



BORRIS L. MILES

STATE SENATOR • DISTRICT 13

COMMITTEES: AGRICULTURE, WATER, & RURAL AFFAIRS • HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES • NATURAL RESOURCES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • NOMINATIONS

January 9, 2019

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711

The Honorable Dan Patrick
Lieutenant Governor
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711

The Honorable Dennis Bonnen
Speaker of the House
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768

Gentlemen:

As we begin a new session of the Texas Legislature I look forward to working with you and my colleagues in the Senate and House of Representatives, along with all of our statewide elected officials, to do what is in the best interest of the people of Texas, which is a priority we all agree on.

As you are aware, the federal government shutdown is hurting all Texans but has the potential to especially hurt low income Texans all across our state: rural, urban, and suburban. For example, although the United States Department of Agriculture has announced that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients will receive their February benefits, the President has stated the current federal government shutdown could last for months or years. This is simply unacceptable.

I am writing to request that we begin to make emergency preparations to help Texans on food stamps and other programs affected by the shutdown, should federal funds run out and payments stop. I want to work with you, the Comptroller and the Attorney General, as well as the Legislative Budget Board, to make sure any funds we spend to fill the gap for Texans while the federal government is shut down are reimbursed by Congress.

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I propose that we to send a joint letter to the President, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McConnell, making clear that Texas is prepared to help Texans while we wait for Congress to reopen the federal government, but that we expect to be made whole for all state funds we utilize to fill the gap for Texans while the federal government remains closed.

I look forward to us continuing to work together to help and protect the people of Texas as is the commitment and mission of our respective offices.

I would like to meet with you and your staff to discuss this matter in greater detail. I look forward to hearing from you.

Keep the faith, keep the fight,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Borris L. Miles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Senator Borris L. Miles
Senate District 13