

HARRIET HAGEMAN

WYOMING'S CONGRESSWOMAN

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Hello Laura,

With funding authorization having ceased as of midnight on September 30th, the federal government has now "shut down." In this week's newsletter, I will discuss how we got here and what it means.

Regardless of the funding situation in Washington, DC, my work for you continues. Last week, I spent time at home in Wyoming meeting with constituents and local leaders regarding the important issues we are facing. These conversations continue to guide my work in Washington and reinforce exactly who I am fighting for every day.

The Government Shutdown

The U.S. Congress is required to pass twelve annual appropriations bills by October 1st of each year to fund the federal government, including executive agencies, the judiciary, and the legislative branch. As so many of you already know, Congress has long abdicated its responsibility for doing so, moving forward instead with "continuing resolutions" (to keep spending at current levels) or through omnibus spending bills (which are typically several thousand pages long and have historically jacked up spending with little transparency). The last two Republican-led Congresses have rejected the omnibus route, however, choosing instead to pass continuing resolutions, which have actually resulted in cutting spending in an inflationary environment.

We know that we must keep the federal government open and working for you. That is why, on September 19th, the House of Representatives voted in favor of a continuing resolution, extending current federal spending through November 21st while Congress finalizes our spending bills. This was a straightforward extension of existing funding without extraneous policy riders or partisan add-ons. It is unfortunate that the Senate Democrats rejected this measure, having now voted four separate times to block the House's efforts to fund our government. They have instead chosen to shut down our federal government.

It is worth noting that the Democrats have not only supported, but actually endorsed this exact strategy in the past, voting earlier this year in favor of a continuing resolution to keep the government open from March through September. They have made it clear that their refusal to now vote in favor of funding the government at the current *Biden-era spending levels* is solely related to a desire to appease their radical TDS-afflicted base. The unseriousness of their position is only underscored by the nature of their demands to spend an additional \$1.5 trillion to, among other things, reinstate Medicaid and healthcare benefits for illegal aliens and refunding of NPR and PBS. They are also demanding a repeal of our recent appropriation of \$50 billion for rural healthcare, a development that would have serious negative repercussions for Wyoming (which will receive a minimum of \$500 million over the next 5 years to provide medical services to our rural communities). In short, they are demanding that we spend an additional \$1.5 trillion of borrowed money in exchange for keeping the government open for a little over 7 weeks. What a deal, right?

Government shutdowns represent a failure of our budgeting process. That is why I remain committed to fighting for a swift, responsible resolution that puts the American people first.

For resources and information during the shutdown, please visit my [website](#).

Education Wins in the OBBBA

The [Farm Family and Small Business Exemption Act](#), that was included in the Working Families Tax Cut Act (aka, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act or OBBBA), is a huge win for Wyoming. Owning a family farm or small business should never hinder a student's opportunity for federal financial aid.

With this provision, Congress has restored an exemption for certain family farms and small businesses on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form.

Before our recent changes, the net worth of family farms and other small businesses were included as assets when calculating a student's financial need to determine federal student aid eligibility, despite the fact that such assets are typically not liquid and cannot be leveraged to meet short-term monetary needs. Under the Biden administration, and beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, the net worth of these farms and businesses were treated as an asset and therefore included in the calculation to determine student loan eligibility.

This law restores the exemption of these assets from student aid calculations and ensures students from hardworking families also have access to higher education without unnecessary barriers.

DOI Unleashes American Coal Power

One of my top priorities when negotiating the OBBBA was to end D.C.'s decades-long war on Wyoming coal. I am proud of the fact that our efforts in that regard were highly successful, including by reducing royalty rates on federal coal and mandating new coal leasing. The Department of the Interior (DOI) is already working to implement our policy and statutory mandates by officially opening an additional 13.1 million acres of federal land for coal leasing, tripling the benchmarks we set in the OBBBA. This includes approximately 3,508 acres of federal coal reserves in Campbell and Converse counties.

DOI's [announcement](#) marks a major victory for Wyoming and American energy dominance. Wyoming has always powered this country, and under the current administration, we are just getting started.

Fighting for Safer Roads and Stronger Borders

Protecting the traveling public has been a priority of mine since I entered Congress. I have been horrified as to how cavalier some have become in terms of allowing illegal aliens and non-English speaking/reading individuals to drive big-rigs across our great state. Just this past week I sent a letter to the Department of Transportation (DOT) raising concerns about the ongoing issuance of commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) to illegal aliens who may or may not have sufficient training and skills to operate trucks on our highways. Oklahoma's Governor Kevin Stitt recently shared a photo of a New York-issued CDL listing the person who held it as "No Name Given." The New York DMV confirmed that the license was real and allowed placeholders for individuals with only one legal name. This situation is frightening, and exposes a serious problem with how CDLs are issued, raising numerous questions regarding the extent of the fraud that appears to be inherent in state driver's license offices. This is yet another example of the havoc wreaking by the last administration and their open border policies.

One of my top priorities has been to work with the Trump administration to enhance public safety and border security. That includes preventing sanctuary states from placing Americans at risk by flooding our highways with unqualified and dangerous drivers. Law enforcement must be able to verify identities, conduct background checks, and ensure that those operating commercial vehicles on our roads are doing so legally. I have asked the DOT and FMCSA to investigate how widespread this "No Name Given" practice is, whether it is being used to sidestep immigration laws, and whether we have wide-spread fraud in the system.

Eliminating Waste, Fraud, and Abuse

As part of the ongoing effort to restore accountability and reduce government overreach, the Trump administration continues to eliminate unnecessary and wasteful federal spending. One recent example is the Department of Defense (DoD) terminating a \$2.4 million contract for "transgender health medical evaluation unit service." This contract, created under prior leadership, was a textbook case of the kind of bloated bureaucracy and mission drift that American taxpayers are tired of funding.

At a time when our national debt exceeds \$34 trillion, every dollar spent must be justified. The core mission of DoD is to protect our nation and ensure military readiness, not to serve as a vehicle for advancing radical agendas.

[See What I'm Doing in D.C.!](#) [Add Me on Social Media:](#)



Events and Announcements

Veterans Town Hall

The Cheyenne VA is hosting a veterans town hall event to answer questions about the Torrington Medical Mobile Unit and healthcare services available to our veterans living in the Torrington area.

The event is on **Monday, October 6**, from **6:00 PM – 7:00 PM** at the Torrington VFW, **925 W 25th Ave, Torrington, WY**.

If you have questions about this event, please call the Torrington VFW Commander, Ricardo Nelson, at (307) 532- 0622; or you can call the Cheyenne VA Health Care System information line at (307) 778-7550 ext. 11411.

Sign Up to Participate in the Congressional App Challenge!

The 2025 Congressional App Challenge is now accepting applications! Middle and high school students across Wyoming are encouraged to participate in this nationwide competition that helps students learn coding skills and explore opportunities within the STEM and computer science fields.

The Congressional App Challenge is the official computer science competition of the House of Representatives. Since its inception in 2013, it has grown to become the most prestigious prize in computer science. Over 50,000 students have participated in the challenge across 374 Congressional Districts in 50 states and 5 U.S. territories.

Winning apps will be announced in December 2025 and featured on the U.S. House of Representatives website and in the U.S. Capitol Building. Applications are due **October 30, 2025, at 10 AM MT**. To learn more about the rules, prizes, and more, you can [visit their website](#).

Adult volunteers are also needed! If you're a STEM teacher, computer science expert, or App Challenge alum, please consider becoming one of my volunteer judges. More information on being a judge can be [found here](#) on the CAC website. I'm also asking all teachers to encourage their students to participate in this year's competition. [Visit here for more information](#) on how you can inspire your students to explore the world of coding.

[Visit my website](#) for more information and reach out to Lisa.Scaling@mail.house.gov with any questions you have!

Federal Register Comment Period

Intent to Amend the RMP for the Rock Springs Field Office

The BLM requests that the public submit comments concerning the scope of the analysis, potential alternatives, and identification of relevant information and studies, and ACEC nominations by November 3, 2025. You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria related to the Rock Springs RMP Amendment and nominations of new ACECs [here](#).

Rescission of Conservation and Landscape Health Rule

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing to rescind the Conservation and Landscape Health Rule, issued as a final rule on May 9, 2024. [Comments](#) must be received by Npver 10, 2025.

Wyoming Coal Combustion Residuals Permit Program

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve the Wyoming coal combustion residuals (CCR) permit program under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

EPA is seeking [comment](#) on this proposal during a 60-day public comment period. Comments must be received on or before November 3, 2025.

Department of the Interior Reopens Regulatory Reform Comment Period

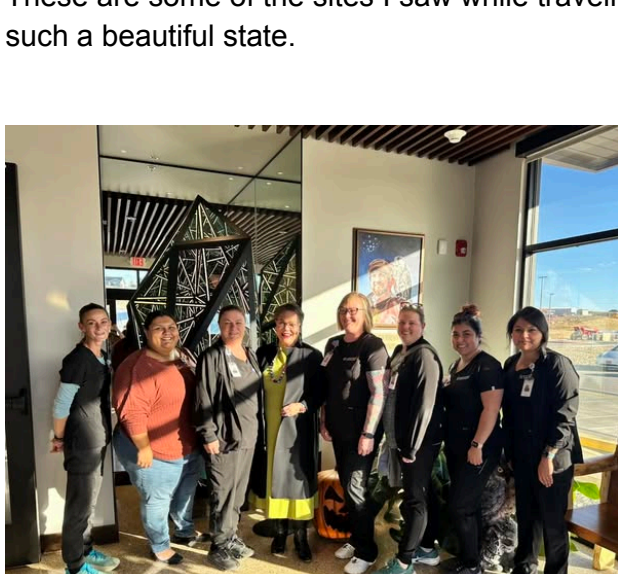
In May, the Department of the Interior (DOI) issued a request for information on DOI Regulatory Reform. While the original comment deadline ended this summer, the [DOI announced on Tuesday that it was reopening](#) this comment period indefinitely.

Recent Photos

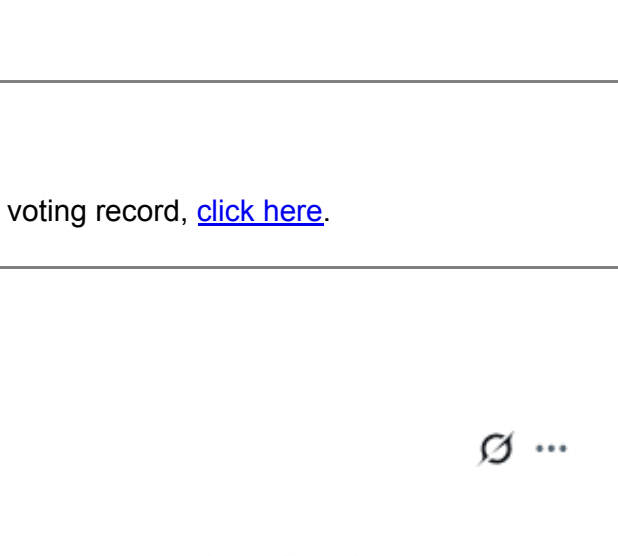


It was a pleasure to meet with the Wyoming Military Department and Major General Porter in Cheyenne.

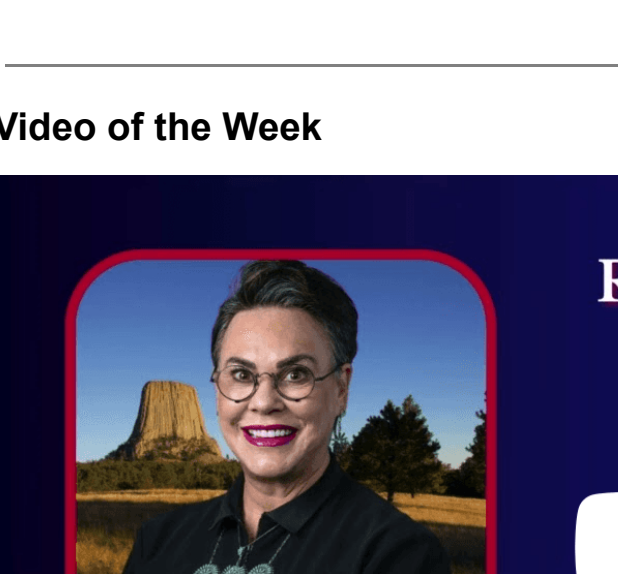
I am thankful for the opportunity to hear directly from our servicemembers. Thank you for everything you do to protect Wyoming and the nation.



In Cheyenne, I toured Ken Garff Toyota to learn more about the dealership and meet with its manager and staff.



These are some of the sites I saw while traveling across Wyoming. I am forever grateful to live in such a beautiful state.



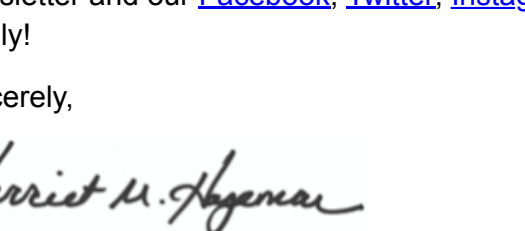
I enjoyed visiting the Hoskinson Health and Wellness Clinic in Gillette.

Thank you to the Hoskinson family for kindly showing me the facility and discussing plans for expanding this remarkable clinic.

Recent Votes

The House was out of session last week. For my full voting record, [click here](#).

Tweet of the Week



President Trump's UN speech was spot on. Europe is going down the wrong road, destroying its own countries in the name of "climate change."

My bill stops the UN from forcing its radical green agenda on American taxpayers and safeguards U.S. sovereignty.

Video of the Week

Last week, I joined Glenn Woods on Wake Up Wyoming to discuss the government shutdown and the importance of coal in Wyoming.

In the News

Wyoming Delegation Pins Likely Federal Shutdown On 'Idiocy' Of Democrats

Democrats need to prioritize American citizens over continuing to fund government benefits for illegal aliens. I am hopeful for a swift resolution to end this government shutdown.

Make America Safe Again: Law and order begins to take center stage

ICE agents are enforcing the law to make our communities safe again. Democrats are inciting people to violence by demonizing our law enforcement.

I Want to Hear From You!

I cannot do my job without your support and input. Thank you for the calls, letters, emails, and questions you have sent to our offices. Please continue to reach out via the contact information below, and stay up to date on all the latest activities and legislation by subscribing and sharing this newsletter and our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#) accounts with your friends and family!

Sincerely,

Harriet M. Hageman

Rep. Harriet Hageman

Member of Congress

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