The Six Stages of a Government Shutdown



Pre-Shutdown

Shutdown



Member Buy-In

Both parties in the House and Senate seek approval around the strategy for a shutdown scenario to ensure party unity



Post-Messaging

Messaging increases for both sides to mitigate risk and push blame for the shutdown to the other party leaders



Temporary Pause

Parties agree to a path forward that usually includes a short-term CR followed by a larger agreement



Majority in the House and Senate develops the content of the continuing resolution (CR) and vets with their members



Pre-Messaging

Both sides develop and aggressively push their message pre-shutdown to help control the narrative and define the shutdown for their respective bases



Political Pressure

Political pressure builds through votes, messaging, constituent feedback, economic impacts and shutdown fatigue



The Art of Impact