

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 20, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

As Members of Congress representing districts with significant populations of United States Coast Guard servicemembers and their families, we write to express our sincere gratitude for your continued support of the men and women who serve in our nation's Armed Forces and the families who stand beside them in service and sacrifice. Your unwavering commitment to ensuring that our servicemembers are treated with the respect and dignity they deserve has not gone unnoticed.

We are especially grateful for your leadership during last fall's government shutdown, when you exercised every available authority to ensure that servicemembers continued to receive their pay without interruption. Your decisive action brought much-needed certainty and stability to military families at a time of significant uncertainty.

Today, we face another troubling situation. As a result of the current partial government shutdown, members of the United States Coast Guard—who serve under the Department of Homeland Security—are once again working without pay. These dedicated men and women continue to carry out critical homeland security missions. They safeguard our shores, secure our ports, interdict illegal narcotics, protect our maritime borders, and conduct lifesaving search-and-rescue operations with the courage and professionalism that have long defined this proud branch of our Armed Forces. At the same time, more than 41,000 active-duty and activated Reserve Coast Guard members face the very real possibility of missing their next scheduled payday on February 27 if the Department of Homeland Security does not receive appropriations.

The Coast Guard is an essential branch of our armed services, and its members should never be used as leverage in partisan disputes. It is deeply concerning that Coast Guard personnel are being placed in this position due to political brinkmanship by Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, and other Democratic leaders who are choosing to play politics with our homeland security.

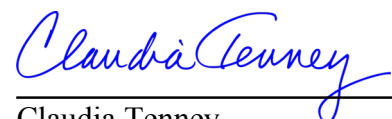
On behalf of the constituents we represent, many of whom serve in or directly support the Coast Guard, we respectfully urge you to once again use every authority at your disposal to ensure that these dedicated servicemembers do not miss a paycheck. These brave men and women have faithfully upheld their oath to serve this country without hesitation, and they deserve a government that upholds its obligation to them.

Thank you again for your leadership and your enduring support of America's military families. We stand ready to work with you to resolve this matter swiftly and ensure that those who protect our homeland are not left behind.

Respectfully,



Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



Aaron Bean
Member of Congress



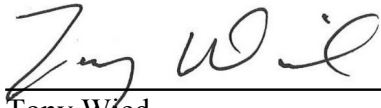
Nick LaLota
Member of Congress



Jefferson Van Drew
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



Tony Wied
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress



Michael Cloud
Member of Congress



Nicholas A. Langworthy
Member of Congress



Pete Stauber
Member of Congress



Randy Fine
Member of Congress



Nicholas J. Begich III
Congressman for All Alaska

CC:

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

The Honorable Admiral Kevin E. Lunday
Commandant
U.S. Coast Guard