**Republicans Admitting President Trump & Republicans Will Be Blamed for A #TrumpShutdown**

**Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO):** “‘I think it’s a loser for everybody, but it’s probably more of a loser if you’re in control,’ said Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), the fourth-ranking Senate GOP leader, who added a caveat for Democrats: ‘It depends on the reason that they use for that shutdown.’” [Washington Post, [1/10/18](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/with-dreamers-in-the-balance-democrats-ponder-whether-to-force-a-shutdown/2018/01/10/2e4dd3f0-f54a-11e7-b34a-b85626af34ef_story.html?utm_term=.15b7185f10e5)]

**Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC):**  “To believe that you can successfully blame Democrats for a shutdown over the DACA debate is naïve.” [NYT, [1/15/18](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/15/us/politics/trump-immigration-shithole-government-shutdown.html)]

**Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT):**  “Hatch says he is concerned Republicans would get blamed for a shutdown. ‘We always do, even when it’s their fault,’ he said.” [WSJ, [1/18/18](https://twitter.com/kristinapet/status/954067195914604544)]

**Sen. Jeff Flake (R-AZ):**  “Q: do you worry the president's actions over the past week will make it easier for Democrats to say it's Republicans' fault if there's a government shutdown? Senator Jeff Flake: ........................yes.” [BuzzFeed, [1/18/18](https://twitter.com/pdmcleod/status/954069611955343367)]

**Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK):** “I think it's always a mistake to shut down the government. Look, you make life worse for the American people. You put the country at risk. It shows political dysfunction, particularly when you control the presidency, the Senate and the House. So I would strongly advise against any threat to shut down the government of the United States.” [CNN, [8/23/17](https://video.snapstream.net/Play/9UB5DrMypESANdDuUkWsGe?accessToken=cgaysdrg1lhg3)]

**Rep. Mark Sanford (R-SC):**  “’The perception of most Republicans is that a shutdown does not accrue to Republican benefit. It’s a relatively tough sale,’ Rep. Mark Sanford (R-S.C.) said in an interview. ‘It makes it that much harder for Democrats to acquiesce on a deal because they feel like they have the upper hand.’” [Politico, [1/17/18](https://www.politico.com/story/2018/01/17/republicans-government-shutdown-midterms-343091?lo=ap_a1)]

**Rep. Charlie Dent (R-PA):**  “’When there are shutdowns, our side usually takes the hit,’ said Republican Rep. Charlie Dent, who is retiring from the competitive Allentown, Penn.,-based district he's represented for nearly a dozen years. ‘It will be difficult for us to deflect the blame — whether we deserve it or not,’ he added.” [NBC News, [1/17/18](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/nervous-republicans-fear-they-ll-pay-government-shutdown-n838276)]

**Rep. Peter King (R-NY):**  “We can’t blame it on the Democrats because we control the House and have a Republican president.” [Newsday, [1/2/18](https://www.newsday.com/long-island/nassau/schumer-king-teamster-pensions-1.15754544)]

**Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX):**  “The House Homeland Security chairman, Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas, one of the authors of a bill that would allow DACA recipients to apply for legal status for three years at a time, said Tuesday that the GOP would suffer greatly if no solution is found and the administration begins deporting the roughly 800,000 people who were shielded by President Barack Obama's executive order creating DACA. ‘**That would not play well for Republicans**,’ McCaul said.” [NBC News, [1/17/18](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/nervous-republicans-fear-they-ll-pay-government-shutdown-n838276)]

**Whit Ayers, Republican Pollster:**  “During the 17-day shutdown of 2013, ‘the Republican Party’s favorable rating dropped 10 points in a matter of days, and it took a year to fully recover,’ said Whit Ayres, a veteran GOP pollster. ‘It would take an act of extraordinary political agility to avoid a similar fate today.’” [Politico, [1/17/18](https://www.politico.com/story/2018/01/17/republicans-government-shutdown-midterms-343091?lo=ap_a1)]

**Matthew Dowd, Former Chief Strategist for Bush-Cheney 2004:**  “DACA analogy: The President lights a forest fire which is about to burn down many homes, says he wants to put it out, Dems agree it needs to be put out, but President won’t allow the fire to be put out until he gets money for a monument to himself.” [Tweet, [1/17/18](https://twitter.com/matthewjdowd/status/953635697897984000)]

**Doug Heye, Former Republican Staffer:**  “If there is a shutdown, GOP will - and should - get blame. If we can’t keep our own House (and Senate) in order...” [Tweet, [1/16/18](https://twitter.com/DougHeye/status/953269862700331008)]

**G. William Hoagland, Former Republican Staff Director of Senate Budget Committee:** “G. William Hoagland, a former Republican staff director for the Senate Budget Committee, warned, ‘When Republicans control the House and Senate and the White House, a government shutdown under their watch just looks like they can absolutely do nothing.’” [NYT, [11/28/17](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/28/us/politics/trump-democrats-government-shutdown-pelosi.html?rref=collection%2Fsectioncollection%2Fpolitics)]

**Jennifer Rubin, Washington Post Columnist:**  “What is apparent for all to see is that Democrats have no responsibility to concoct a solution to address the Republicans’ abject incompetence. When a majority party cannot decide what it wants, and cannot find the votes, they are admitting they cannot govern.” [Washington Post, [1/18/18](https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/right-turn/wp/2018/01/18/how-the-republicans-are-blowing-their-blame-game/?tid=ss_tw&utm_term=.88a3adfd4c36)]