

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

### TOP STORY

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

### S.J.Res. 191 — Iran War Powers Resolution Enters Day 6 in Foreign Relations Committee; Floor Fight Positioning Intensifies

S.J.Res. 191, the joint resolution directing removal of U.S. Armed Forces from hostilities within or against Iran not authorized by Congress, enters its sixth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with no scheduled markup or hearing. Coons remains listed as a cosponsor. Senate Democrats are expected to push for discharge or committee action this week as part of a broader messaging campaign to constrain presidential military authority ahead of the Memorial Day recess. No Republican members of the Foreign Relations Committee have indicated support.

**⚡ KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong Commander-in-Chief authority and believes the President must retain the ability to respond swiftly to threats from Iran without being hamstrung by legislative micromanagement. Per Dr. Katz's veterans and defense platform, sustaining a robust military force is essential for preserving global peace and international stability. Coons' cosponsorship of S.J.Res. 191 signals a willingness to weaken American deterrence at precisely the moment Iran poses its greatest threat.

#### • TALKING POINTS

- Coons is cosponsoring a resolution that would tie the Commander-in-Chief's hands on Iran — weakening American deterrence when we need it most
- Dr. Katz supports strong presidential authority to protect Americans and our allies from Iranian aggression, consistent with his defense platform
- Delaware's military families at Dover AFB deserve a Senator who backs a strong defense posture, not one who undermines it with procedural resolutions
- This resolution is political theater — it won't make America safer, it will embolden Iran

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) · [Senate Foreign Relations Committee](#)

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### DEFENSE & PENTAGON

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS / FY2027 BUDGET / DOGE **UPDATED**

## FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Week Nine Underway; Coons' Anti-DOGE Narrative Expected to Continue

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee enters its ninth week of FY2027 budget hearings as the first full business week of May gets underway. As Ranking Member, Coons has consistently used these sessions to frame DOGE-driven efficiency initiatives as threats to military readiness and to argue against defense spending reforms. No specific Wednesday hearing has been confirmed as of this brief; staff should verify the subcommittee calendar for this week's witness schedule.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and believes taxpayer dollars — including defense dollars — must be spent efficiently, consistent with his economy and cost-of-living platform calling for restructuring government operations. Coons' reflexive opposition to efficiency reviews suggests he prioritizes bureaucratic inertia over accountability to taxpayers and warfighters.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz supports a strong defense AND fiscal responsibility — the two are not mutually exclusive
- Nine weeks of hearings and Coons has used every one to attack efficiency efforts rather than prioritize warfighter needs
- As a former Delaware State Senator, Dr. Katz authored legislation (SB establishing a Five Year Plan to Restructure and Reorganize State Government) to review and reform government spending — the same principle should apply to the Pentagon
- Delaware families deserve a Senator who ensures every defense dollar goes to readiness and capability, not bureaucratic bloat

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · C-SPAN

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MILITARY CONSTRUCTION / DELAWARE

## Dover AFB FY2027 Military Construction — Wednesday 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 continue. No new military construction requests, funding announcements, or Coons statements specific to Dover AFB have been identified since the last brief. Staff should monitor for any MILCON requests that may surface during this week's hearing schedule.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes Dover AFB is a crown jewel of both Delaware's economy and America's strategic airlift capability, consistent with his veterans platform calling for sustained commitment to military infrastructure. Any candidate for Delaware's Senate seat must fight for Dover AFB funding as a top priority — not just as a talking point during election season.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dover AFB is Delaware's largest employer and a strategic national asset — its funding must be a non-negotiable priority
- Dr. Katz's veterans and defense platform calls for unwavering commitment to military infrastructure and the well-being of service members
- Delawareans should ask: what specific MILCON projects has Coons secured for Dover in the current cycle?
- Dr. Katz supports robust military construction funding to ensure Dover AFB maintains its world-class readiness

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Dover Air Force Base  
(official)

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DEFENSE / BORDER SECURITY

## **[STAFF VERIFY] Coons Statements on National Guard Border Deployment — No Confirmed Public Position Through Day 57 of Tracking**

Staff has been tracking for fifty-seven 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. No confirmed public position has been identified. Coons' continued silence on this issue is notable given his role on both Appropriations and Judiciary, both of which have jurisdiction over border security funding and policy.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, and believes the National Guard deployment is a necessary tool to address the ongoing border crisis. Coons' fifty-seven-day silence on the deployment suggests he is unwilling to either support border security or publicly oppose it, choosing political convenience over the safety of Delawareans.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Fifty-seven days and counting — Coons still hasn't said a word about the National Guard border deployment

- Dr. Katz supports secure borders and believes the National Guard deployment is necessary and appropriate
- Delaware deserves a Senator who takes a clear position on border security, not one who hides from the issue
- Silence is a position — and Coons' silence tells you everything about his priorities on border security

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) · C-SPAN

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## RECENT LEGISLATION

WAR POWERS / IRAN / FOREIGN RELATIONS **UPDATED**

### **S.J.Res. 191 — Iran War Powers Resolution — Day 6 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. The resolution was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, where it remains with no scheduled markup or hearing as of this brief. No Republican cosponsors have been identified.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong Commander-in-Chief authority and opposes legislative efforts to constrain the President's ability to respond to Iranian threats. Per his defense and veterans platform, Dr. Katz believes sustaining a robust military posture is essential for preserving global peace and deterring adversaries.

#### • TALKING POINTS

- S.J.Res. 191 would handcuff the President's ability to respond to Iranian aggression
- Dr. Katz believes the Commander-in-Chief must retain flexibility to protect American lives and interests
- Coons is prioritizing partisan war powers politics over national security
- Zero Republican cosponsors — this is a partisan exercise, not a serious national security debate

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://congress.gov) · Senate Foreign Relations Committee

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FOREIGN POLICY / CHINA / NATIONAL SECURITY **UPDATED**

### **S.Res. 716 — China Policy Sense of the Senate Resolution — Day 6 in Foreign Relations Committee**

S.Res. 716, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding critical elements of U.S. policy toward the People's Republic of China, enters its sixth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The resolution text was published in the Congressional Record (CR S2178-2179). Staff review of the resolution text is required to identify specific policy positions and potential contrast opportunities. No cosponsors or committee action have been announced.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports a strong, comprehensive approach to the China threat that includes energy independence, supply chain security, and military readiness — per his energy platform calling for American energy independence and his defense platform emphasizing robust military capability. A non-binding sense-of-the-Senate resolution is symbolic; Delawareans need a Senator who pursues binding legislation to counter China's economic and military aggression.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- A sense-of-the-Senate resolution on China is a press release disguised as policy — it has no binding effect
- Dr. Katz supports concrete action on China: energy independence, supply chain security, and military strength
- Staff should review S.Res. 716 text (CR S2178-2179) for specific language that may conflict with tough-on-China positioning
- Delaware's economy depends on a Senator who takes real action against Chinese economic predation, not symbolic gestures

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) · [Senate Foreign Relations Committee](#)

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ENERGY / NATIONAL SECURITY / MINERALS **UPDATED**

## S. 4392 — Allied Energy and Mineral Security Act — Day 9 in Foreign Relations Committee; Zero Cosponsors

Introduced April 27 by Coons, S. 4392 promotes 'United States and allied energy and mineral security.' Now in its ninth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with zero cosponsors. Bill text has not yet been publicly available on [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov). The Foreign Relations Committee referral (rather than Energy and Natural Resources) signals the bill's primary frame is international cooperation rather than domestic energy production.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports American energy independence as a cornerstone of economic prosperity and national security, per his energy and environment platform. Staff should review S. 4392 text when available to determine whether it prioritizes allied coordination at the expense of domestic production. Dr. Katz believes America should lead

from strength by maximizing its own energy resources — including nuclear energy, which he explicitly supports — rather than depending on international partnerships.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Nine days in committee, zero cosponsors — even Coons' own caucus isn't rallying behind this bill
- Dr. Katz supports energy independence, not energy dependence on allies — consistent with his energy platform
- The bill was sent to Foreign Relations, not Energy — suggesting it's more about diplomacy than domestic production
- Dr. Katz is an advocate for nuclear energy and supports the ADVANCE Act for efficient nuclear development

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

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LABOR / RETIREMENT BENEFITS **UPDATED**

## **S. 4362 — Railroad Retirement Fairness Act — Day 15 in HELP Committee; Zero 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 fifteenth day in the Senate HELP Committee with zero cosponsors. No committee hearing or markup has been scheduled. The bill's narrow scope and lack of cosponsors suggest limited legislative momentum.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports policies that protect workers' retirement security while maintaining fiscal responsibility, per his economy and cost-of-living platform. Staff should analyze the fiscal impact of eliminating Railroad Retirement Act deductions to determine whether this bill adds unfunded liabilities. Good policy requires cost-benefit analysis, not press-release legislating.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Fifteen days, zero cosponsors — another Coons bill going nowhere
- Dr. Katz supports protecting retirement benefits but demands fiscal responsibility in any expansion
- Staff should verify: does this bill add unfunded liabilities to the Railroad Retirement system?
- Coons introduces bills without building coalitions — that's not legislating, that's press-release politics

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

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## S. 4144 — ESCRA Act — Day 48 in Banking Committee; Zero Cosponsors, No Movement

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

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports consumer protection measures that are practical and effective, but notes that a bill stalled for nearly fifty days with zero cosponsors raises serious questions about Coons' legislative effectiveness. Per Dr. Katz's economy platform, real consumer protection comes from pro-growth policies that create competition, not dormant legislation.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Day 48 with zero cosponsors — the ESCRA Act is dead on arrival
- Dr. Katz believes consumer protection requires competitive markets, not symbolic legislation
- Coons' inability to attract a single cosponsor reflects his declining influence in the Senate
- Delaware consumers need results, not press releases

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

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## S. 4145 — Pro Codes Act — Day 48 in Judiciary; Zero 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-eighth day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with zero cosponsors and no committee action.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government transparency — he authored Delaware's live-streaming legislation for the State Senate (Katz SR 14, 146th General Assembly) and championed open redistricting (Katz SR 9). If Coons is serious about making government codes accessible, he should be building bipartisan coalitions, not letting bills die in committee.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz has a proven record on government transparency — live-streaming of the Delaware State Senate (SR 14) and open redistricting (SR 9)
- Coons talks transparency but can't attract a single cosponsor for his Pro Codes Act

- Day 48 stalled in committee — another example of Coons' ineffective legislating
- Delawareans deserve a Senator who delivers on transparency, not one who introduces bills and walks away

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

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IMMIGRATION / OVERSIGHT

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

Coons' ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891), introduced February 12, remains stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no new cosponsors or committee action now past its twelfth week. The bill would impose additional oversight and restrictions on ICE operations. No Republican support has materialized.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and opposes legislative efforts to hamstring immigration enforcement agencies. Coons' ICE Accountability Act would add bureaucratic burdens to an agency already stretched thin. Dr. Katz believes ICE should be empowered and supported, not hobbled by additional regulations — consistent with his strong border security platform.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Coons' ICE Accountability Act would weaken immigration enforcement at the worst possible time
- Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and secure borders — full stop
- Twelve weeks stalled with zero cosponsors — even Senate Democrats won't touch this bill
- Delaware families want safe communities, not a Senator who makes ICE's job harder

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

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LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS / OVERSIGHT **UPDATED**

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

As of May 6, Sen. Coons has ten tracked items in the 119th Congress: S.J.Res. 191 (Day 6, cosponsor), S.Res. 716 (Day 6), S.Res. 702 (passed UC, ceremonial), S. 4392 (Day 9, zero cosponsors), S. 4362 (Day 15, zero cosponsors), S. 4144 (Day 48, zero cosponsors), S. 4145 (Day 48, zero cosponsors), S. 4089 (Day 55+, zero cosponsors), S. 3891 (Week 12+, zero cosponsors), and the SAVE Act opposition positioning. The only legislation to pass is S.Res. 702, a non-

binding ceremonial resolution commending the American Chemical Society. Every substantive bill has zero cosponsors.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz's record in the Delaware State Senate demonstrates an ability to build coalitions and pass meaningful legislation — including the DHIN restructuring, the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway (SB 241), lobby reform (SB 141), and term limits (SB 61). Coons' inability to attract a single cosponsor on any substantive bill in the 119th Congress raises fundamental questions about his effectiveness as Delaware's voice in Washington.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- One ceremonial resolution — that's Coons' entire legislative output in the 119th Congress so far
- Every substantive Coons bill has zero cosponsors — he can't even convince his own party to sign on
- Dr. Katz passed real legislation in the Delaware State Senate: health IT reform, scenic byway preservation, lobby reform, and term limits
- After sixteen years in the Senate, Coons should be able to build coalitions — his record says otherwise
- Delawareans deserve a Senator who delivers results, not one who introduces bills for press coverage and lets them die

SOURCES: [Congress.gov - Coons Legislation](#) · [GovTrack - Coons Profile](#) † [INDEX](#)

**APPROPRIATIONS & DELAWARE FUNDING**

FEDERAL FUNDING / DELAWARE

## [STAFF VERIFY] FY2026 Federal Funding Status — Wednesday Confirmation

Staff should confirm 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 impacts to Delaware-specific programs, military installations, or federal workforce operations. This status affects the baseline for all FY2027 appropriations discussions.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and believes Congress's chronic failure to pass appropriations on time is a symptom of the dysfunction he has pledged to fight, consistent with his economy platform calling for comprehensive fiscal reform

and his Delaware State Senate legislation establishing a five-year plan to restructure government operations.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Congress's inability to pass budgets on time is a bipartisan failure — but after sixteen years, Coons owns a share of it
- Dr. Katz championed a five-year restructuring plan for Delaware state government — he knows how to bring discipline to budgeting
- Continuing resolutions hurt Delaware's military installations, federal workers, and small businesses that depend on government contracts
- Delawareans need a Senator who fights for on-time budgets, not one who accepts dysfunction as normal

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 VA Medical Center in Wilmington, the IRS facility in New Castle, and various USDA and EPA offices. Staff should verify whether any Delaware-specific RIF numbers, facility closures, or workforce impact statements have been released this week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government efficiency and believes taxpayer-funded agencies must be accountable for results, consistent with his Delaware State Senate legislation establishing an independent council to restructure state government. He opposes blanket opposition to efficiency reforms while acknowledging the need to protect essential services and Delaware military families at Dover AFB.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz supports smart government reform — not reflexive defense of every bureaucratic position
- Coons opposes all efficiency efforts without offering alternatives — that's not leadership, it's obstruction
- Dr. Katz's Delaware State Senate record proves he can reform government while protecting essential services

- Dover AFB jobs must be protected — but that doesn't mean every federal position is untouchable

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

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## DELAWARE

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

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

ExxonMobil's board-recommended redomiciliation from New Jersey to Texas — bypassing Delaware entirely — now enters its thirteenth week as a data point in Delaware's eroding position as America's premier corporate domicile state. Coons has made no public statement addressing this trend or proposing measures to strengthen Delaware's competitive business environment. Delaware's corporate franchise tax revenue, a major component of the state budget, is at long-term risk if the redomiciliation trend accelerates.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz authored legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax (Katz SB 100, 146th General Assembly) to encourage businesses to operate in and relocate to Delaware. He understands that Delaware's business-friendly reputation requires active defense and pro-growth policy. Coons' thirteen weeks of silence while Delaware loses corporate registrations reflects a senator disconnected from his state's core economic interest.

#### • TALKING POINTS

- Thirteen weeks of silence from Coons as major corporations choose Texas over Delaware
- Dr. Katz authored SB 100 to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax — he understands how to compete for business
- Delaware's corporate franchise tax revenue is at risk, and Coons hasn't lifted a finger
- When companies leave Delaware, jobs, tax revenue, and economic opportunity leave too
- Dr. Katz has the business background to fight for Delaware's competitive edge — Coons is asleep at the switch

SOURCES: [Delaware Division of Corporations](#) · [Reuters](#)

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DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

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

Staff should check whether updated Census Bureau population estimates or IRS migration data for Delaware have been released. Recent trends have shown Delaware experiencing slower population growth and potential net outmigration among higher-income households. Updated data points are essential for Katz messaging on cost of living, housing affordability, and economic competitiveness.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes Delaware's affordability crisis — driven by rising home prices (median up 53% from 2018-2023 per his homeownership platform), stagnant wages, and rising taxes — is pushing families out of the state. Per his homeownership platform, Dr. Katz supports tax incentives for first-time homebuyers, affordable housing supply expansion, and zoning reform to make Delaware livable again.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Delaware home prices surged 53% from 2018-2023 — working families are being priced out
- Dr. Katz supports tax incentives and zoning reform to make homeownership attainable again
- When families leave Delaware, they take spending power, tax revenue, and community investment with them
- Coons has been in the Senate for sixteen years while Delaware's affordability crisis has deepened

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau · IRS Statistics of Income

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VETERANS / DELAWARE / HEALTHCARE

## Veterans Affairs — Southern Delaware VA Facility Advocacy — Wednesday 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 announcements, funding commitments, or construction milestones have been identified since the last brief. Staff should monitor for any VA MISSION Act realignment updates affecting southern Delaware.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has specifically called for a VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware, per his veterans platform, to address the urgent need for accessible, advanced medical care for veterans in Kent and Sussex counties. As a physician with over forty years in healthcare, Dr. Katz brings direct expertise to healthcare facility planning that a career politician cannot match.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz has specifically called for a VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware — it's on his platform
- As a physician, Dr. Katz understands healthcare delivery and facility design from the inside
- Kent and Sussex County veterans shouldn't have to drive hours for specialty care
- After sixteen years, Coons still hasn't delivered a major VA facility for southern Delaware

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://www.coons.senate.gov) · [VA.gov](https://www.va.gov)

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## FOREIGN POLICY & DIPLOMACY

FOREIGN POLICY / CHINA / NATIONAL SECURITY **UPDATED**

### S.Res. 716 — China Policy Resolution Text Published; Staff Review Pending

The text of S.Res. 716, Coons' sense-of-the-Senate resolution on U.S. policy toward China, has been published in the Congressional Record (CR S2178-2179). The resolution was referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and remains there without action. Staff should complete a detailed review of the resolution text to identify specific policy positions, language on Taiwan, trade, technology transfer, and military posture. No cosponsors have been announced.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes confronting China requires concrete action, not symbolic resolutions — including energy independence to reduce reliance on Chinese supply chains (per his energy platform), nuclear energy development (per his support for the ADVANCE Act), and a strong military deterrent (per his defense platform). Staff should flag any language in S.Res. 716 that is softer than the Administration's current China policy.

#### • TALKING POINTS

- Sense-of-the-Senate resolutions have no legal force — this is messaging, not policy
- Dr. Katz supports concrete action on China: energy independence, nuclear energy, and military strength
- Staff must review S.Res. 716 text for any language that softens the U.S. position on Taiwan or trade
- Delaware companies competing against Chinese state-subsidized rivals need a Senator who acts, not one who writes non-binding resolutions

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) · [Congressional Record](https://www.congress.gov/congressional-record)

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GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS **UPDATED**

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

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, now entering a fourteenth week of sustained public messaging. Coons has characterized the reductions as dangerous to U.S. diplomatic capabilities and international development programs. No new floor statements or committee actions have been confirmed this week; staff should verify.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports efficient government operations across all agencies, including the State Department and USAID, per his economy platform calling for government restructuring. He believes taxpayer-funded foreign aid and diplomatic operations should be results-oriented and accountable, not shielded from review by reflexive opposition to reform.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Fourteen weeks of Coons attacking efficiency efforts — without offering a single alternative plan
- Dr. Katz believes foreign aid must be accountable to American taxpayers
- Protecting every State Department and USAID position regardless of performance is not conservative or liberal — it's irresponsible
- Dr. Katz's government restructuring record in Delaware proves reform and responsible governance can coexist

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

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UKRAINE / FOREIGN AID

## [STAFF VERIFY] Ukraine Supplemental Aid — Wednesday Status Check

Coons has been one of the Senate's most vocal advocates for continued military and economic assistance to Ukraine. Staff should verify Wednesday whether any new supplemental aid package language has been introduced, whether Senate leadership has scheduled any floor action, and whether Coons has made new public statements. Monitor for any connection between Ukraine aid debates and the broader FY2027 defense appropriations process.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong national defense and believes any foreign aid must be balanced against domestic priorities including border security, veterans' care, and Delaware military readiness. Per his veterans platform, Dr. Katz's first obligation is to

American service members and their families — foreign commitments must be weighed against domestic needs.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz supports strong defense but insists foreign aid be balanced against domestic needs
- Before sending more money overseas, the Senate should fully fund Dover AFB and southern Delaware VA care
- Coons champions unlimited Ukraine aid without addressing the cost to American taxpayers
- Dr. Katz believes transparency and accountability must accompany every dollar of foreign assistance

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

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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 funding. Democratic leadership has signaled a strategy of attaching enforcement-limiting amendments to DHS appropriations. Coons, as a member of both the Appropriations and Judiciary Committees, is positioned to play a role in this effort. No specific new floor action or statements have been confirmed for Wednesday.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and secure borders, and opposes any effort to use appropriations riders to weaken immigration enforcement. Per his border security platform, Dr. Katz believes DHS and TSA funding should prioritize protecting Americans, not creating bureaucratic barriers to enforcement. Coons' alignment with a caucus strategy to defund enforcement agencies is directly at odds with Delaware public safety.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Senate Democrats want to use DHS funding bills to defund ICE — Dr. Katz opposes this completely
- Dr. Katz supports full funding for ICE, CBP, and TSA to keep Delawareans safe
- Coons' caucus is playing politics with homeland security funding — that's reckless
- Delaware communities deserve a Senator who prioritizes public safety over partisan immigration politics

- Defunding enforcement doesn't make anyone safer — it makes criminals bolder

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · DHS.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 new Senate floor action has been scheduled as of this brief.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act and believes only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections — a position supported by overwhelming majorities of Americans. Dr. Katz opposes Senate Democrat efforts to block or filibuster the bill, calling their resistance a choice to protect a broken system over basic election integrity. Per his government reform record, including lobby reform (SB 141) and transparency legislation in the Delaware State Senate, Dr. Katz has a demonstrated commitment to clean, accountable governance.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act — only citizens should vote in American elections
- Senate Democrats are blocking a common-sense bill that most Americans support — and Coons is expected to go along
- If Coons opposes requiring proof of citizenship to vote, he should explain why to Delaware voters
- Dr. Katz championed lobby reform and transparency in the Delaware State Senate — election integrity is a natural extension of that commitment
- Opposing voter citizenship verification is not voter protection — it's election integrity sabotage

SOURCES: Congress.gov · GovTrack

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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 (S.J.Res. 191 cosponsorship), DOGE/government spending debate (fourteen weeks of opposition without alternatives), ICE oversight bill (S. 3891, twelve weeks stalled with zero cosponsors), zero-cosponsor pattern across all substantive legislation in the 119th Congress, thirteen-week silence on ExxonMobil redomiciliation, and healthcare policy (Katz's home turf as a physician with forty years of experience). Dr. Katz's legislative record in the Delaware State Senate — term limits, lobby reform, corporate tax repeal, government transparency — provides concrete contrast to Coons' stalled federal portfolio.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons has been in Washington sixteen years — his only legislative achievement this Congress is a ceremonial resolution
- Dr. Katz brings real-world experience as a physician, business owner, and former state legislator
- Key vulnerability areas: Iran war powers, ICE oversight, legislative ineffectiveness, Delaware business climate silence
- Dr. Katz's Delaware State Senate record demonstrates he can pass meaningful legislation and build coalitions
- Healthcare is Dr. Katz's home turf — Coons has no comparable expertise on the issue most important to Delaware families

SOURCES: GovTrack — Coons Profile · DrMikeKatz.com

↑ INDEX

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

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