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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DF

October 1, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM : AL MCDONALD 

Here is an alternative statement that at least deplores the lack of action by the Congress. I think the public would certainly question a statement by you that is in no way critical of the Congress whose inaction is clearly an expression of gross irresponsibility.

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT

I have been informed that the Congress failed last night to pass the Continuing Resolution to provide funding for the government for the Fiscal Year beginning today. I deplore this lack of action and deeply regret the uncertainties and possible disruptions it could trigger.

I hereby call upon the Congress to work continuously until they can determine funding levels for government functions. It is particularly inappropriate at this time of international and domestic concern for certain members of the Congress, acting to promote their personal political interests or to push ahead pet projects unrelated to this measure, to bring the Congress to a stalemate.

If the Congress can act today, my Administration can proceed without disruption. If the Congress fails to act today, their inaction will cause inexcusable human hardship.

I will do all within my constitutional and legal powers to protect life and property, to prevent harmful disruptions and to urge the Congress to face up to its duties promptly.