



I'm no wimp, says Donald Trump as he plans new shutdown

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Donald Trump says he will shut down the government again unless Democrats release money for his border wall — after he was labelled a wimp by supporters.

They accused him of caving in after ending a 35-day partial shutdown — the longest in US history — without funding for the southern border with Mexico.

But acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney yesterday said the president (pictured) only agreed to the deal on Friday to give Democrats three weeks to negotiate. Mr Trump plans another shutdown on February 15 if Congress doesn't approved the funding.

Yesterday, the president tweeted: 'We are not even into February and the cost of illegal immigration so far this year is \$18,959,495,168... There are at least 25,772,342 illegal aliens, not the 11,000,000 that have been reported for years, in our Country. So ridiculous!'

But others cast doubt on the \$18billion figure. Alex Nowrasteh, of right-wing think tank the Cato Institute, told Business Insider: 'I have no idea where that number comes from. It seems to be conjured out of thin air.'

Commentator Ann Coulter, a big wall supporter, called Mr Trump the 'biggest wimp' ever to occupy the Oval Office. While Mark Meckler, who helped found the tea party movement, called the president's decision to sign off on a deal without wall funding 'pathetic and disgusting'.

But Mr Trump insisted he didn't cave in. 'Negotiations with Democrats will start immediately,' Trump tweeted at the weekend. 'Will not be easy to make a deal, both parties very dug in. The case for National Security has been greatly enhanced by what has been happening at the Border & through dialogue. We will build the Wall!'