

Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) — Congressional Activity Brief

TOP STORY

LEGISLATIVE PRODUCTIVITY / EFFECTIVENESS **UPDATED**

Coons Legislative Blitz Enters Weekend — Four Bills in Three Weeks, None Gaining Traction

As the Senate enters a Sunday session pause, Sen. Coons has now introduced four bills in the 119th Congress in the span of just 17 days (March 5–19): S. 4011 (Tropical Forest/Coral Reef), S. 4089 (Blue Envelope Act), S. 4144 (Credit Repair), and S. 4145 (Copyright/Open Law). None of the four has attracted a publicly announced cosponsor, none has received a hearing date, and all remain parked in their respective committees. This flurry of introductions with zero traction raises questions about whether Coons is legislating for impact or press releases heading into a reelection year.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz's legislative record in the Delaware State Senate demonstrates a pattern of passing meaningful reforms — from the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway Act (SB 241) to DHIN restructuring to live-streaming the State Senate (SR 14). Drawing on Katz's demonstrated record of bills signed into law, the contrast is clear: Katz gets things done; Coons introduces bills that go nowhere. Four bills in three weeks with zero cosponsors isn't productivity — it's political theater.

• TALKING POINTS

- Four bills in three weeks, zero cosponsors, zero hearings — that's not leadership, that's a press release factory.
- When I served in the Delaware Senate, I authored legislation that actually became law — the Scenic Byway Act, DHIN restructuring, live-streaming government proceedings.
- After 16 years in the Senate, Chris Coons should be able to get at least one colleague to cosponsor his bills.
- Delawareans need a Senator who delivers results, not one who files bills for campaign brochures.
- Real legislators build coalitions before they introduce bills — that's how you get things signed into law.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS / FY2027 BUDGET / DOGE

FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Weekend Recess; Coons Anti-DOGE Narrative Set for Week 2 Escalation

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee is in weekend recess after completing its first full week of FY2027 budget hearings. Ranking Member Coons spent the week building a sustained narrative that DOGE-driven DOD civilian workforce reductions constitute a 'national security crisis,' linking the cuts to readiness degradation at installations including Dover AFB. Week 2 hearings are expected to shift to service-specific budget requests, where Coons will likely press service chiefs on manpower shortfalls. Staff should monitor Monday's hearing schedule for witness lists and topic areas.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's veterans and defense platform — which calls for 'sustaining a robust military force' as 'essential for America's continuous ability to preserve global peace' — Katz can agree that military readiness must be protected while pivoting: true fiscal responsibility means cutting waste in bloated bureaucracies, not gutting combat capability. Drawing on Katz's Delaware Senate legislation establishing a Five-Year Plan to Restructure and Reorganize State Government, Katz has a proven record of supporting smart government reform rather than blanket opposition to efficiency.

• TALKING POINTS

- I'll always protect funding for Dover AFB and our warfighters — but opposing every efficiency reform isn't leadership, it's obstruction.
- In the Delaware Senate, I authored legislation for a Five-Year Plan to restructure government — real reform, not just yelling about cuts.
- Coons calls every reform a 'national security crisis' — but 16 years of his spending votes helped create the fiscal crisis we're in.
- A strong military requires both adequate funding AND responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.
- Our troops at Dover AFB deserve a Senator who fights for them, not one who uses them as a talking point against reform.

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · C-SPAN — Defense hearings † INDEX

DEFENSE / GOVERNMENT REFORM / DOGE

Pentagon Civilian Workforce Reductions — Coons's 'National Security Crisis' Messaging Locked In for Weekend Media Cycle

Coons enters the weekend with his 'national security crisis' framing of DOGE-aligned DOD civilian workforce reductions fully established through a week of hearing-room questioning and public statements. His messaging has escalated from managerial concern to existential threat over the course of five hearing days. Staff should monitor Sunday talk show bookings and op-ed placements for further Coons messaging on this theme heading into Week 2.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Drawing on Katz's platform commitment to fiscal responsibility and his Delaware Senate record of authoring legislation to restructure state government, Katz can make a credible case for smart defense spending reform. The message: Coons spent 16 years voting for trillions in spending and now calls any efficiency effort a crisis. Katz would protect warfighters while demanding accountability from Pentagon bureaucracy — the same approach he brought to Delaware state government.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Chris Coons voted for trillions in spending — now he's shocked anyone wants to find savings?
- As a doctor, I know the difference between cutting muscle and cutting fat. We need to cut the fat at the Pentagon, not the readiness.
- Coons wants zero reform and unlimited spending — that's not defense policy, that's a blank check.
- I restructured government in Dover. I'll bring the same accountability mindset to Washington.
- Defending every dollar of bureaucratic spending isn't supporting the troops — it's supporting the swamp.

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · C-SPAN

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DEFENSE / BORDER SECURITY

[STAFF VERIFY] Coons Statements on National Guard Border Deployment — Still No Confirmed Public Position

Entering the third week of monitoring, staff has not confirmed any formal statement, floor remarks, committee questions, or social media posts from Coons regarding the Administration's expanded National Guard deployment authority for border security operations. This continued silence is notable given Coons's role as Defense Appropriations Ranking Member, where National Guard funding and readiness would be directly within his jurisdiction. Staff should check Coons's official channels and Sunday show appearances.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's platform supporting secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, this silence is telling. The Defense Appropriations Ranking Member has

jurisdiction over National Guard funding and says nothing about their border mission — because taking a position would either alienate his progressive base or expose his soft-on-border-security record. Katz supports the deployment unequivocally: securing America's borders is a core national security function.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Chris Coons oversees National Guard funding — and won't say a word about their border mission. That's cowardice.
- I support our National Guard at the border. Full stop. No hedging, no silence, no political calculation.
- A Senator who can't take a position on border security after three weeks isn't a leader — he's hiding.
- The Defense Appropriations Ranking Member's silence on the border deployment tells you everything about his priorities.
- Delaware families deserve to know where their Senator stands. I stand with border security.

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) — Press · [Coons](#) — [Twitter/X](#)

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RECENT LEGISLATION

CONSUMER PROTECTION / BANKING

S. 4144 — Credit Repair Organizations Act Amendments — Three Days in Banking Committee, No Cosponsors

Coons's S. 4144, introduced March 19 to add protections against harmful practices in the credit repair industry, has been in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee for three days with no announced cosponsors and no hearing scheduled. The bill would amend the existing Credit Repair Organizations Act. While consumer protection is broadly popular, the bill's regulatory approach and lack of coalition support suggest it may face headwinds in the Republican-controlled committee.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Drawing on Katz's economic platform emphasizing policies that 'alleviate regulatory burdens on small businesses,' Katz can acknowledge the need to protect consumers from predatory credit repair schemes while questioning whether more federal regulation is the answer. The contrast: Katz favors empowering consumers through financial literacy and market competition; Coons defaults to regulatory expansion that often burdens legitimate small businesses alongside bad actors.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Protecting consumers from fraud? Absolutely. But more federal red tape isn't the only answer.

- Small businesses in the credit repair space shouldn't be punished because Washington can't target the actual bad actors.
- I've championed policies to reduce regulatory burdens — Coons's instinct is always more government control.
- Financial literacy and transparency protect consumers better than another layer of bureaucracy.
- Three days in, zero cosponsors — even Coons's colleagues aren't buying this approach.

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — S. 4144

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COPYRIGHT / GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

S. 4145 — Copyright/Open Law Access — Three Days in Judiciary, No Cosponsors

Coons's S. 4145, introduced March 19 to require that copyrighted works incorporated by reference into federal law be made publicly accessible, sits in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no hearing date. The bill addresses a niche but legitimate transparency concern — citizens should be able to read the laws that govern them without hitting copyright paywalls. However, the bill's narrow scope and lack of any cosponsor support indicate minimal legislative momentum.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Drawing on Katz's Delaware Senate record of championing government transparency — including live-streaming the Delaware State Senate (SR 14) and open redistricting (SR 9) — Katz can credibly agree that Americans should have free access to the laws that govern them, while noting that Coons's approach lacks the coalition-building needed to actually pass. Katz's transparency record is one of accomplished reforms, not symbolic introductions.

• TALKING POINTS

- I agree — Americans should be able to read the laws that govern them. That's why I championed live-streaming the Delaware Senate.
- The difference between me and Coons on transparency: I passed reforms. He introduces bills no one cosponsors.
- I authored open redistricting legislation in Delaware. Transparency isn't a talking point for me — it's a track record.
- Good idea, zero follow-through. That's the Coons legislative model.
- After 16 years in the Senate, if you can't get one colleague to sign on to a transparency bill, you're not trying hard enough.

JUDICIARY / LAW ENFORCEMENT / DISABILITY RIGHTS **UPDATED**

S. 4089 — Blue Envelope Act — 10 Days in Judiciary, No Action

Coons's Blue Envelope Act (S. 4089), introduced March 12, has now been in the Senate Judiciary Committee for 10 days with no committee action, no hearing scheduled, and no publicly announced cosponsors. The bill would authorize DOJ grants for 'blue envelope' programs that help individuals with autism communicate their condition to law enforcement during traffic stops. While the concept enjoys broad sympathy, the bill's stagnation reflects either insufficient outreach by Coons or low committee prioritization.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's first responders platform — which calls for comprehensive support for police, fire, and EMS including better training, resources, and community engagement — Katz can embrace the blue envelope concept while noting it doesn't require a new federal grant program. State and local law enforcement training, which Katz's platform already prioritizes, can incorporate autism awareness without another Washington spending bill. As a physician who has treated patients across the spectrum of society, Katz brings lived clinical experience to disability-related policy.

• TALKING POINTS

- Helping people with autism interact safely with police is a great goal — but it doesn't require a new federal grant program.
- As a physician, I've cared for patients with autism and developmental disabilities. I understand these challenges firsthand.
- Better law enforcement training — which I already support — can include autism awareness without more Washington bureaucracy.
- Ten days, zero cosponsors. If Coons can't build support for something this sympathetic, what can he pass?
- My first responder platform already calls for better training and community support — Coons just discovered the issue.

IMMIGRATION / OVERSIGHT

S. 3891 — ICE Accountability Act — Stalled in Judiciary Committee, Week 6

Coons's ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891), introduced February 12, enters its sixth week stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no new cosponsors or committee action. The bill would impose additional oversight and reporting requirements on ICE operations, including detention

conditions and enforcement actions. In the current political environment — with the Administration emphasizing interior enforcement and border security — this bill faces near-zero prospects for advancement in a Republican-controlled Senate.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's platform supporting secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, this bill represents Coons's ongoing effort to hamstring immigration enforcement agencies with bureaucratic obstacles disguised as 'accountability.' Katz's position is clear: ICE should be empowered to do its job, not buried in paperwork designed to slow enforcement. Six weeks, zero cosponsors — even Senate Democrats won't touch this bill because they know voters support strong border security.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Chris Coons wants to tie ICE's hands with more paperwork. I want to let ICE do its job.
- Six weeks stalled, zero cosponsors — even Democrats know this bill is a loser with voters.
- The ICE 'Accountability' Act is really the ICE Obstruction Act. Let's call it what it is.
- Delaware families want a secure border, not a Senator who fights to weaken immigration enforcement.
- I support strong ICE enforcement — Coons has spent six weeks trying to undermine it.

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](#) — S. 3891 (staff verify bill number)

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ENVIRONMENT / FOREIGN AID

S. 4011 — Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization — No Movement, Entering Week 3

Coons's reauthorization of the 1998 Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act (S. 4011), introduced March 5, remains in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee entering its third week with no cosponsors, no hearing, and no committee action. The bill would reauthorize U.S. funding for international tropical forest and coral reef conservation programs. In the current fiscal and political environment, foreign conservation spending faces steep headwinds.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Drawing on Katz's energy and environment platform — which emphasizes science-based, domestically-focused environmental stewardship including Delaware's beaches and open spaces — Katz can question why Coons prioritizes international conservation spending when Delaware's own environmental infrastructure needs attention. Katz authored Delaware's National Scenic Byway legislation (SB 241) to protect local landscapes. The contrast: Katz invests in Delaware's environment; Coons sends conservation dollars overseas.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- I authored legislation to protect Delaware's Brandywine Valley. Coons is focused on coral reefs overseas.
- Our beaches, waterways, and open spaces in Delaware need investment — before we fund international conservation.
- Three weeks, zero cosponsors. Even environmentalists in the Senate aren't backing this bill.
- Fiscal responsibility means prioritizing Delaware's environment over foreign conservation spending.
- I believe in science-based environmental stewardship — starting right here at home.

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — S. 4011

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APPROPRIATIONS & DELAWARE FUNDING

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION / DELAWARE

Dover AFB FY2027 Military Construction — Weekend Review of Budget Justification Documents

With the first week of FY2027 hearings concluded, military construction budget justification documents for Dover Air Force Base should now be available for staff review. Dover AFB, home to the 436th and 437th Airlift Wings and the nation's only port mortuary, is critical infrastructure for strategic airlift and logistics. Staff should review the MILCON justification books for any Dover-specific line items — including runway, hangar, and housing projects — and compare to prior year requests. Any Coons-claimed advocacy for specific projects should be tracked for accuracy.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's veterans and defense platform, which specifically calls for robust support of military installations and the communities that surround them, Katz should acknowledge Dover AFB as a shared Delaware priority. The pivot: Katz will fight for Dover AFB funding not as partisan credit-claiming but as a core national defense priority. His platform's emphasis on 'sustaining a robust military force' is grounded in principle, not election-year positioning.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dover AFB is the backbone of America's strategic airlift — its funding is non-negotiable for me.
- I'll fight for Dover AFB because it's vital to national security, not because it's an election year.
- Coons claims credit for base funding — but he also votes for budgets that put our military readiness at risk.

- Our military families at Dover deserve housing and infrastructure investments, not Washington budget games.
- Supporting Dover AFB isn't partisan — it's patriotic. I'll work with anyone to get it done.

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Dover Air Force Base

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FEDERAL FUNDING / DELAWARE

[STAFF VERIFY] FY2026 Federal Funding Status — Continuing Resolution or Enacted Appropriations?

Staff should confirm the current status of FY2026 federal funding — whether the government is operating under a continuing resolution, an enacted omnibus, or individual minibus packages. If an omnibus or minibus was passed, verify which Delaware-specific earmarks or projects Coons claimed credit for and cross-reference against actual funding levels. If a CR is still in effect, note the expiration date and any Delaware-specific impacts from flat funding levels.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's fiscal responsibility platform, which calls for 'ensuring fiscal responsibility and securing a stable, prosperous future,' Katz can use the ongoing budget dysfunction — whether CR or late omnibus — as evidence that career politicians like Coons have failed at the most basic function of government: passing a budget on time. Katz's Delaware Senate record includes authoring a Five-Year Plan to restructure state government, demonstrating his commitment to responsible fiscal planning.

• TALKING POINTS

- Passing a budget on time is Government 101. After 16 years, Coons still can't get it done.
- Continuing resolutions hurt Delaware — they freeze spending and prevent new projects from starting.
- I authored a Five-Year Plan to restructure Delaware's government. I know how to plan and deliver.
- Career politicians love CRs — they avoid hard choices. I'll force those choices.
- Delaware taxpayers deserve a Senator who can actually pass a budget, not just talk about one.

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Congress.gov

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VETERANS / DELAWARE / HEALTHCARE

Veterans Affairs — Southern Delaware VA Facility Advocacy — Weekend Constituent Outreach Window

Coons continues to advocate for expanded VA healthcare services in southern Delaware, including support for a new outpatient specialty care facility serving veterans in Kent and

Sussex counties. The weekend presents a constituent outreach window for Coons to engage veterans' organizations in the region. Staff should monitor for any Coons events, town halls, or social media engagement related to VA services this weekend. The Kent/Sussex VA facility remains a bipartisan priority that Katz also champions.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's veterans platform, which specifically calls for a 'VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware' and emphasizes 'accessible, advanced medical care services tailored to [veterans'] unique health challenges,' this is rare shared ground. Katz should own this issue aggressively — his platform names the southern Delaware VA facility explicitly, and as a physician, he brings clinical expertise to healthcare facility design and operations that Coons simply cannot match. The message: Katz will deliver the facility veterans need because he understands healthcare from the inside.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- My platform specifically calls for an advanced VA medical facility in southern Delaware — I've been fighting for this.
- As a physician, I know what a modern healthcare facility needs. Coons is a lawyer making healthcare promises.
- Kent and Sussex veterans shouldn't have to drive two hours for specialty care. I'll fix that.
- I've spent 40 years in healthcare. I know how to build and operate medical facilities that actually serve patients.
- Supporting our veterans isn't just a platform plank for me — it's a calling rooted in my medical career.

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) - [Veterans](#) · [VA.gov](#)

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DELAWARE

BUSINESS CLIMATE / CORPORATE GOVERNANCE / DELAWARE ECONOMY **UPDATED**

ExxonMobil Texas Redomiciliation — Coons Enters Third Full Week Without Addressing Delaware's Eroding Business Climate

ExxonMobil's board-recommended redomiciliation from New Jersey to Texas — bypassing Delaware entirely — continues to reverberate as a signal that Delaware's longstanding position as America's premier state of incorporation is under threat. Sen. Coons has now gone three full weeks without publicly addressing this development or offering any policy response to strengthen Delaware's corporate franchise. Texas's aggressive business recruitment, lower tax burden, and perceived judicial predictability are key factors in the competitive shift.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Drawing on Katz's Delaware Senate legislation to repeal the state corporate income tax (SB 100, 146th General Assembly) and his economic platform emphasizing 'reducing the corporate tax burden' and 'incentivizing business investment,' Katz has a concrete legislative record on pro-business policy. The contrast: Katz recognized years ago that Delaware needed to be more competitive for businesses. Coons has watched Delaware's corporate franchise erode for three weeks in silence. When Katz was in the Delaware Senate, he acted. Coons just observes.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- I introduced legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax years ago. I saw this coming.
- ExxonMobil chose Texas over Delaware. Three weeks later, Coons still has nothing to say.
- Delaware's corporate franchise is our economic crown jewel — and it's slipping away on Coons's watch.
- Texas is eating our lunch on business recruitment. We need a Senator who fights back, not one who watches.
- My economic platform prioritizes reducing the corporate tax burden and incentivizing investment — exactly what Delaware needs.

SOURCES: Delaware News Journal · Katz SB 100 — Repeal Corporate Income Tax

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DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

[STAFF VERIFY] Delaware Population and Outmigration Trends — 2025 Census Estimates

Staff should check whether updated Census Bureau population estimates or IRS migration data for Delaware have been released in March 2026. Recent trends have shown Delaware experiencing slower population growth compared to peer states, with net domestic outmigration to states with lower costs of living and no income tax. If new data is available, compare Delaware's trajectory to competitor states like Florida, Texas, and Tennessee, and identify any age/income demographic patterns in outmigration.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's economic platform, which calls for tax reforms that spur economic growth and his Delaware Senate record of introducing SB 100 to repeal the corporate income tax, Katz can frame outmigration as the predictable result of failed economic stewardship. People and businesses are leaving high-tax, over-regulated states for states that welcome them. Delaware's Senator for 16 years bears responsibility for failing to make Delaware more competitive.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- People are voting with their feet — leaving Delaware for states with lower taxes and better opportunity.
- I tried to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax years ago. Imagine where we'd be if Coons had supported that kind of thinking.
- Outmigration isn't an accident — it's the result of policies that punish work, savings, and investment.
- When your state is losing residents to Florida and Texas, it's time for new leadership in Washington.
- Coons has been in the Senate for 16 years. Delaware's competitive position has declined on his watch.

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau · IRS Statistics of Income — Migration Data ↑ INDEX

GOVERNMENT REFORM / DELAWARE JOBS

[STAFF VERIFY] DOGE-Driven Federal Workforce Cuts — Delaware-Specific Impact Numbers

Coons has been among the most vocal Senate Democrats opposing DOGE-driven reductions-in-force across federal agencies. Delaware has a significant federal workforce presence, including at Dover AFB, the VA, IRS facilities, and various agency regional offices. Staff should compile Delaware-specific federal employment numbers and any confirmed or projected RIF impacts. This data is essential for calibrating Katz's messaging — supporting smart reform while defending Delaware federal workers from unnecessary disruption.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Drawing on Katz's Delaware Senate legislation establishing a Five-Year Plan to Restructure and Reorganize State Government, Katz has a credible record of supporting government reform done responsibly — with planning, evaluation, and community input. The contrast: Katz supports efficiency, not chaos. But Coons's blanket opposition to any workforce reform is equally irresponsible. Delawareans deserve a Senator who protects essential jobs while eliminating genuine waste.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- I support smart government reform — not blanket cuts, and not blanket opposition to reform. Both are irresponsible.
- In the Delaware Senate, I created a Five-Year Plan to restructure government — reform with a plan, not just a slogan.
- Delaware's federal workers deserve a Senator who protects essential jobs while demanding accountability for waste.

- Coons opposes every reform, every cut, every efficiency — that's not protecting workers, it's protecting bureaucracy.
- I'll work to ensure Dover AFB, VA, and essential agency jobs are protected while cutting genuine waste.

SOURCES: OPM FedScope — Federal Employment Data · Coons.senate.gov — Press

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HOUSING / COST OF LIVING / DELAWARE ECONOMY **NEW**

[STAFF VERIFY] Delaware Homeownership Affordability — March 2026 Update

Staff should pull the latest Delaware housing data — median home price, mortgage rates, and inventory levels — for March 2026 comparison. Per earlier data, Delaware's median home price surged 53% from \$221,100 (2018) to \$339,400 (2023), and the trend has likely continued. This issue cuts across party lines and is particularly salient for young first-time homebuyers in Delaware. Staff should check whether Coons has introduced or supported any housing affordability legislation in the 119th Congress.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's homeownership platform, which calls for 'tax incentives and discounted interest rates for first-time homebuyers, augmenting the supply of affordable homes, and implementing zoning changes aimed at reducing the cost of housing construction,' Katz has a detailed, actionable plan. The contrast: Coons has been in the Senate for 16 years during which Delaware home prices surged 53% — and he's introduced no housing affordability legislation this Congress. Katz's platform addresses root causes; Coons hasn't even acknowledged the problem.

• TALKING POINTS

- Delaware home prices jumped 53% in five years. What has Chris Coons done about it? Nothing.
- My plan includes tax incentives for first-time buyers, zoning reform, and expanding affordable housing supply.
- The American Dream of homeownership is slipping away for young Delawareans — and their Senator hasn't noticed.
- I have a detailed housing affordability platform. Coons hasn't introduced a single housing bill this Congress.
- Sixteen years in office, and Delaware families still can't afford a home. It's time for new leadership.

SOURCES: Katz Homeownership Platform · Zillow — Delaware Housing Data

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WAR POWERS / IRAN / FOREIGN RELATIONS

Iran War Powers Debate — Weekend Pause, No Floor Vote Scheduled; Coons Continues Push to Constrain Commander-in-Chief Authority

Coons remains a vocal supporter of Sen. Tim Kaine's War Powers Resolution aimed at restraining the President's ability to take military action against Iran without prior congressional authorization. No floor vote has been scheduled, and the resolution remains in procedural limbo. Coons's support for constraining executive military authority represents a significant area of vulnerability, particularly as Iran's nuclear program advances and regional tensions remain elevated.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's defense platform supporting strong Commander-in-Chief authority and his commitment to 'sustaining a robust military force essential for America's continuous ability to preserve global peace,' Katz firmly opposes legislative efforts to handcuff the President's ability to respond to Iranian aggression. The contrast: while Iran races toward a nuclear weapon, Coons wants to tie the President's hands. Katz believes the Commander-in-Chief must have the flexibility to protect American interests and allies.

• TALKING POINTS

- Iran is racing toward a nuclear weapon. This is not the time to handcuff our Commander-in-Chief.
- Chris Coons wants to give the mullahs in Tehran veto power over American military readiness.
- I support a strong, decisive Commander-in-Chief — not one constrained by congressional micromanagement during a crisis.
- Our adversaries don't wait for floor votes. The President needs the flexibility to protect America.
- Coons's War Powers push sends a signal of weakness to Iran at the worst possible time.

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Congress.gov — War Powers ↑ INDEX

GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS

DOGE Cuts to State Department / USAID — Coons Opposition Continues Into Weekend

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, calling the reductions 'reckless' and arguing they undermine American diplomatic capacity and national security. His messaging consistently frames any

personnel reductions at these agencies as an existential threat to American influence abroad. Staff should monitor for any weekend op-eds or media appearances on this topic.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's fiscal responsibility platform, Katz supports efficient government across all agencies — including the State Department. But Katz's approach, grounded in his Delaware Senate record of establishing a council to evaluate and restructure government services, is reform with a plan, not blanket opposition. The State Department can be more efficient without being gutted, and USAID can be refocused on programs that advance American interests rather than bureaucratic empire-building. Coons's reflexive defense of every government employee is about protecting institutions, not outcomes.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- I support American diplomacy — but that doesn't mean every USAID program and State Department position is sacred.
- Coons defends bureaucratic headcount. I'll defend American interests and results.
- Smart reform means keeping the diplomats we need and cutting the positions we don't. That's not reckless — it's responsible.
- USAID should advance American interests, not serve as a jobs program for Washington insiders.
- In the Delaware Senate, I authored plans to restructure government. I know the difference between reform and destruction.

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) — Press · Senate Foreign Relations Committee ↑ INDEX

UKRAINE / FOREIGN AID

[STAFF VERIFY] Ukraine Supplemental Aid — Weekend Status Check

Coons has been one of the Senate's most vocal advocates for continued military and economic assistance to Ukraine. Staff should verify whether any new supplemental aid package language has been circulated, whether any Senate floor action is scheduled for the coming week, and whether Coons has made any new public statements or participated in any delegation travel related to Ukraine support. The political dynamics around Ukraine aid continue to shift as the conflict enters its fourth year.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per Katz's defense platform emphasizing fiscal responsibility alongside robust national defense, Katz can frame the Ukraine debate around accountability and American interests first. Every dollar sent abroad must be accounted for and tied to clear strategic objectives. The contrast: Coons writes blank checks for foreign aid; Katz demands

accountability, transparency, and a clear American interest test before committing taxpayer dollars overseas.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- I support our allies — but every dollar of foreign aid must pass an American interest test.
- Chris Coons has never met a foreign aid bill he wouldn't vote for. That's not strategy — it's reflex.
- Accountability isn't isolationism. It's what taxpayers deserve.
- Before we send more billions abroad, show me the audit of the last billions we sent.
- A strong America helps its allies from a position of fiscal strength, not endless borrowing.

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Coons.senate.gov — Press ↑ INDEX

SENATE DEMOCRAT CAUCUS WATCH

ELECTION INTEGRITY / IMMIGRATION

SAVE America Act — Senate Democrats Expected to Block Voter Citizenship Verification; Coons Silent but Aligned with Caucus

The SAVE Act (H.R. 22), which requires documentary proof of U.S. citizenship to register to vote in federal elections, passed the House in April 2025 on a largely party-line vote (220-208) and is now before the Senate. Senate Democrats are expected to filibuster or unanimously oppose the bill, framing it as voter suppression. No Senate Democrat has publicly supported the legislation. Coons has not made a specific public statement on the SAVE Act but is expected to vote with his caucus against it. The bill remains in legislative limbo as Senate leadership determines floor scheduling.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act. His position is unequivocal: only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections — a principle supported by overwhelming majorities of Americans across party lines. Senate Democrats blocking this commonsense measure are choosing to protect a broken system over election integrity. The contrast could not be clearer: Katz will vote to pass the SAVE Act; Coons will vote to kill it. Voters deserve to know where their Senator stands — and Coons's silence is itself an answer.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections. That's not controversial — unless you're a Senate Democrat.
- I'll vote YES on the SAVE Act. Chris Coons will vote NO. Let the voters decide who's right.

- Requiring proof of citizenship to vote isn't suppression — it's common sense that 80% of Americans support.
- Coons won't even say where he stands on the SAVE Act. I'll tell you exactly where I stand: YES.
- If you need an ID to buy a beer, you should need proof of citizenship to vote for President.

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](#) — H.R. 22 (SAVE Act) · [GovTrack](#) — H.R. 22 ↑ INDEX

2026 RACE CONTEXT

CAMPAIGN INTELLIGENCE

Race Snapshot: Coons vs. Katz (General: Nov. 3, 2026)

Sen. Coons (D) is running for a third full term. Republican primary: Dr. Mike Katz vs. John Shulli — primary set for September 15, 2026. Delaware is historically Solid Democratic. Coons has missed 3.0% of Senate roll call votes since 2010. His legislative profile focuses on International Affairs (27%), Commerce (21%), and Labor (10%). Committees: Appropriations (Defense Subcommittee Ranking Member), Foreign Relations, Judiciary. No new public polling has been released this weekend. Staff should monitor for any Coons fundraising disclosures or campaign events.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Strategic note for Katz: Coons is well-funded and active on national security. Key vulnerabilities this week: (1) Four bills in three weeks with zero cosponsors — legislative ineffectiveness narrative is building; (2) Three weeks of silence on ExxonMobil/Delaware business climate erosion; (3) Iran war posture — constraining Commander-in-Chief authority; (4) DOGE/government spending — blanket opposition to reform; (5) ICE Accountability Act — six weeks stalled, exposes soft-on-enforcement positioning; (6) Healthcare — Katz's home turf as a physician with 40 years experience vs. Coons's zero healthcare credentials.

• TALKING POINTS

- Sixteen years in office, four committees, and Coons can't get a single cosponsor on his latest bills.
- Katz brings 40 years of healthcare experience, a record of passed legislation, and a plan for Delaware's future.
- Coons is a career politician running on inertia. Katz is a physician-leader running on results.
- Delaware deserves a Senator who actually delivers — not one who introduces bills that die in committee.
- The choice is clear: a doctor who solves problems vs. a politician who creates them.

Sources: Congress.gov · GovTrack · NPR · Coons.senate.gov · Ballotpedia · C-SPAN

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