national/regional

Feds funded to Friday evening

WASHINGTON (AP) Despite last-minute attempts by Congress to keep federal funds flowing, the White House told hundreds of thousands of federal workers to go home at midday Thursday after lawmakers failed to approve a \$500 billion catchall spending bill needed to keep most of the government solvent.

While the government was partially shut down, President Reagan and congressional leaders traded partisan charges of who was to blame for the mess, which also left in doubt whether Congress could meet its target of adjourning for the year by the end of the week.

The House voted Thursday morning to approve an emergency spending extension to finance out-of-cash govern-

ment agencies through 6 p.m. EDT Friday, and the Senate followed suit early in the

The House took less than five minutes to approve the short extension of the deadline. Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Md., told his colleagues, "We have already interupted the government. There is enough shame to go around for all of us."

Edwin Dale, spokesman for the White House Office of Management and the Budget, said the president was expected to sign the temporary money measure. All furloughed workers, he said, should report for work at their regular time on

Before acting on the temorary measure, the long-term bill - the most expensive, most-inclusive piece of legislation ever to be considered by Congress - gained final Senate approval on a voice vote after

more a week of debate culminated by two around-the clock Senate sessions.

Congressional negotiators, meeting to work out a compromise version of the spending bills passed by the House and Senate, indicated they would be

bargaining all night and into Friday morning.

An estimated 500,000 nonessential workers were affected by Thursday's shutdown even as Congress hurried through legislation to make the government, which ran out of money earlier this week, solvent again.

The White House Office of Management and Budget went ahead with its shutdown plans even though the House had passed the emergency funding measure, with Senate action pending. Workers were told at 10 a.m. to "secure their desks and otherwide prepare for shutdown" within three hours.

As the 1 p.m. closing time approached, a steady stream of Agriculture Department employees headed to the city's subway, which began rush-hour service early to handle the expected influx.

A typist at the Farmers Home Administration pulled a form from her typewriter and put it away, saying, "I might as well not start this because I'm not going to get it finished.'

Isn't this fun?" one Agriculture worker asked another as a party atmophere pervaded the halls. "It's ridiculous," came the response.

And at the Labor Department, spokesman Paul Williams said of public information office. "It's kind of lonely around here."

Not affected by the shutdown order were federal workers dealing with air traffic control, border guards, medical institution personnel, and prison and other law enforcement personnel.

The Postal Service, which has its own budget, was not affected. Government processing of Social Security and other government checks would also proceed.

Also unaffected were the departments of Justice, Commerce, State and Housing and Urban Development, plus the Veterans Administration, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency. Appropriations bills for those agencies had been passed

Nonetheless, the administration estimated that about twothirds of the federal workforce would be affected by the shutdown, the first in four years.

Halt white train or pay police?

BREMERTON, Wash. (AP) -Use of "white trains" to ship nuclear weapons should be halted, or local law enforcement agencies that have to defend the trains from protesters should be compensated, say Washington police chiefs and sheriffs.

Demonstrations in July aimed at blocking the trains in Kitsap County - home of the Trident nuclear submarine base at Bangor - and Vancouver, Wash., cost local and state agencies \$30,000, Bellingham Police Chief Terence Mangan told the state's congressional delegation in a letter.

Mangan is president of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs.

Though federal authorities have refused to disclose the contents of the white-painted trains, they are widely believed to carry nuclear weapons from a munitions factory at Amarillo, Texas, to Bangor.

"As long as a 'white train' is used and as long as this is an emotional issue, these demonstrations will continue." the letter said.

Kitsap County Sheriff Pat Iones said Thursday that he wasn't informed that the letter was being sent.



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