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## Congress Passes Stopgap Funding Measure

The United States Congress has passed a continuing appropriations measure (HR 719 as amended) to extend federal government funding until December 11, 2015 covering the first 10 weeks of Federal fiscal year 2016. The legislation sets funding at \$1.017 trillion, though most programs will be funded at a rate that is slightly less than the FY 2015 levels. The measure met with difficulty last week when the majority included language that would have defunded Planned Parenthood in the continuing resolution. That vote failed in the Senate by a vote of 47-52, leaving both chambers with very little time to pass a "clean" version of the legislation. To accommodate time constraints, the House Rules Committee invoked a strategy known as "martial law" allowing them to bring a clean resolution to the floor on the same day that it advanced out of Committee.

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