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## No Time For Hiding: When Will Assembly Speaker Prieto Fulfill His Constitutional Duty and Stop Playing Politics?

Saturday, July 1, 2017

Tags: [Shutdown](#)

**WHERE IS THE ASSEMBLY SPEAKER?** Assembly Speaker Prieto is nowhere to be found today during his state government shutdown, as he denies people access to all 40 New Jersey state parks, beaches, historic sites and Motor Vehicle Commission services. As his Assembly majority leader and fellow Democrat told reporters last night, the Speaker's obstruction can't be resolved if he is holed up somewhere, refusing to talk.

Governor Christie and his staff are in Trenton today working to make sure the Speaker's shutdown ends immediately. Speaker Prieto's statehouse parking spot remains open, but empty.



**11 HOURS AND COUNTING:** After being presented with the Governor's proposed budget in February, the Assembly Speaker has failed to pass a Fiscal Year 2018 State Budget for the Governor to sign by the June 30, 2017 constitutional deadline. The Speaker's obstruction of a bipartisan budget triggered the closure of state government, effective at 12 a.m. today.

As the Governor said at his press conference yesterday, in order for the Governor to sign a state budget and revive all state programs and services, Speaker Prieto and the legislature need to send an approved budget to his desk.

**WATCH: Governor Christie: Only The Senate And The Assembly Can Get A Budget To My Desk, Send Me A Budget**

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## Governor Christie: Only The Senate And The Assembly Can Get A...



Speaker Prieto has needlessly stalled the budget process, forcing the closure of New Jersey government and inconveniencing everyone living in and visiting our state. New Jerseyans deserve to know why Speaker Prieto is playing politics instead of passing an FY18 budget agreed upon by the Governor and Democrat-led Senate.

A list of state agencies that are impacted by the Speaker Prieto's shutdown can be found [here](#).

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