

## Debt ceiling increase comes with Harvey aid

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In another move which some in Washington are calling a part of Trump's "Art of the Deal" prowess, President Donald Trump split with the GOP and struck a deal with Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) to raise the federal borrowing limit for three more months. Congress will have to, once again, reach an agreement around Christmas to prevent a government shutdown.

Rep. Paul Ryan, Senator Mitch McConnell, and the rest of the GOP were stunned to find out Trump agreed to a deal with Democrat leadership. Trump even defied the advice of his own Treasury Secretary, Steve Mnuchin. Republicans were hoping to avoid another vote on the issue before the 2018 midterm elections.

"We agreed to a three-month extension on debt ceiling, which they consider to be sacred, very important," Trump said. "We had a very good meeting, we essentially came to a deal and I think the deal will be very good."

Democrats have been happy with Trump recently. The agreement over the debt ceiling, as well as Trump leaving the door open to amnesty for DACA recipients.

"It was a really good moment of some bipartisanship," Schumer said. "The bottom line is the president listened to the arguments. We think we made a very reasonable and strong argument. And to his credit, he went with the better argument."

On top of the bill to raise the debt ceiling, was the \$7.9 billion Hurricane Harvey aid bill. Many believe the Harvey stipulation to be the reasoning why Trump sided with the Dems.

"Look, the president can speak for himself, but his feeling was that we needed to come together to not create a picture of divisiveness at a time of genuine national crisis, and that was the rationale," said Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY).

FreedomWorks and For America, two conservative groups have expressed complete frustration with Trump's negotiations.

"This is straight out of the swamp," said Adam Brandon of FreedomWorks, "and I call on President Trump to say something publicly about how this is a swamp deal and will not be tolerated."

"For America" president David Bozell and outspoken Trump-backer said "These are the moments that can derail President Trump's presidency."

Democrats are optimistic because they believe deals like the debt ceiling will be helpful in achieving political goals like amnesty for DACA recipients and a reversal of Trump's transgender military ban.