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By Stephen L. Bakke 🏁 January 16, 2018

*Here's what provoked me:* 

The government shutdown "blame-game" goes on, unabated. Too bad not much thought is given to the process.

## *Here's my response:*

## Blame for Shutdown – Lots of misleading information!

Ed Phaneuf's 1-26 letter delivered cynical criticism for Tom Gunderson's "Put America's interests first" letter of 1-24. He didn't approve of Gunderson blaming Democrats for the recent government shutdown. Gunderson was accused of wrapping himself in the flag and embarking on partisan politics. Phaneuf instructs us that it's an empty argument to blame Democrats for any part of the shutdown when "the Presidency, House of Representatives and Senate are all controlled by Republicans."

To Mr. Phaneuf I must ask:

- Do you realize that if 100% of all Republicans in both the House and the Senate had voted for the resolution, it would not have passed? It required some Democrat support to pass but didn't get any. So how can you, in all good conscience, hold Democrats blameless.
- Is wrapping oneself in the flag really such a bad thing if done with sincere intentions and love of country?

Be careful who you blame if you don't understand the problem or the process.