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Congress’ Last-Minute Budget Bill May Actually Prove Good for Cities.

In a midnight vote to avert another looming government shutdown, Congress overwhelmingly approved a $1.3 trillion spending bill that, for once, didn’t shortchange cities.

President Trump threatened to veto the bill the next morning, but ultimately signed it.

While the dollars appropriated to housing, community development, and other urban priorities still fall far short of what’s needed, in many cases the bill increased funding to key programs. The bill also included a key change to the low-income housing tax credit program, making it easier to finance units that are affordable for households at lower income levels than typical under the current program.

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NEXT CITY

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