

## **Congress Approves One-Week CR**

On Tuesday, the House filed a short-term Continuing Resolution (CR) that would extend the current stopgap funding bill to December 18. The House voted 343-67 on Wednesday to approve the legislation. The Senate followed, approving the extension by a voice vote Friday afternoon. President Trump needs to sign the bill by midnight to avert a government shutdown.

In addition to extending the deadline, the stopgap measure also renews several expiring healthcare programs and Food and Drug Administration provisions, including State Health Insurance programs, Community Health Centers, National Health Services Corps, and Teaching Health Centers that Operate Graduate Medical Education Programs.

The extension through next Friday will give negotiators extra time to consider the FY 2021 spending package as well as another COVID relief bill. Speaker Nancy Pelosi said last week that she wanted to incorporate another COVID-19 relief package with an omnibus spending bill. However, it's still unclear whether congressional leaders will come to an agreement on another COVID-19 relief package before the CR expires.

**THE CORNERSTONE TEAM**