

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

TOP STORY

LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS / OVERSIGHT **UPDATED**

Coons' March Legislative Portfolio Hits Day 10+ — All Four Bills Stalled, Zero Cosponsors, Zero Committee Action as Senate in Weekend Recess

As the Senate remains in weekend recess, all four bills Sen. Coons introduced in March 2026 continue to sit motionless in committee with zero cosponsors, zero scheduled hearings, and zero markup activity. S. 4144 (ESCRA Act, Banking Committee — Day 10), S. 4145 (Pro Codes Act, Judiciary — Day 10), S. 4089 (Blue Envelope Act, Judiciary — Day 17), and S. 4011 (Tropical Forest/Coral Reef Conservation, Foreign Relations — Day 24) have collectively generated no legislative momentum whatsoever. This stagnation pattern is consistent with Coons' broader legislative effectiveness record: bills introduced with press releases but no apparent strategy to attract bipartisan cosponsors or advance through committee.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has a demonstrated record of getting legislation enacted — including Delaware's National Scenic Byway legislation (Katz SB 241) and the DHIN restructuring bill — while serving in the minority in the Delaware State Senate. Dr. Katz believes effectiveness is measured by results, not press releases, and that after 16 years in the Senate, Coons should be able to attract at least one cosponsor to his own bills.

• TALKING POINTS

- Four bills introduced in March, zero cosponsors on any of them — after 16 years in office, Coons can't convince a single colleague to sign on
- Dr. Katz passed bipartisan legislation as a minority-party state senator; Coons can't move bills as a senior member of the majority's opposition
- Delaware deserves a senator who delivers results, not one who introduces bills that die in committee cycle after cycle
- Press releases aren't policy — Delawareans need a senator focused on outcomes, not optics

SOURCES: [Congress.gov — S. 4144](#) · [Congress.gov — S. 4145](#) · [Congress.gov — S. 4089](#) [↑ INDEX](#)

DEFENSE & PENTAGON

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS / FY2027 BUDGET / DOGE

FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Weekend Pause; Coons' Anti-DOGE Messaging Strategy Under Review

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee is in weekend recess after completing two weeks of FY2027 budget hearings. As Ranking Member, Coons has used these hearings to frame DOGE-driven efficiency reviews as existential threats to military readiness and force structure, rather than engaging substantively with potential cost savings or waste reduction. His messaging has centered on protecting bureaucratic structures rather than ensuring taxpayer dollars are spent effectively on warfighter needs. Staff should use the weekend to compile a comprehensive record of Coons' specific questions and statements from the first two weeks of hearings for contrast development.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong defense spending focused on warfighter readiness and lethality, consistent with his platform commitment to robust national defense and Commander-in-Chief authority. As a physician and business owner who has managed operational efficiencies in surgical facilities, Dr. Katz believes that demanding accountability in how defense dollars are spent strengthens — not weakens — national security. Coons' reflexive opposition to efficiency reviews suggests he prioritizes protecting the bureaucracy over protecting the troops.

• TALKING POINTS

- Supporting our military means ensuring every defense dollar goes to warfighter readiness, not bureaucratic bloat
- Dr. Katz's experience managing surgical facilities taught him that operational efficiency and excellence go hand-in-hand — the same principle applies to defense spending
- Coons is using his Ranking Member position to protect the Pentagon bureaucracy, not the men and women in uniform
- Accountability isn't a threat to national security — waste and mismanagement are

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · C-SPAN

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DEFENSE / BORDER SECURITY

[STAFF VERIFY] Coons Statements on National Guard Border Deployment — No Confirmed Public Position Through Day 20 of Tracking

Staff has been tracking for twenty days whether Coons has issued any formal statement, floor remarks, committee questions, or social media posts regarding the Administration's expanded National Guard deployment to the southern border. As of today, no confirmed public statement has been identified. This continued silence is notable given Coons' position as Defense

Appropriations Ranking Member, which gives him direct jurisdiction over National Guard funding and deployment costs. Staff should continue monitoring all Coons channels.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong border security and robust ICE enforcement, per his platform's commitment to secure borders. The National Guard's border deployment is a legitimate use of military resources to protect American sovereignty, and Coons' twenty days of silence on the issue suggests he is either unwilling to support border security or afraid to oppose it publicly in a state where voters want secure borders.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Twenty days and counting — Coons won't say whether he supports National Guard troops securing our border
- The Defense Appropriations Ranking Member has jurisdiction over Guard funding but won't take a position on the border mission
- Dr. Katz supports using every lawful tool — including National Guard deployment — to secure America's borders
- Silence on border security is a position — it tells Delawareans that Coons prioritizes party politics over public safety

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://www.coons.senate.gov) · [Senate Appropriations Committee](#)

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RECENT LEGISLATION

CONSUMER PROTECTION / BANKING

S. 4144 — ESCRA Act (Credit Repair Organizations) — Day 10 in Banking Committee, No Cosponsors

Coons' ESCRA Act, introduced March 19 to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act, enters its tenth day in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee with no cosponsors and no committee activity. The bill proposes additional regulation of credit repair organizations. Without bipartisan support or committee engagement, the bill appears unlikely to advance.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports consumer protection but believes in reducing regulatory burdens on small businesses, per his platform commitment to 'alleviate regulatory burdens on small businesses and startups.' Rather than layering on additional federal regulation, Dr. Katz believes in empowering consumers through transparency and market competition.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- More regulation without a single cosponsor — Coons' approach to consumer protection is performative, not practical
- Dr. Katz supports protecting consumers through transparency and competition, not bureaucratic red tape
- Small businesses in the credit services space deserve smart regulation, not politically motivated overreach
- Ten days, zero cosponsors — this bill is going nowhere

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4144

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COPYRIGHT / GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

S. 4145 — Pro Codes Act of 2026 (Copyright/Open Access) — Day 10 in Judiciary, No Cosponsors

Coons' Pro Codes Act (S. 4145), introduced March 19 to amend Title 17 U.S. Code regarding copyrighted works incorporated by reference into federal law, enters its tenth day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no scheduled hearing. The bill addresses a niche intellectual property issue with limited Delaware-specific impact. No movement is expected during the weekend recess.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government transparency — he authored Delaware State Senate legislation requiring live streaming of Senate proceedings (Katz SR 14) and championed open and transparent redistricting (Katz SR 9). Dr. Katz believes in proven transparency measures that actually pass and take effect, not niche copyright bills that attract zero support.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz actually passed transparency legislation in Delaware — live streaming of the State Senate and open redistricting
- Coons introduces niche copyright bills with no cosponsors while real transparency issues go unaddressed
- Results matter more than bill introductions — Dr. Katz has a track record of enacted transparency reforms
- After 16 years, Coons should know how to build a coalition for a bill

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4145

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JUDICIARY / LAW ENFORCEMENT / DISABILITY RIGHTS

S. 4089 — Blue Envelope Act — Day 17 in Judiciary, No Action

Coons' Blue Envelope Act (S. 4089), introduced March 12 to authorize DOJ grants for programs assisting law enforcement in identifying and safely interacting with individuals with autism and other disabilities during traffic stops, enters its seventeenth day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no committee action. The concept has merit but the bill's stagnation raises questions about legislative strategy.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports first responders and law enforcement, per his platform's commitment to ensuring 'we unequivocally got their back.' As a physician, Dr. Katz has extensive experience with disability populations and believes in practical solutions that support both officers and individuals with disabilities. He supports the concept but questions why Coons can't get a single cosponsor for a bill with bipartisan appeal.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- The Blue Envelope concept has bipartisan appeal — so why can't Coons get a single Republican cosponsor?
- Dr. Katz supports first responders and has worked with disability populations throughout his medical career
- Good ideas need legislative skill to become law — seventeen days with zero traction is not leadership
- As a physician who has treated patients across the disability spectrum, Dr. Katz brings real-world understanding to these issues

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — S. 4089

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ENVIRONMENT / FOREIGN AID

S. 4011 — Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization — Day 24, No Movement

Coons' 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 twenty-fourth day with no cosponsors and no committee action. The bill would reauthorize a foreign conservation program at a time when voters are focused on domestic priorities like inflation, housing, and border security. The bill's continued stagnation underscores its disconnect from Delaware voter concerns.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports responsible environmental stewardship — he authored Delaware's National Scenic Byway legislation (Katz SB 241) to protect open spaces and natural landscapes in Delaware. Dr. Katz believes environmental policy should prioritize

American communities and landscapes, not foreign conservation programs that lack any cosponsor support and have no direct benefit to Delawareans.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons is prioritizing tropical forest conservation overseas while Delaware families struggle with housing costs and inflation
- Dr. Katz authored and passed legislation protecting Delaware's own open spaces and scenic landscapes
- Twenty-four days, zero cosponsors — even Coons' Foreign Relations colleagues won't sign on
- Environmental stewardship starts at home — Dr. Katz's proven record is in protecting Delaware's natural resources

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

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IMMIGRATION / OVERSIGHT

S. 3891 — ICE Accountability Act — Stalled in Judiciary Committee, Week 7+

Coons' ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891), introduced February 12, enters its eighth week stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no new cosponsors or committee action. The bill would impose additional reporting requirements and oversight restrictions on ICE enforcement operations. The bill's continued stagnation reflects its lack of bipartisan viability in a Congress where immigration enforcement has strong public support.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and secure borders, per his platform. He opposes legislative efforts like S. 3891 that would hamstring immigration enforcement by burying ICE in additional bureaucratic reporting requirements. Dr. Katz believes ICE agents should be empowered to enforce the law, not buried in paperwork designed to slow them down.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons' ICE bill has been dead on arrival for nearly two months — even his own party won't cosponsor it
- Dr. Katz supports empowering ICE to enforce immigration law, not tying agents' hands with red tape
- Americans want secure borders, not more bureaucratic obstacles to enforcement
- Eight weeks, zero cosponsors — Coons is more interested in signaling to his liberal base than actually legislating

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

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MILITARY CONSTRUCTION / DELAWARE

Dover AFB FY2027 Military Construction — Weekend Staff Deep-Dive Continues

The weekend provides continued opportunity for staff to conduct thorough review of FY2027 military construction budget justification documents related to Dover Air Force Base. Dover AFB, home to the 436th and 512th Airlift Wings and the nation's largest aerial port of embarkation, is critical infrastructure for both Delaware's economy and national defense. Staff should identify any new MILCON requests, facility sustainment funding, and runway/infrastructure modernization items that Coons may claim credit for, and develop parallel messaging showing Dr. Katz's commitment to Dover AFB.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports robust military construction funding for Dover AFB, consistent with his platform commitment to strong defense and veterans' services. As a Delaware resident who understands the base's critical role in both national defense and the local economy, Dr. Katz believes Dover AFB funding should be a bipartisan priority — not something any single senator can claim exclusive credit for.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dover AFB is Delaware's most important federal installation — it deserves bipartisan support, not political credit-claiming
- Dr. Katz supports full funding for Dover AFB military construction and modernization
- Strong defense starts with strong bases — Dover AFB's airlift mission is irreplaceable for American power projection
- Staff should prepare detailed comparison of Coons' MILCON requests vs. what actually gets funded

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 over the weekend the current status of FY2026 federal funding — whether the government is operating under a continuing resolution, an enacted omnibus, or individual minibus appropriations bills. This directly affects Delaware federal facilities, grant programs, and military construction timelines. Any government funding uncertainty creates a messaging

opportunity to contrast Coons' 16-year track record with the persistent dysfunction in the appropriations process.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and timely budgeting, per his platform commitment to 'ensure fiscal responsibility and secure a stable, prosperous future.' After 16 years in the Senate — including senior Appropriations Committee membership — Coons bears responsibility for the chronic failure to pass budgets on time. Dr. Katz authored legislation in the Delaware State Senate to restructure and reorganize state government for efficiency (Katz Five Year Plan bill).

• **TALKING POINTS**

- After 16 years on the Appropriations Committee, Coons still can't deliver on-time budgets
- Government-by-CR is not governing — it's a failure of leadership
- Dr. Katz passed legislation in Delaware's State Senate to restructure government for efficiency and accountability
- Delawareans deserve a senator who demands fiscal discipline, not one who enables dysfunction

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Congress.gov

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DELAWARE

BUSINESS CLIMATE / CORPORATE GOVERNANCE / DELAWARE ECONOMY

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

ExxonMobil's board-recommended redomiciliation from New Jersey to Texas — bypassing Delaware entirely — enters its fourth week as a data point in Delaware's eroding position as America's premier corporate domicile. Coons has not publicly addressed the broader trend of major corporations choosing Texas or Nevada over Delaware for incorporation or reincorporation. This silence is particularly notable given Delaware's historic dependence on franchise tax revenue and the Court of Chancery's role in corporate law. The weekend provides an opportunity for staff to compile a comprehensive list of major corporate redomiciliation decisions over the past two years for messaging development.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports reducing corporate tax burdens to attract and retain business — he authored legislation in the Delaware State Senate to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax (Katz SB 100) specifically to encourage businesses to operate in Delaware

and generate jobs. Coons' silence on Delaware's eroding business competitiveness reflects a career politician's detachment from the economic fundamentals that drive Delaware's prosperity.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Major corporations are choosing Texas over Delaware for incorporation — and Coons has nothing to say about it
- Dr. Katz authored legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax to make the state more competitive for business
- Delaware's franchise tax revenue depends on remaining the top state for corporate formation — that status is under threat
- Coons has been in the Senate for 16 years while Delaware's business climate has deteriorated — where's his plan?

SOURCES: Delaware Division of Corporations · Reuters

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DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

[STAFF VERIFY] Delaware Population and Outmigration Trends — Weekend Data Review

Staff should use the weekend to conduct a comprehensive review of the latest available Census Bureau population estimates and IRS migration data for Delaware. Recent trends have shown Delaware experiencing slower population growth and net domestic outmigration to lower-cost states. These trends have direct implications for Delaware's congressional representation, federal funding allocations, and overall economic vitality. Any new data should be compiled for use in messaging about Coons' failure to address quality-of-life issues driving residents out of the state.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz's platform focuses on the kitchen-table issues driving outmigration — homeownership affordability (median home prices up 53% in five years per his platform data), cost of living, and economic opportunity. His commitment to policies that 'make homeownership once again attainable for working families' directly addresses the affordability crisis pushing Delawareans to leave.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Delaware home prices surged 53% from 2018 to 2023 — working families are being priced out of the American Dream
- Dr. Katz supports tax incentives and discounted interest rates for first-time homebuyers
- People are leaving Delaware because of affordability — Coons has been in office 16 years and the problem has gotten worse

- Quality of life in Delaware should be improving after 16 years of Coons' 'representation' — it's not

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau · DrMikeKatz.com — Homeownership

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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 Wilmington Medical Center, IRS facilities, and other federal offices. Staff should use the weekend to compile Delaware-specific RIF numbers, identify affected agencies, and assess whether Coons has offered any constructive alternative to blanket opposition. The goal is to differentiate between legitimate workforce concerns and reflexive defense of government bloat.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government efficiency and restructuring — he authored legislation in the Delaware State Senate establishing an independent council to evaluate state services and develop a five-year plan to restructure and reorganize state government. Dr. Katz believes taxpayer-funded positions should deliver value, and that defending every federal job regardless of performance is not a responsible position. He also believes legitimate workforce transitions should be handled humanely with support for affected employees.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz authored legislation to restructure Delaware's state government for efficiency — he understands how to reform responsibly
- Defending every government job without evaluating performance is not leadership — it's inertia
- Delaware's federal workers deserve honest leadership, not a senator who uses their jobs as political talking points
- Efficiency and accountability make government work better for everyone — including government employees

SOURCES: Coons.senate.gov · OPM.gov

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VETERANS / DELAWARE / HEALTHCARE

Veterans Affairs — Southern Delaware VA Facility Advocacy — Weekend Community Engagement Opportunity

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 provides an opportunity for the Katz campaign to conduct community engagement with veterans' organizations in southern Delaware, reinforcing Dr. Katz's unique credibility as a physician who has directly cared for patients in the region. Staff should identify upcoming VSO events, town halls, or service fairs for potential candidate participation.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz's platform explicitly calls for a 'VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware' and his forty-plus years in healthcare — including clinical work at Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children — give him unmatched credibility on veterans' healthcare needs. Unlike Coons, who advocates from a policy perspective, Dr. Katz has actually delivered medical care to patients in Delaware and understands facility operations, staffing, and clinical needs from the inside.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz has called for an advanced VA medical facility in southern Delaware — this is a core platform commitment
- With 40+ years in healthcare including clinical work at Delaware hospitals, Dr. Katz understands what veterans actually need from a VA facility
- Kent and Sussex County veterans shouldn't have to drive to Wilmington or Philadelphia for specialty care
- A physician-senator would bring firsthand expertise to VA oversight that a career politician simply cannot match

SOURCES: DrMikeKatz.com — Veterans · VA.gov

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Iran War Powers Debate — 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 is currently scheduled, and the resolution faces strong Republican opposition. Coons has framed the issue as a constitutional prerogative of Congress, while critics argue the resolution would telegraph weakness to Tehran and limit the

President's ability to respond to imminent threats. The weekend provides no expected movement on this issue.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong Commander-in-Chief authority, per his platform's commitment to robust national defense. He believes that constraining the President's ability to respond to Iranian aggression — including threats to U.S. forces, allies, and nuclear proliferation — weakens American deterrence at a critical moment in the Middle East. Telegraphing limitations to adversaries is not responsible national security policy.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons wants to tie the Commander-in-Chief's hands while Iran accelerates its nuclear program
- Dr. Katz supports strong presidential authority to defend American forces and interests against Iranian threats
- Deterrence requires credible force — War Powers restrictions signal weakness to Tehran
- National security decisions should not be micromanaged by congressional resolutions drafted for political messaging

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Congress.gov

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GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, now entering a fourth week of sustained public messaging. Coons has characterized the reductions as 'reckless' and argued they undermine American diplomatic capacity and global influence. His opposition has been a consistent theme in both Foreign Relations Committee settings and media appearances. No new developments are expected over the weekend, but the sustained messaging campaign signals this will remain a central Coons theme through the spring.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government efficiency across all agencies, including the State Department and USAID, consistent with his platform commitment to fiscal responsibility and his Delaware State Senate legislation to restructure and reorganize state government. He believes that bloated foreign aid bureaucracies should be reformed to ensure taxpayer dollars serve American strategic interests, not sustain institutional inertia. Accountability abroad should be held to the same standard as accountability at home.

- **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons defends every USAID bureaucrat while American taxpayers fund programs with no measurable outcomes
- Dr. Katz supports strategic foreign engagement — but demands accountability for how aid dollars are spent
- Reforming the foreign affairs bureaucracy is not isolationism — it's responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources
- Government efficiency isn't reckless — reckless is spending billions abroad with no accountability

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) · [Senate Foreign Relations Committee](#)

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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 over the weekend whether any new supplemental aid package language has been circulated, whether any bipartisan negotiations are underway, and whether the Administration has signaled a position on additional Ukraine funding. Any developments will be important for framing Coons' foreign policy spending priorities against domestic needs in Delaware.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports a strong national defense and American global leadership, but believes that every dollar spent on foreign aid must be weighed against urgent domestic needs — including Delaware's housing affordability crisis (53% increase in median home prices per Katz's platform data), healthcare access gaps, and infrastructure needs. Coons' eagerness to spend billions abroad while Delawareans struggle at home reveals misplaced priorities.

- **TALKING POINTS**

- How much more can we spend in Ukraine while Delaware families can't afford homes?
- Dr. Katz supports American strength abroad but demands that domestic needs come first
- Every foreign aid dollar should be measured against what it could do for Delawareans at home
- Accountability for Ukraine spending is not isolationism — it's fiscal responsibility

SOURCES: [Senate Foreign Relations Committee](#) · [Congress.gov](#)

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DHS and TSA Funding — Senate Democrats Expected to Leverage Funding Debate for Anti-Enforcement Messaging

Senate Democrats are expected to use upcoming DHS and TSA funding debates to push for restrictions on interior immigration enforcement, oppose expanded ICE detention capacity, and resist increases in border security funding. The caucus position prioritizes limiting enforcement operations while framing DHS spending as a civil liberties issue. Coons, as a loyal caucus member and author of the ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891), is aligned with this approach. No floor activity is expected during the weekend recess, but staff should prepare for renewed debate when the Senate reconvenes.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports full funding for DHS, ICE, and border security operations, consistent with his platform commitment to secure borders and strong ICE enforcement. He opposes Democratic caucus efforts to use funding bills to restrict immigration enforcement. Dr. Katz believes that defunding or restricting ICE and border security operations makes every American community less safe — including communities in Delaware.

• TALKING POINTS

- Senate Democrats want to use DHS funding to gut immigration enforcement — Dr. Katz supports fully funding border security
- Coons authored the ICE Accountability Act to handcuff ICE agents — now his caucus wants to defund them too
- Safe communities require funded law enforcement — not political gamesmanship with the DHS budget
- Dr. Katz believes strong border security and strong ICE enforcement protect every Delaware community

SAVE America Act — Senate Democrats Continue to Block Voter Citizenship Verification; Coons Expected to Vote With Caucus

The SAVE Act (H.R. 22), requiring documentary proof of U.S. citizenship to register to vote in federal elections, remains pending in the Senate after passing the House in April 2025 (220-208, largely party-line). Senate Democrats are expected to filibuster or otherwise block the bill, framing it as voter suppression. No Senate Democrat has publicly broken with the caucus position. Coons has not made a specific public statement on the SAVE Act but is expected to

vote with his caucus against the measure. No floor action is expected during the weekend recess.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act. He believes only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections — a position shared by the overwhelming majority of Americans regardless of party. Dr. Katz opposes Senate Democratic efforts to block or filibuster the bill, calling their resistance a choice to protect a broken system over basic election integrity. Requiring proof of citizenship to vote is common sense, not suppression.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Proving you're a citizen to vote is common sense — Coons and Senate Democrats are blocking it
- Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act because only American citizens should vote in American elections
- Overwhelming majorities of voters — including Democrats and independents — support citizenship verification for voting
- Coons won't even say where he stands on the SAVE Act — his silence tells Delawareans everything they need to know
- Blocking election integrity measures erodes public trust in democracy

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

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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.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Strategic note for Katz: Coons is well-funded and active on national security. Key vulnerabilities: Iran war posture, DOGE/government spending debate, ICE oversight bill, healthcare policy (Katz's home turf as a physician). Weekend provides opportunity for campaign to develop messaging around Coons' complete legislative stagnation — four March bills with zero cosponsors entering week two/three/four is a powerful narrative about

ineffectiveness. Staff should also begin developing contrast materials on Coons' 16-year track record vs. Dr. Katz's proven record of enacted legislation in the Delaware State Senate.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons has been in the Senate for 16 years — what has he actually delivered for Delaware?
- Dr. Katz brings real-world experience as a physician, business owner, and former state senator with a record of enacted legislation
- Delaware needs a senator who delivers results, not one who introduces bills that die in committee
- Healthcare, the economy, and border security are the issues Delawareans care about — not tropical forest conservation

SOURCES: GovTrack — Sen. Coons · DrMikeKatz.com

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

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