

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

TOP STORY

WAR POWERS / IRAN / COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF **UPDATED**

Coons Cosponsors Iran War Powers Resolution (S.J.Res. 191) to Restrict Presidential Military Authority — Introduced April 30

On April 30, Sen. Coons joined as a cosponsor of S.J.Res. 191, a joint resolution directing the removal of U.S. Armed Forces from hostilities within or against Iran that have not been authorized by Congress. The resolution was read twice and referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where Coons sits. This marks the first concrete legislative action behind Coons' months-long rhetorical campaign to constrain the President's Commander-in-Chief authority regarding Iran — elevating the issue from floor statements to formal cosponsorship of binding legislation.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports the President's constitutional authority as Commander-in-Chief to defend the nation and protect American forces from Iranian threats (per his strong defense and Commander-in-Chief authority platform). Coons' cosponsorship of S.J.Res. 191 represents a concrete step to tie the President's hands on one of the most dangerous threats in the Middle East. Dr. Katz believes Congress should support — not undermine — the Commander-in-Chief's ability to respond to imminent threats.

• TALKING POINTS

- Sen. Coons is now formally cosponsoring legislation to pull American forces back from confronting Iranian aggression — not just talking about it, but signing onto a binding resolution.
- Dr. Katz supports the President's constitutional Commander-in-Chief authority to protect American servicemembers and allies from Iranian threats.
- Delaware is home to Dover AFB, a critical strategic asset — Delawareans understand the importance of military readiness, not congressional handcuffs on our military leaders.
- Coons sits on the Foreign Relations Committee that will consider this resolution — he's both advocate and judge on restricting presidential defense authority.
- There's a difference between congressional oversight and congressional obstruction of national defense — S.J.Res. 191 crosses that line.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS / FY2027 BUDGET / DOGE

FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Week Eight Opens; Coons' Anti-DOGE Narrative Expected to Continue

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee opens its eighth week of FY2027 budget hearings as May begins. As Ranking Member, Coons has consistently used these sessions to frame DOGE-driven efficiency reviews as threats to military readiness and to press Pentagon witnesses on workforce reductions. No new hearing announcements specific to this week have been confirmed as of brief preparation; staff should monitor the Appropriations Committee schedule Friday morning.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports both a strong national defense and fiscal responsibility (per his economy and defense platform planks). Coons frames any efficiency review as a readiness crisis — Dr. Katz believes taxpayers and servicemembers deserve a Pentagon that is both well-funded and well-managed, not one shielded from accountability.

• TALKING POINTS

- Eight weeks of hearings and Coons' primary message has been to protect Pentagon bureaucracy from accountability — not to strengthen the warfighter.
- Dr. Katz supports strong defense spending AND fiscal responsibility — the two are not mutually exclusive.
- As a physician who managed surgical teams and facilities, Dr. Katz understands that operational efficiency enhances performance rather than undermining it.
- Coons opposes DOGE reviews at the Pentagon but hasn't introduced a single amendment to redirect savings toward frontline readiness.

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · C-SPAN

↑ INDEX

DEFENSE / BORDER SECURITY

[STAFF VERIFY] Coons Statements on National Guard Border Deployment — No Confirmed Public Position Through Day 53 of Tracking

Staff has been tracking for fifty-three 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 brief preparation, no such statement has been confirmed. Coons' silence is notable given his role as Defense Appropriations Ranking Member, where National Guard funding and deployment authorities are directly within his jurisdiction.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement (per his border security platform). Coons' fifty-three-day silence on the National Guard border deployment — while simultaneously introducing legislation to restrict military action against Iran — suggests he is more interested in constraining American power abroad than securing the homeland.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Fifty-three days and counting — Coons has said nothing about National Guard troops defending our border, yet he's cosponsoring resolutions to pull troops away from confronting Iran.
- Dr. Katz supports the use of National Guard forces to secure the southern border — it's a national security mission, not a political one.
- The Defense Appropriations Ranking Member owes Delawareans a position on how National Guard resources are being deployed.
- Silence on border security is a position — it tells Delawareans that Coons doesn't consider the border a priority.

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) — Press Releases

↑ INDEX

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION / DELAWARE

Dover AFB FY2027 Military Construction — Friday Status; No New Developments

Dover Air Force Base, home to the 436th and 512th Airlift Wings and the Charles C. Carson Center for Mortuary Affairs, remains a critical Delaware equities item as FY2027 defense appropriations hearings enter week eight. No new military construction funding announcements or hearing testimony specific to Dover AFB have been confirmed as of brief preparation. Staff should continue monitoring Coons' office and the Appropriations Committee for any MILCON requests or statements.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong investment in Dover AFB infrastructure and recognizes the base's critical role in global airlift and dignified transfer missions (per his veterans and defense platform). This is an area where bipartisan advocacy is appropriate — but Katz can note that Dover AFB funding should not be held hostage to partisan fights over DOGE reviews.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dover AFB is one of Delaware's most important economic and strategic assets — Dr. Katz supports full funding for its military construction needs.

- Bipartisan support for Dover AFB is essential, but it must be paired with broader fiscal responsibility across the defense budget.
- Staff should track whether Coons secures any specific Dover AFB MILCON line items in the FY2027 markup — and whether he tries to bundle them with anti-DOGE messaging.

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Dover Air Force Base — Official Site INDEX

RECENT LEGISLATION

WAR POWERS / IRAN / FOREIGN RELATIONS **NEW**

S.J.Res. 191 — Iran War Powers Resolution — Day 1 in Foreign Relations Committee; Coons Listed as Cosponsor

Introduced April 30, S.J.Res. 191 directs the removal of U.S. Armed Forces from hostilities within or against Iran not authorized by Congress. Coons is listed as a cosponsor, marking a formal legislative commitment beyond his prior rhetorical support for constraining presidential military authority on Iran. The resolution was referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where Coons serves.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports the President's Commander-in-Chief authority and opposes congressional efforts to restrict the ability to respond to Iranian threats (per his strong defense platform). Coons' cosponsorship puts him on record favoring withdrawal mandates that could embolden Iran at a critical moment.

• TALKING POINTS

- Coons isn't just talking about restricting the Commander-in-Chief — he's now a formal cosponsor of binding legislation to do it.
- S.J.Res. 191 would direct the removal of forces confronting Iran — one of the world's leading state sponsors of terrorism.
- Dr. Katz believes the President must retain the flexibility to protect American troops and allies from Iranian aggression.
- Coons sits on the very committee that will decide this resolution's fate — Delawareans should know where their Senator stands.

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S.J.Res. 191 · Senate Foreign Relations Committee INDEX

FOREIGN POLICY / CHINA / NATIONAL SECURITY **NEW**

S.Res. 716 — China Policy Sense of the Senate Resolution — Day 1 in Foreign Relations Committee

On April 30, Coons introduced (or cosponsored) S.Res. 716, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding critical elements of U.S. policy toward the People's Republic of China. The resolution was referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. As a non-binding sense of the Senate resolution, it carries no legal force but signals Coons' messaging priorities. Full text has not yet been published; staff should monitor for language details.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Staff should review the full text of S.Res. 716 upon publication. If the resolution frames China competition primarily through diplomatic engagement rather than economic and military strength, it presents a contrast with Dr. Katz's support for American energy independence and economic competitiveness (per his energy and economy platforms) as the foundation of an effective China strategy.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Non-binding resolutions on China policy are easy — the question is whether Coons will support the hard policies: energy independence, supply chain security, and military readiness.
- Dr. Katz supports American energy independence as a cornerstone of competing with China — real policy, not symbolic resolutions.
- Staff should flag any language in S.Res. 716 that prioritizes climate cooperation with China over strategic competition.
- Coons' record on critical minerals (S. 4392) should be cross-referenced with this resolution for consistency.

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — S.Res. 716

↑ [INDEX](#)

ENERGY / NATIONAL SECURITY / MINERALS

S. 4392 — Allied Energy and Mineral Security Act — Day 4 in Foreign Relations Committee; No Cosponsors

Introduced April 27 by Coons, S. 4392 promotes 'United States and allied energy and mineral security.' Now in its fourth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Bill text has not yet been published on [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov). No cosponsors have been added. The referral to Foreign Relations rather than Energy and Natural Resources indicates the bill frames mineral security primarily as a foreign policy/allied cooperation issue rather than a domestic energy production initiative.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports American energy independence as a domestic priority, not merely an allied cooperation framework (per his energy and environment platform). If S. 4392 focuses primarily on international coordination without addressing

domestic production barriers — permitting, leasing, and regulatory reform — it represents Coons' tendency to export solutions rather than build them at home.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Day four, zero cosponsors — even Coons' own colleagues aren't signing on to his energy security approach.
- Dr. Katz supports energy independence that starts with American production — not a foreign policy framework that outsources the problem.
- The bill was sent to Foreign Relations, not Energy — that tells you Coons sees energy security as diplomacy, not drilling.
- Delaware needs energy policies that lower costs for families, not just position papers for allied summits.

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — S. 4392

↑ INDEX

LABOR / RETIREMENT BENEFITS

S. 4362 — Railroad Retirement Fairness Act — Day 10 in HELP Committee; No Cosponsors

Introduced April 21 by Coons, S. 4362 would amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 to eliminate certain deductions for annuities. Now in its tenth day in the Senate HELP Committee. No cosponsors have been added. The bill addresses a niche retirement benefit issue affecting railroad workers — a small but present constituency in Delaware given Amtrak's Northeast Corridor operations through the state.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports protecting retirement security for all workers, including those in transportation (per his economy platform). The absence of any cosponsors after ten days raises questions about whether this bill is a serious legislative effort or a messaging exercise. Staff should verify whether Delaware's railroad worker population is significant enough to warrant dedicated campaign attention.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Ten days, zero cosponsors — is this a serious legislative push or a press release?
- Dr. Katz supports protecting retirement benefits for workers who've earned them through years of service.
- Staff should check: How many Delaware workers are directly affected by Railroad Retirement Act provisions?

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — S. 4362

↑ INDEX

S. 4144 — ESCRA Act — Day 43 in Banking Committee; No Cosponsors, No Movement

Coons' ESCRA Act, introduced March 19 to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act, enters its forty-third day in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee with no cosponsors and no committee action. The bill has shown zero signs of advancing since introduction.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports consumer protections that empower individuals without creating new regulatory burdens (per his economy and small business platform). Forty-three days with no cosponsors and no hearings suggests Coons cannot build support even within his own caucus for his consumer protection agenda.

• TALKING POINTS

- Forty-three days stalled with zero cosponsors — Coons can't even get Democrats to back his consumer protection bill.
- Dr. Katz believes consumer protection should empower individuals, not just expand government bureaucracy.
- Legislative effectiveness matters — Delawareans deserve a Senator who can actually move legislation.

S. 4145 — Pro Codes Act — Day 43 in Judiciary; No Cosponsors, No Movement

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 forty-third day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no committee action.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government transparency — he authored legislation requiring live streaming of the Delaware State Senate (Katz SR 14, 146th General Assembly). The Pro Codes Act touches on public access to law, an area where Dr. Katz has a demonstrated record of action, not just bill introductions that go nowhere.

• TALKING POINTS

- Another Coons bill stuck at zero cosponsors for forty-three days.

- Dr. Katz actually passed transparency legislation in the Delaware Senate — live streaming of Senate proceedings.
- Introducing bills that never move isn't legislating — it's posturing.

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

↑ INDEX

IMMIGRATION / OVERSIGHT

S. 3891 — ICE Accountability Act — Week 12 Stalled in Judiciary Committee; No Action

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

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement (per his border security platform). The ICE Accountability Act is designed to hamstring immigration enforcement at exactly the moment when border security demands more resources and stronger authority — not additional bureaucratic obstacles.

• TALKING POINTS

- Twelve weeks stalled — even Senate Democrats won't cosponsor a bill to tie ICE's hands.
- Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement — not new bureaucratic hoops that slow down officers doing their jobs.
- Coons wants 'accountability' for the agents protecting our communities but won't say a word about the National Guard deployment at the border.
- Delaware families deserve a Senator who supports the men and women enforcing our immigration laws.

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

↑ INDEX

LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS / OVERSIGHT **UPDATED**

Coons' Complete Legislative Portfolio — Zero-Cosponsor Pattern Persists; Only Ceremonial Resolution Has Passed in 119th Congress

As of May 1, Sen. Coons has nine tracked items in the 119th Congress: S.J.Res. 191 (Day 1, cosponsor), S.Res. 716 (Day 1), S.Res. 702 (passed UC, ceremonial), S. 4392 (Day 4), S. 4362 (Day 10), S. 4144 (Day 43), S. 4145 (Day 43), S. 4089 (Day 50+), and S. 3891 (Week 12). Of these, only the ceremonial resolution honoring the American Chemical Society (S.Res. 702) has advanced. Every substantive bill remains at zero cosponsors with no committee action. The two

new items introduced April 30 (S.J.Res. 191 and S.Res. 716) bring Coons' recent activity to its highest pace since March but do not change the underlying pattern of legislative stagnation.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz's record in the Delaware State Senate demonstrates actual legislative accomplishment — passing the DHIN restructuring, the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway Act (Katz SB 241), live streaming of the State Senate (Katz SR 14), and comprehensive lobby reform legislation (Katz SB 141). Coons has been in the U.S. Senate since 2010 and his 2026 portfolio shows zero substantive bills advancing. Delawareans deserve a Senator who can build coalitions and pass legislation.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Nine legislative items this Congress — and the only one that passed is a birthday card for the American Chemical Society.
- Zero cosponsors on every substantive bill — Coons can't convince a single colleague to support his ideas.
- Dr. Katz passed real legislation in the Delaware Senate: transparency reform, scenic preservation, health IT restructuring, lobby reform.
- After sixteen years in the Senate, Coons' legislative record in 2026 is a case study in ineffectiveness.
- Delawareans deserve a Senator who delivers results, not press releases.

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — Sen. Coons Sponsored Legislation

↑ INDEX

APPROPRIATIONS & DELAWARE FUNDING

FEDERAL FUNDING / DELAWARE

[STAFF VERIFY] FY2026 Federal Funding Status — Friday End-of-Week Confirmation

Staff should confirm before close of business Friday the current status of FY2026 federal funding. Determine whether the government is operating under a continuing resolution, an enacted omnibus, or individual appropriations bills. Identify any Delaware-specific line items, grants, or earmarks that Coons has claimed credit for or that are at risk under current funding levels.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and opposes the cycle of continuing resolutions and omnibus spending bills that prevent real oversight (per his economy and fiscal responsibility platform). Coons' sixteen years on the Appropriations Committee have coincided with chronic dysfunction in the federal funding process.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- How many years has Coons been on the Appropriations Committee? And how many of those years has the government funded on time?
- Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility — that starts with a functioning appropriations process.
- Staff should track every Delaware-specific funding item Coons claims credit for and verify its actual status.

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee

↑ INDEX

VETERANS / DELAWARE / HEALTHCARE

Veterans Affairs — Southern Delaware VA Facility Advocacy — Friday Status

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. No new developments, funding announcements, or legislative actions specific to this effort have been confirmed as of brief preparation. The issue remains a key bipartisan opportunity and potential Katz contrast point on healthcare delivery.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has called for a VA advanced medical facility in southern Delaware as a centerpiece of his veterans platform, citing the urgent need for accessible advanced care for Kent and Sussex County veterans, including treatment for traumatic brain injuries, PTSD, and Agent Orange-related conditions (per his veterans platform). As a physician, Dr. Katz brings direct healthcare delivery expertise that Coons cannot match on this issue.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Kent and Sussex County veterans shouldn't have to drive hours for specialized care — Dr. Katz supports a VA advanced medical facility in southern Delaware.
- As a physician who spent twenty years caring for patients, Dr. Katz understands healthcare delivery — not just healthcare politics.
- Coons has talked about VA services in southern Delaware but hasn't delivered a facility — Dr. Katz is committed to making it happen.
- Staff should verify: What specific appropriations language, if any, has Coons secured for a southern Delaware VA facility?

SOURCES: Coons.senate.gov — Press Releases · VA.gov

↑ INDEX

DELAWARE

BUSINESS CLIMATE / CORPORATE GOVERNANCE / DELAWARE ECONOMY

UPDATED

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

ExxonMobil's board-recommended redomiciliation from New Jersey to Texas — bypassing Delaware entirely — now enters its eleventh week as a data point in Delaware's eroding position as America's premier corporate domicile state. Coons has not made any public statement addressing Delaware's declining attractiveness for corporate incorporation or proposed any federal-level response. Delaware's franchise tax revenue and Court of Chancery reputation are long-term economic pillars that face growing competitive pressure from Texas and other states.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz's Delaware State Senate record includes legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax (Katz SB 100, 146th General Assembly) to make the state more competitive for business. Eleven weeks of silence from Coons on a major redomiciliation bypassing Delaware signals indifference to the state's core economic competitive advantage.

• TALKING POINTS

- Eleven weeks since ExxonMobil chose Texas over Delaware — and not a word from our senior Senator.
- Dr. Katz introduced legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax to keep the state competitive — that's proactive leadership.
- Delaware's Court of Chancery and franchise tax revenue depend on corporate confidence — silence from Washington isn't reassuring.
- If Delaware's business climate is eroding, shouldn't the state's senior Senator have something to say about it?

SOURCES: Reuters · Delaware Division of Corporations

↑ INDEX

DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

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

Staff should check Friday 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 than the national average and net domestic outmigration to lower-cost states. Updated data would provide fresh material for contrast messaging on cost of living, housing affordability, and quality of life.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has identified homeownership affordability as a core campaign issue, noting that Delaware's median home sales price surged 53% from 2018 to 2023

(per his homeownership platform). Population outmigration data reinforces the argument that Delaware is becoming less affordable and less competitive under current leadership.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Delawareans are leaving for states with lower costs and better opportunity — that's a verdict on failed leadership.
- Dr. Katz supports policies to make homeownership attainable again: tax incentives for first-time buyers, expanded housing supply, and zoning reform.
- Staff should cross-reference any new migration data with Delaware housing price trends for campaign materials.

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau · IRS SOI 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 Wilmington Medical Center, IRS facilities, and various other federal installations. Staff should verify whether any updated RIF notices, agency-specific headcount changes, or Delaware-specific impact analyses have been released this week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government reform and restructuring — he authored legislation establishing an independent council to develop a five-year plan to restructure and reorganize Delaware state government during his State Senate tenure. Dr. Katz believes government should be efficient and accountable, and that blanket opposition to reform protects bureaucracy, not workers.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz has a record of reforming government — he introduced a five-year restructuring plan for Delaware state government.
- Opposing all efficiency reviews is protecting bureaucracy, not protecting federal workers or taxpayers.
- Staff should quantify: How many Delaware federal employees are actually affected vs. Coons' rhetoric about mass devastation?
- Government reform done right protects essential services while eliminating waste — that's Dr. Katz's approach.

FOREIGN POLICY & DIPLOMACY

FOREIGN POLICY / CHINA **NEW****S.Res. 716 — China Policy Resolution — Day 1 in Foreign Relations Committee; Text Pending**

On April 30, Coons introduced (or cosponsored) S.Res. 716, a sense of the Senate resolution regarding critical elements of U.S. policy toward the People's Republic of China. Referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Full text has not been published. As a non-binding resolution, it signals messaging priorities rather than actionable policy. Staff should review the text upon publication for language on economic competition, military posture, Taiwan, critical minerals, and technology decoupling.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports American energy independence and economic competitiveness as the foundation for confronting China's strategic challenge (per his energy and economy platforms). Non-binding resolutions are not a China strategy — real policy requires domestic energy production, supply chain reshoring, and military strength.

TALKING POINTS

- A sense of the Senate resolution isn't a China strategy — it's a press release with extra steps.
- Dr. Katz supports real policies to compete with China: energy independence, reduced regulatory burdens, and a strong defense.
- Staff should flag whether S.Res. 716 mentions climate cooperation with Beijing — that's a key vulnerability for Coons.
- America competes with China by being stronger at home, not by passing non-binding resolutions.

GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, now entering a twelfth week of sustained public messaging. Coons has characterized these reductions as dismantling American diplomatic capacity and

undermining national security. No new floor statements, committee actions, or legislative responses specific to this week have been confirmed as of brief preparation.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and government efficiency across all agencies (per his economy and government reform platforms). Twelve weeks of opposition rhetoric without a concrete legislative alternative suggests Coons is more interested in preserving the status quo than reforming agencies to perform their missions more effectively.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Twelve weeks of complaining about DOGE at State and USAID — and zero legislative alternatives from Coons.
- Dr. Katz believes government agencies should be reformed to perform their missions better, not shielded from all accountability.
- Foreign aid should be effective, targeted, and transparent — blanket opposition to reform is not a foreign policy.
- Coons' approach: protect every bureaucratic position regardless of whether it serves American interests.

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) — Press Releases

↑ INDEX

UKRAINE / FOREIGN AID

[STAFF VERIFY] Ukraine Supplemental Aid — Friday Status Check

Coons has been one of the Senate's most vocal advocates for continued military and economic assistance to Ukraine. Staff should verify Friday whether any new supplemental aid package language has been introduced, whether floor action is scheduled, or whether the Administration has released new Ukraine-related security assistance announcements. Track Coons' public statements and committee activity on this issue.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong defense and American leadership but believes every dollar of foreign aid must be subject to strict oversight and accountability (per his fiscal responsibility and defense platforms). Coons has consistently pushed for open-ended Ukraine funding without adequate transparency mechanisms.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Supporting allies is important — but so is knowing where every taxpayer dollar goes.
- Dr. Katz supports strong defense and American leadership with proper fiscal oversight.

- Staff should verify: Has Coons supported any specific accountability or audit requirements for Ukraine aid?

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

↑ INDEX

SENATE DEMOCRAT CAUCUS WATCH

HOMELAND SECURITY / FISCAL POLICY

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

Senate Democrats are expected to continue using 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 personnel funding. No new floor action or committee markups specific to DHS appropriations have been confirmed this week. Coons, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, is positioned to influence DHS funding levels directly. The Senate Democrat caucus position remains focused on constraining immigration enforcement operations through the appropriations process.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, and opposes efforts to use the appropriations process to defund or restrict immigration enforcement agencies (per his border security platform). Coons' ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891) and his caucus' DHS funding posture are two sides of the same coin — undermining enforcement through legislation and the power of the purse.

• TALKING POINTS

- Senate Democrats want to use the budget to handcuff ICE and Border Patrol — Dr. Katz opposes that approach.
- Coons sits on the Appropriations Committee — every DHS funding vote is a choice between enforcement and obstruction.
- Dr. Katz supports full funding for border security and immigration enforcement — not budget games to weaken ICE.
- Delawareans should ask: Will Coons vote to fully fund ICE and border security, or side with the defund-enforcement wing of his party?

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Congress.gov — S. 3891 (ICE Accountability Act)

↑ INDEX

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 new floor scheduling or cloture vote has been announced as of brief preparation.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act and believes only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections — a position shared by the overwhelming majority of Americans (per his election integrity position). Dr. Katz opposes Senate Democrat efforts to block or filibuster the bill, characterizing their resistance as a choice to protect a broken system over basic election integrity.

• TALKING POINTS

- The SAVE Act simply requires proof of citizenship to register to vote — and Senate Democrats are blocking it.
- Dr. Katz supports the SAVE Act because election integrity is foundational to democracy.
- Only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections — this shouldn't be controversial.
- Coons hasn't said a word about the SAVE Act but is expected to vote against requiring citizenship verification — Delawareans deserve to know why.
- Most Americans support citizenship verification for voter registration — Senate Democrats are out of step with the country.

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — H.R. 22 (SAVE Act) · [GovTrack](https://www.govtrack.us) — 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. Today's new developments — S.J.Res. 191 (Iran war powers) and S.Res. 716 (China policy) — reinforce

Coons' focus on foreign affairs, which offers both a strength (engagement) and a vulnerability (prioritizing international issues over Delaware kitchen-table concerns).

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Strategic note for Katz: Coons' April 30 flurry of activity — Iran war powers cosponsorship, China resolution, energy/minerals bill — is his most active legislative week since March. However, none of it addresses Delaware-specific cost of living, housing, or economic competitiveness. Key vulnerabilities remain: Iran war posture (now formalized with S.J.Res. 191), DOGE/government spending debate, ICE oversight bill (S. 3891), legislative ineffectiveness (zero-cosponsor pattern), Delaware business climate erosion (ExxonMobil, Week 11), and healthcare policy (Katz's home turf as a physician with 40+ years of experience).

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons' most active week in months — and every item was about foreign policy, not Delaware's kitchen table.
- Dr. Katz brings real-world experience: physician, business owner, state legislator with passed legislation.
- Key vulnerability: Coons can't get a single cosponsor on his substantive bills after sixteen years in the Senate.
- The contrast is clear: Coons is focused on Washington and the world; Dr. Katz is focused on Delaware.

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

↑ INDEX

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

CONFIDENTIAL — CAMPAIGN USE ONLY