To A Brokered Deal Between Republicans And Democrats That Raised The Debt Ceiling Through 2021 And Raised Caps On Spending. "'We need to support the president on this,' said Sen. Mike Rounds (R-S.D.), one of the GOP senators who said Wednesday he would back the plan. The White House and congressional leadership, he said, have 'done the best they can to come up with an agreeable solution in divided government.' The plan will raise the nation's debt ceiling through 2021 as well as raise caps on federal spending for the next two years. Lawmakers will still have to enact additional legislation to determine how and where the money will be spent." [LA Times, [08/01/19](#)]

August 2019: Sen. Rounds Released A Statement In Support Of The Senate Passing The "Bipartisan Budget Agreement," Saying "It Prioritizes Spending For The Military And For Our Veterans While Simultaneously Avoiding A Default On Our Debt." "The Senate recently passed the Bipartisan Budget Agreement that was negotiated by President Trump and Congressional Leadership. I supported this legislation because it prioritizes spending for the military and for our veterans while simultaneously avoiding a default on our debt, taking steps to avoid an unnecessary and costly shutdown and ending the threat of sequestration for two years." [Senator Mike Rounds, [08/01/19](#)]

In July 2019, Just A Week Before Voting To Suspend The Debt Ceiling, Current Senate Republican Whip John Thune (R-SD) Spoke On How Important It Was To Pass A Debt Resolution In Order To "Fund The Government And Make Sure We Don't Default On Our Obligations."

Senator John Thune Is The Current Senate Republican Whip. [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

August 1, 2019: Senator Thune Voted In Support Of H.R. 3877, The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit." "A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, to establish a congressional budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, to temporarily suspend the debt limit, and for other purposes." [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

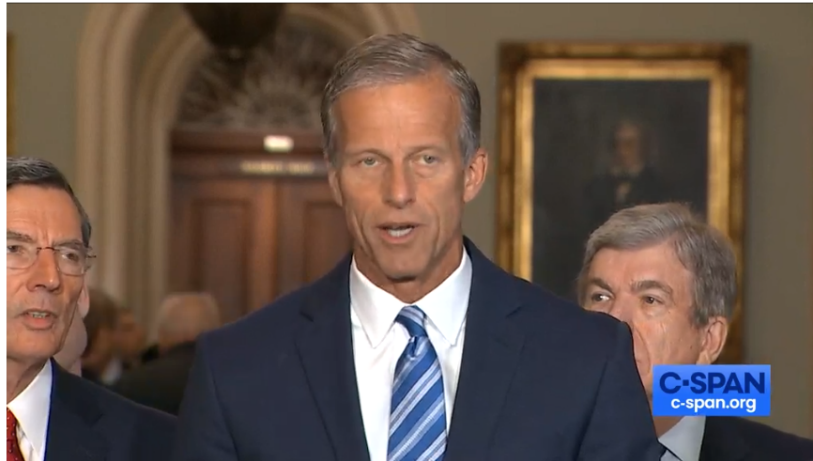
In Late July 2019, Thune Highlighted The Importance Of Passing A Debt Limit Resolution, Stating, "We Have To Fund The Government And Make Sure We Don't Default On Our Obligations." "'I think we will get there,' Thune, a Republican from South Dakota, told CNN. 'It's a process. Our members are reviewing it. Democrat members are reviewing it. I think in the end most people realize that even though they may not like everything about it, this represents the best we can do under the circumstances. We have to fund the government and make sure we don't default on our obligations.'" [CNN, [07/25/19](#)]

July 23, 2019: In Response To The Debt Ceiling Deal, Thune Said He Hoped It Would Pass To Invest In "The Readiness That We Need To Defend The Country That Will Avoid Default On Our Obligations." "So, I hope that we can, when this is all said and done, get a good strong vote that will make those investments

in our men and women in uniform and the readiness that we need to defend the country that will avoid default on our obligations and that will provide for a regular appropriations process without poison pills." [C-SPAN, [07/23/21 \(02:41\)](#)]

- **Thune Was Responding To The Debt Ceiling And Budget Deal Between Congress And The Trump Administration.** "[Majority Leader Mitch McConnell](#) (R-KY) and other Senate Republican leaders spoke to reporters in the Capitol following their weekly caucus luncheon. Senator McConnell defended the deal reached between Congress and the Trump administration on the budget and debt ceiling, saying it was the best deal under the circumstances and that the absence of chaos is an advantage." [C-SPAN, [07/23/21](#)]

VIDEO:



[C-SPAN, [07/23/21 \(02:41\)](#)]

Thune Had "Pressed Senators To Pass The Legislation" And Was Known For "His Urgent Work To Whip Up Support." "The Senate passed a two-year bipartisan budget deal and sent it to President Donald Trump's desk for his signature, putting an end to the threat of a debt crisis this fall and easing the path toward funding the government past Sept. 30. The vote was 67-28, with a majority of Senate Republicans supporting the measure. Trump and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) had been lobbying GOP senators hard the past several days to gain their approval, and their efforts paid off Thursday morning. [...] Majority Whip John Thune of South Dakota, who pressed senators to pass the legislation, said senators headed 'for the door' when they saw him coming because of his urgent work to whip up support." [Politico, [08/01/19](#)]

Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS), Who Voted in Support of Lifting the Debt Ceiling in August 2019, Had Faith That "In The End There Will Be Enough Members To Do The Responsible Thing" By Joining Him.

August 1, 2019: Senator Wicker Voted In Support Of H.R. 3877, The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit." "A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, to establish a congressional budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, to temporarily suspend the debt limit, and for other purposes." [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

Senator Wicker Had "Advocat[ed] For His Colleagues To Support The Legislation" And Had Faith That "In The End There Will Be Enough Members To Do The Responsible Thing." "'We're going to avoid this sort of nonsense we've had in the past with shutdowns and brief continuing resolutions,' said Sen. Roger Wicker (R-Miss.), who has been advocating for his colleagues to support the legislation. 'In the end there will be enough members to do the responsible thing.'" [Politico, [08/01/19](#)]

Senator Todd Young (R-IN), Who Supported The August 2019 Budget Deal, Praised The Deal As "'Provid[ing] Funding Certainty For Our Armed Forces And Ensur[ing] Our Military Readiness.'"

August 1, 2019: Senator Young Voted In Support Of H.R. 3877, The Bipartisan Budget Act Of 2019, Which "Temporarily Suspend[ed] The Debt Limit. "A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, to establish a congressional budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, to temporarily suspend the debt limit, and for other purposes." [United States Senate, accessed [06/21/21](#)]

In A Statement Following His Vote, Senator Young Stated The Bipartisan Budget Deal "Provid[ed] Funding Certainty For Our Armed Forces And Ensures Our Military Readiness." "U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) today voted for President Trump's bipartisan budget deal that provides funding certainty for our armed forces and ensures our military readiness. The deal passed the Senate on an 67-28 vote. 'As a Marine, I am committed to protecting our troops and ensuring they have the resources needed to keep our country safe and secure. We are facing growing threats from Russia and China and our enemies abroad, and we have a humanitarian and national security crisis at our southern border. President Trump's bipartisan budget deal provides the critical resources that our service members need to protect themselves and our country.'" [Office of Senator Young, [08/01/19](#)]