

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

TOP STORY

LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS / OVERSIGHT **UPDATED**

Q2 Opens With Coons' Legislative Record Under Scrutiny — Five Tracked Bills, Zero Movement, Zero Cosponsors Across the Board

As the second day of Q2 2026 begins, Sen. Coons' entire tracked legislative portfolio remains completely stalled. All four March bills — S. 4144 (ES CRA Act, Day 14), S. 4145 (Pro Codes Act, Day 14), S. 4089 (Blue Envelope Act, Day 21), and S. 4011 (Tropical Forest/Coral Reef, Day 28) — sit in committee with zero cosponsors and zero scheduled hearings. His February bill S. 3891 (ICE Accountability Act) enters its eighth week similarly frozen. This pattern raises serious questions about whether Coons is legislating for impact or for press releases.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes effective legislation requires coalition-building, not press-release bill drops. Drawing from his Delaware State Senate record — where he authored and passed the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway legislation (SB 241) and restructured the DHIN into a self-sustaining public-private partnership — Dr. Katz has demonstrated the ability to move legislation from introduction to enactment. Coons' pattern of introducing bills that attract zero cosponsors suggests a senator more interested in messaging than results.

• TALKING POINTS

- Five Coons bills tracked — zero cosponsors, zero committee hearings, zero movement across any of them
- After 16 years in the Senate, Coons still cannot attract a single cosponsor for his own legislation
- Dr. Katz passed real legislation in the Delaware State Senate, including the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway bill and DHIN restructuring
- Delawareans deserve a senator who builds coalitions, not one who files bills for headlines
- Coons' legislative effectiveness is a legitimate 2026 campaign issue — results matter more than intentions

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

FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Week Three Continues; Coons Expected to Continue Anti-DOGE Narrative at Thursday Sessions

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee continues its third week of FY2027 budget hearings Thursday. As Ranking Member, Coons has consistently used these sessions to characterize DOGE-driven efficiency reviews as threats to military readiness rather than engaging substantively on defense spending priorities. Staff should monitor Thursday's hearing schedule for any Coons questioning focused on DOGE impact on DoD civilian workforce or procurement timelines.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports both a strong national defense and fiscal responsibility — per his platform commitment to 'achieving energy independence' and 'fiscal responsibility' as economic foundations. He believes the Defense Department, like any organization, can be made more efficient without undermining readiness. Coons' reflexive opposition to any efficiency review suggests he prioritizes bureaucratic status quo over taxpayer stewardship.

• TALKING POINTS

- Supporting the troops and demanding accountability for defense dollars are not mutually exclusive
- Dr. Katz supports strong defense AND fiscal responsibility — taxpayers deserve both
- Coons treats any efficiency review as an attack on the military — that's Washington thinking, not Delaware thinking
- A physician understands that improving systems makes them stronger, not weaker
- Coons should be asking how to get more readiness per dollar, not defending bloat

[STAFF VERIFY] Coons Statements on National Guard Border Deployment — No Confirmed Public Position Through Day 24 of Tracking

Staff has been tracking for twenty-four 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 Wednesday's close, no confirmed public position from Coons has been identified. His silence on a major defense and border security deployment is notable given his role as Defense Appropriations Ranking Member.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong border security and robust ICE enforcement, per his platform's commitment to secure borders. As Defense Appropriations Ranking Member, Coons has an obligation to weigh in on a major National Guard deployment — twenty-four days of silence suggests he is caught between his caucus' open-borders instincts and Delaware voters who support border security.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Twenty-four days and counting — Delaware's senior senator still silent on National Guard border deployment
- Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement — no ambiguity, no silence
- The Defense Appropriations Ranking Member owes Delawareans a clear position on how Guard resources are being used
- Coons' silence suggests political calculation, not principled leadership
- Border security is national security — a point Coons seems unwilling to acknowledge publicly

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

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MILITARY CONSTRUCTION / DELAWARE

Dover AFB FY2027 Military Construction — Week Three Hearing Cycle; Thursday Engagement Tracking

As FY2027 defense hearings enter their third week, Dover Air Force Base remains a key Delaware equities item. Dover AFB, home to the 436th and 512th Airlift Wings and the Charles C. Carson Center for Mortuary Affairs, is central to strategic airlift and dignified transfer missions. Staff should monitor whether Coons raises Dover AFB military construction priorities in Thursday hearings and flag any specific project requests or funding levels he champions.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong defense and recognizes Dover AFB as essential to both national security and Delaware's economy, per his platform's defense and veterans commitments. On Delaware military funding, Dr. Katz can acknowledge bipartisan wins while pivoting to the broader point that Coons' record on defense efficiency and border security undermines the credibility of his defense advocacy.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dover AFB is critical infrastructure for national defense and Delaware's economy — both parties should champion it
- Dr. Katz supports full funding for Dover AFB military construction and readiness missions
- Supporting Dover AFB is necessary but not sufficient — Delaware's senator must also support strong borders and defense efficiency

- Coons' mixed record on defense — championing Dover while opposing border security — sends contradictory signals

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Dover AFB — Official Site † INDEX

RECENT LEGISLATION

CONSUMER PROTECTION / BANKING **UPDATED**

S. 4144 — ESCRA Act (Credit Repair Organizations) — Day 14 in Banking Committee, No Cosponsors

Coons' ESCRA Act, introduced March 19 to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act, enters its fourteenth day in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee with no cosponsors and no committee action. No hearing has been scheduled. The bill's two-week stall without attracting a single Senate supporter — Democrat or Republican — raises questions about whether this legislation was designed to advance or simply to generate a consumer-protection talking point.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports consumer protections that actually reach constituents. Per his platform emphasis on reducing regulatory burdens on small businesses while protecting consumers, he believes effective legislation requires building coalitions before introduction — not dropping bills into a void. Coons' inability to find even one cosponsor suggests poor legislative craftsmanship.

• TALKING POINTS

- Day 14, zero cosponsors — the ESCRA Act is going nowhere
- Consumer protection requires legislation that can actually pass, not press releases
- Dr. Katz supports practical consumer protections grounded in coalition-building
- If Coons can't convince a single colleague this bill matters, why should Delawareans believe it does?

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4144 † INDEX

COPYRIGHT / GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY **UPDATED**

S. 4145 — Pro Codes Act of 2026 (Copyright/Open Access) — Day 14 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 fourteenth day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no committee action. The bill addresses a

niche copyright issue regarding public access to privately developed codes adopted into law. While the transparency goal has merit, the bill's complete isolation in committee without any Senate support underscores a pattern.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government transparency — as demonstrated by his Delaware State Senate legislation requiring live streaming of Senate proceedings (SR 14, 146th General Assembly) and open redistricting processes (SR 9). Dr. Katz's transparency record involved legislation that actually passed. Coons' Pro Codes Act, with zero cosponsors at Day 14, appears to be another exercise in legislative symbolism.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz passed live-streaming legislation for the Delaware State Senate — real transparency, real results
- Coons' Pro Codes Act: Day 14, zero cosponsors, zero hearings
- Transparency is a value Dr. Katz has acted on, not just talked about
- Pattern continues: Coons introduces bills that go nowhere and claims credit for trying

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — S. 4145

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

S. 4089 — Blue Envelope Act — Day 21 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 twenty-first day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no committee action. The bill addresses a real concern — interactions between law enforcement and individuals with disabilities — but has attracted no support from any other senator in three weeks.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports both first responders and individuals with disabilities, per his platform's commitment to first responders and his medical background working with vulnerable patient populations including children with complex conditions. As a physician who has cared for patients across the spectrum of society, Dr. Katz believes this type of initiative deserves bipartisan engagement — but Coons' failure to recruit a single cosponsor in 21 days suggests the bill was introduced without the groundwork needed to make it law.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Protecting both first responders and individuals with disabilities is a bipartisan goal

- Dr. Katz's medical career included caring for vulnerable patients — he understands these challenges firsthand
- Three weeks, zero cosponsors — Coons didn't do the work to make this bill viable
- Delawareans with disabilities deserve legislation that passes, not legislation that languishes

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

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ENVIRONMENT / FOREIGN AID **UPDATED**

S. 4011 — Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization — Day 28, 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-eighth day with no cosponsors and no committee action. The bill would reauthorize U.S. spending on tropical forest and coral reef conservation programs abroad. Approaching one month without any movement or support, this bill exemplifies the pattern of Coons introducing legislation that fails to generate interest from colleagues.

⚡ KATZ CONTRAST POINT: Dr. Katz supports environmental stewardship grounded in science and focused on American interests — per his platform's emphasis on clean water and air, Delaware's beaches and open spaces, and leveraging private sector innovation. As the author of Delaware's Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway legislation (SB 241), Dr. Katz has a real environmental record. Coons' preference for funding conservation programs overseas while Delaware's own environmental needs persist is a misplaced priority.

• TALKING POINTS

- Day 28, zero cosponsors — Coons' tropical conservation bill is dead on arrival
- Dr. Katz authored and passed Delaware's Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway legislation — real environmental results at home
- Spending on foreign conservation while Delaware's own coastline and open spaces need protection is backwards
- Environmental policy should start with American communities, not overseas programs

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

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IMMIGRATION / OVERSIGHT

S. 3891 — ICE Accountability Act — Week 8+ Stalled in Judiciary Committee

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 oversight and reporting requirements on ICE operations, which critics view as an attempt to hamstring interior immigration enforcement at a time when the Administration is prioritizing border security and deportation of criminal aliens. The bill remains Coons' most politically revealing legislation of 2026.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and secure borders. He opposes legislative efforts to constrain or burden ICE operations during a border crisis, viewing S. 3891 as an attempt to handcuff the enforcement professionals who protect American communities. This is a clear, high-contrast issue for the 2026 race: Coons wants to restrict ICE; Dr. Katz wants to empower ICE.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Eight weeks and counting — Coons' ICE restriction bill can't even find a cosponsor
- Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement — Coons wants to tie ICE's hands
- Delaware communities are safer when immigration laws are enforced, not when enforcement is burdened with red tape
- The ICE Accountability Act tells you everything about where Coons stands on border security
- Even Senate Democrats won't cosponsor this bill — it's too far left for the caucus

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — S. 3891

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APPROPRIATIONS & DELAWARE FUNDING

FEDERAL FUNDING / DELAWARE

[STAFF VERIFY] FY2026 Federal Funding Status — Confirm CR or Enacted Status as Q2 Begins

Staff should confirm at the start of business Thursday the current status of FY2026 federal funding. Determine whether the government is operating under a continuing resolution, an enacted omnibus, or individual appropriations bills. This is critical for understanding the baseline against which FY2027 requests and Delaware-specific projects will be measured. Any lapse or CR extension affects Dover AFB operations, VA services, and federal workforce stability in Delaware.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and believes Congress must pass on-time budgets rather than governing by crisis-to-crisis continuing resolutions, per his platform's commitment to fiscal discipline. Coons has served in the Senate since 2010 and has presided over — or acquiesced to — a broken appropriations process for sixteen years.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Congress hasn't passed on-time appropriations in years — Coons has been there for all of it
- Continuing resolutions hurt Delaware military installations and federal employees
- Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and on-time budgets — basic governance, not radical reform
- Sixteen years in the Senate and Coons still can't help deliver a functioning budget process

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee

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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 IRS Wilmington office, USDA facilities, and VA health centers. Staff should verify whether updated Delaware-specific RIF numbers or federal employee separation data have been released by OPM or individual agencies this week. Concrete numbers are essential for campaign messaging on both sides of this issue.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government efficiency reforms while recognizing the importance of federal jobs in Delaware's economy. Per his Delaware State Senate legislation establishing an independent council to evaluate state services and develop a five-year government restructuring plan, Dr. Katz has a proven record of pursuing responsible government reform — not blanket opposition to any change, as Coons practices.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz introduced legislation for a five-year government restructuring plan in Delaware — reform with a plan, not chaos
- Coons opposes all efficiency reforms — that's not protecting workers, it's protecting waste
- Delaware federal employees deserve a senator who fights for both their jobs AND responsible government
- Katz's approach: evaluate, restructure, improve — not reflexively defend the status quo

SOURCES: Coons.senate.gov · OPM.gov

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DELAWARE

BUSINESS CLIMATE / CORPORATE GOVERNANCE / DELAWARE ECONOMY

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

ExxonMobil's board-recommended redomiciliation from New Jersey to Texas — bypassing Delaware entirely — now enters its fifth week as a data point in Delaware's eroding position as America's premier corporate domicile state. Coons has not made any public statement, introduced any legislation, or convened any hearings addressing why major corporations are choosing Texas over Delaware for incorporation. This silence is notable given that Delaware's franchise tax and legal system are central to the state's revenue model and identity.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes Delaware's business-friendly environment is foundational to the state's economy. Per his platform emphasis on reducing corporate tax burdens (Katz SB 100, 146th General Assembly, repealing Delaware's corporate income tax) and alleviating regulatory burdens on businesses, Dr. Katz has a concrete record of fighting to make Delaware competitive. Coons' five weeks of silence on ExxonMobil's rejection of Delaware signals indifference to a core economic vulnerability.

• TALKING POINTS

- Five weeks of silence — Coons has nothing to say about why ExxonMobil chose Texas over Delaware
- Dr. Katz introduced legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax to attract businesses — he understands competitiveness
- Delaware's franchise tax revenue depends on being the nation's corporate home — Coons is asleep at the switch
- If Delaware loses its corporate domicile advantage, middle-class Delawareans pay the price through higher taxes
- Coons has been in office 16 years — what has he done to protect Delaware's business edge?

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) · Delaware Division of Corporations

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DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

[STAFF VERIFY] Delaware Population and Outmigration Trends — Thursday Data Check

Staff should check Thursday morning whether updated Census Bureau population estimates or IRS migration data for Delaware have been released. Recent trends have shown Delaware experiencing slower population growth relative to Sun Belt states and net domestic outmigration of higher-income residents. This data is critical for framing Coons' 16-year Senate tenure against Delaware's economic trajectory and quality-of-life competitiveness.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes Delaware's quality of life — including homeownership affordability, education quality, and economic opportunity — drives whether people choose to stay or leave. Per his platform's homeownership plank noting Delaware median home prices surged 53% from 2018-2023, and his education and economy platforms, Dr. Katz connects federal policy failures to real Delaware outcomes. Coons' 16-year tenure coincides with troubling outmigration trends he has done nothing to reverse.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- People vote with their feet — and Delaware's outmigration trends are a referendum on leadership
- Home prices up 53% in five years in Delaware — Coons has no answer for working families priced out
- Dr. Katz's platform addresses homeownership, education, and economic growth — the drivers of whether people stay in Delaware
- Sixteen years of Coons, and Delaware is losing ground to states with lower taxes and better opportunities

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau

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VETERANS / DELAWARE / HEALTHCARE

Veterans Affairs — Southern Delaware VA Facility Advocacy — Thursday Constituent 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. Thursday presents a constituent engagement opportunity for the Katz campaign to reinforce its own veterans healthcare messaging in the southern Delaware corridor. Staff should monitor whether Coons makes any public statement, site visit, or funding announcement related to southern Delaware VA services.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has called for a VA advanced medical facility in southern Delaware, per his veterans platform, which specifically identifies Kent and Sussex county veterans as underserved. As a physician with over forty years in healthcare, Dr. Katz brings clinical credibility to VA healthcare advocacy that Coons cannot match. The campaign should ensure Dr. Katz's southern Delaware VA commitment is visible in Kent and Sussex counties alongside any Coons messaging.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz's veterans platform specifically calls for advanced VA medical services in southern Delaware

- As a physician, Dr. Katz understands the unique healthcare challenges veterans face — from PTSD to complex surgical care
- Kent and Sussex county veterans shouldn't have to drive hours for specialty care
- Coons talks about VA expansion — Dr. Katz brings forty years of healthcare expertise to make it real

SOURCES: Dr. Mike Katz — Veterans Platform · Coons.senate.gov

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FOREIGN POLICY & DIPLOMACY

WAR POWERS / IRAN / FOREIGN RELATIONS

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 has been scheduled as of Thursday. Coons has framed this effort as a constitutional prerogative issue, but the practical effect would be to telegraph American hesitancy to Iran at a moment of heightened regional tension and nuclear development concerns.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong Commander-in-Chief authority and believes constraining the President's ability to respond to Iranian threats endangers American security. Per his platform's commitment to strong defense and national security, Dr. Katz opposes legislative efforts that signal weakness to adversaries. Coons' War Powers push benefits Tehran's calculation, not America's deterrence posture.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz supports strong Commander-in-Chief authority — adversaries must know America can act decisively
- Coons' War Powers push would telegraph hesitation to Tehran at the worst possible time
- Iran's nuclear program is advancing — this is not the moment to handcuff the President
- Supporting the troops means ensuring the Commander-in-Chief has the tools to protect them
- Constitutional debate is legitimate — but Coons' timing and framing serve Tehran, not Delaware

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Coons.senate.gov

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GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, now entering a fifth week of sustained public messaging. Coons has characterized the reductions as 'gutting American diplomacy' and threatening national security. Staff should monitor Thursday for any new floor statements, committee letters, or media appearances on this topic.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports responsible government reform, including at the State Department and USAID, per his platform commitment to fiscal responsibility and his Delaware State Senate record of proposing a five-year government restructuring plan. Efficiency in foreign affairs spending is not 'gutting diplomacy' — it is ensuring taxpayer dollars are deployed for maximum strategic impact. Coons' blanket defense of the foreign affairs bureaucracy reflects Washington priorities, not Delaware's.

• TALKING POINTS

- Efficiency at State and USAID means more effective diplomacy, not less
- Dr. Katz introduced a five-year government restructuring plan in Delaware — he believes in reform with a plan
- Coons' 'gutting diplomacy' rhetoric is alarmist — taxpayers deserve accountability in every agency
- Foreign aid should serve American strategic interests, not just sustain bureaucratic headcount

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

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UKRAINE / FOREIGN AID

[STAFF VERIFY] Ukraine Supplemental Aid — Thursday Status Check

Coons has been one of the Senate's most vocal advocates for continued military and economic assistance to Ukraine. Staff should verify Thursday whether any new supplemental aid package language has been introduced, whether the Administration has submitted a new funding request, or whether any Senate floor action is scheduled. Track any Coons media appearances or floor statements on Ukraine this week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports a strong defense posture and American leadership, but believes any continued Ukraine assistance must be paired with clear strategic objectives, measurable outcomes, and fiscal accountability, per his platform's emphasis on fiscal

responsibility. Coons' approach of open-ended support without defined metrics does not serve American taxpayers or Ukrainian sovereignty effectively.

• TALKING POINTS

- American aid to Ukraine must come with clear objectives and accountability — not a blank check
- Dr. Katz supports American leadership but demands fiscal responsibility in every spending decision
- Coons' approach: spend more, ask fewer questions — that's not strategy, it's inertia
- Supporting Ukraine effectively requires metrics and endgame clarity, not just dollar figures

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Coons.senate.gov

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SENATE DEMOCRAT CAUCUS WATCH

HOMELAND SECURITY / FISCAL POLICY

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 spending. The caucus position treats enforcement funding as a leverage point for imposing conditions that would effectively limit deportations and constrain border operations. Coons, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, is positioned to play a direct role in shaping — or obstructing — DHS funding levels. No specific new floor action has been scheduled for Thursday.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports full funding for DHS, ICE, and border security operations and opposes Democratic efforts to use the appropriations process to hamstring immigration enforcement. Per his platform commitment to secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, Dr. Katz believes DHS funding debates should focus on giving enforcement agencies the resources they need — not on creating legislative obstacles to deportation.

• TALKING POINTS

- Senate Democrats want to use the budget process to defund border enforcement by another name
- Dr. Katz supports full funding for ICE, CBP, and DHS — no strings designed to weaken enforcement

- Coons sits on Appropriations — he has a direct hand in whether border agents get the resources they need
- Delawareans support border security — Coons' caucus does not
- The question for Coons: will you fund border enforcement or obstruct it?

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Coons.senate.gov

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ELECTION INTEGRITY / IMMIGRATION

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 oppose or filibuster the bill, framing it as voter suppression. No Senate Democrat has indicated support. Coons has not made a specific public statement on the SAVE Act but is expected to vote with his caucus against it. No floor vote is currently scheduled for Thursday.

⚡ **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. Dr. Katz opposes Senate Democrat efforts to block or filibuster the bill, viewing their resistance as a choice to protect a broken system over basic election integrity. Coons' expected opposition places him against common-sense verification that most Delawareans support.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz supports the SAVE Act — only citizens should vote in American elections, full stop
- Coons won't say where he stands, but his caucus is blocking even basic citizenship verification
- Requiring proof of citizenship to vote is not suppression — it's common sense
- Most Americans agree: one citizen, one vote — why does Coons' party disagree?
- Coons' silence on the SAVE Act speaks louder than any press release

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). The Q2 opening with five stalled bills and zero cosponsors provides a fresh narrative frame: Coons is an ineffective legislator despite 16 years of seniority. Campaign should consider a 'Cosponsor Count' tracker as a recurring social media asset.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Sixteen years in office — Coons' 2026 legislative record speaks for itself: five bills, zero cosponsors
- Dr. Katz brings real-world experience: medicine, business, Delaware State Senate legislation that actually passed
- Coons' committee positions give him power — but power without results is just a title
- Healthcare, border security, government reform — Dr. Katz has concrete positions on every issue Coons dodges

SOURCES: GovTrack — Sen. Coons Profile · Dr. Mike Katz Campaign

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

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