

Sen. Tillis Pans President Trump's National Emergency Declaration For Border Wall

By Administrator

Tuesday, 19 February 2019 10:24 -

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC) issued the following statement:

“It doesn’t matter who the President is or what party they belong to: I strongly believe in the separation of powers and curbing the kind of executive overreach that Congress has allowed to fester for the better part of the last century, including during the Obama Administration.

Over the last several years, I’ve repeatedly supported President Trump’s plans to secure our borders. I share the President’s frustration that Congressional Democrats have blocked the reasonable and good faith efforts he has made to invest in more personnel, technology, and infrastructure in order to protect the American people. Democratic leaders have made clear their opposition to a serious investment in border security is motivated by their desire to score political points at the President’s expense.

While there are unobjectionable ways for the President to transfer federal funds to be used for border security, including more than \$600 million from the Treasury Forfeiture Fund, I don’t believe a national emergency declaration is the solution. It wouldn’t provide enough funding to adequately secure our borders, it would likely get tied up in litigation, and most concerning is that it would create a new precedent that a left-wing President would undoubtedly utilize to implement their radical policy agenda while bypassing the authority of Congress. As Speaker Pelosi explicitly noted, liberal Democrats would certainly embrace scenarios like:

- A President Bernie Sanders declaring a national emergency to implement the radical Green New Deal, including shutting down power plants, causing energy prices to skyrocket.
- A President Elizabeth Warren declaring a national emergency to shut down banks and take over the nation’s financial institutions.
- A President Cory Booker declaring a national emergency to effectively end Second Amendment Rights.

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Congress has allowed executive overreach to continue unabated from one administration to the next because both sides are fine with it as long as they agree with the policy goal. While I agree with President Trump's policy goal, I don't believe in situational principles, and it's clear what kind of rabbit hole our country can go down when we have a Democratic President who wants more government intrusion into our economy and our lives."