

## 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 8 in Foreign Relations Committee; End-of-Week Pressure Building for Markup or Discharge

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 eighth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with no markup scheduled as of Friday morning. Coons is listed as a cosponsor. Senate Democratic leadership has signaled interest in forcing a floor debate under the War Powers Act's expedited procedures, which could bypass committee action. Staff should monitor for any discharge petition filings, floor statements, or leadership press conferences before the weekend recess.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports the President's constitutional authority as Commander-in-Chief to defend American interests and personnel against Iranian threats, per his strong defense platform. Dr. Katz believes Coons' cosponsorship of S.J.Res. 191 sends a dangerous signal of weakness to Tehran at a moment requiring American resolve. As a candidate who prioritizes strong defense and Commander-in-Chief authority, Dr. Katz opposes congressional micromanagement of active military operations that protect American lives.

#### • TALKING POINTS

- Coons is cosponsoring a resolution that would telegraph American retreat to Iran — the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism
- Dr. Katz supports the President's constitutional authority as Commander-in-Chief to protect American forces and interests abroad
- Tying the President's hands during an active threat is not caution — it's capitulation, and Delaware's senior senator is signing on
- After 16 years in office, Coons has never met a constraint on American military power he didn't support — that's not leadership, it's abdication
- Per Dr. Katz's defense platform: a strong military deterrent prevents conflicts; weakness invites them

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS / FY2027 BUDGET / DOGE

## FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Week Nine Continues; Coons' Anti-DOGE Narrative Expected Through Friday Sessions

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee continues its ninth week of FY2027 budget hearings. As Ranking Member, Coons has consistently used these sessions to frame DOGE-driven efficiency reviews as threats to military readiness rather than opportunities to eliminate Pentagon waste. Staff should monitor for any Friday hearing activity, Coons floor statements, or press releases tying DOGE to specific Delaware defense assets. No new hearing transcripts or Coons statements have been confirmed since Wednesday's brief.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per his fiscal responsibility platform, Dr. Katz supports both a strong defense AND accountability for how taxpayer dollars are spent at the Pentagon. Dr. Katz believes opposing waste reduction at the Department of Defense is not 'pro-military' — it protects bureaucratic bloat at the expense of warfighters. His platform calls for investing in education, workforce development, and modernized infrastructure, including defense infrastructure, through efficient use of public resources.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz supports a strong defense AND fiscal accountability — Coons treats them as mutually exclusive
- Every dollar wasted on Pentagon bureaucracy is a dollar not reaching the warfighter at Dover AFB
- Coons' blanket opposition to efficiency reviews protects the status quo, not military families
- Per Katz's fiscal responsibility platform: taxpayers deserve to know their defense dollars are being spent wisely
- Sixteen years on Appropriations and Coons has never met a spending line he wanted to cut

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · C-SPAN — Senate hearings † 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 continue. No new MILCON requests, funding announcements, or

Coons statements specific to Dover AFB have been identified this week. Staff should continue monitoring the Defense Appropriations markup schedule for any Dover AFB line items.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports robust funding for Dover AFB and recognizes its strategic importance to both national defense and Delaware's economy, per his strong defense and veterans platform. Dr. Katz can acknowledge bipartisan support for Dover AFB while pivoting to the broader point that Coons' opposition to DOGE efficiency reviews risks the very modernization funds Dover needs.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dover AFB is the backbone of Delaware's defense economy — it deserves a senator who fights for modernization, not bureaucratic inertia
- Dr. Katz supports Dover AFB as a pillar of national defense and the Delaware economy
- Coons should be securing MILCON funding for Dover, not spending his energy blocking Pentagon efficiency reviews
- Per Katz's veterans platform: military installations like Dover must receive the resources to serve our troops and their families

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

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DEFENSE / BORDER SECURITY

## **[STAFF VERIFY] Coons Statements on National Guard Border Deployment — No Confirmed Public Position Through Day 59 of Tracking**

Staff has been tracking for fifty-nine 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. This continued silence is notable given Coons' role as Defense Appropriations Ranking Member and the deployment's budgetary implications. Staff should check Coons' official website, social media accounts, and floor statements Friday.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, per his border security platform. Coons' nearly two-month silence on the National Guard border deployment — while simultaneously cosponsoring the ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891) to hamstring interior enforcement — reveals his priorities: obstruct enforcement but stay silent on the tools actually securing the border.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Fifty-nine days and counting: Coons has said nothing about the National Guard border deployment — silence is a position
- Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement — Coons supports the ICE Accountability Act to tie agents' hands
- The Defense Appropriations Ranking Member won't even comment on a major military deployment — that's dereliction of oversight duty
- Per Katz's border security platform: securing the border is a national security imperative, not a political inconvenience

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](#) - Press · [Congress.gov](#) - S. 3891 (ICE Accountability Act)

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## RECENT LEGISLATION

WAR POWERS / IRAN / FOREIGN RELATIONS

### **S.J.Res. 191 — Iran War Powers Resolution — Day 8 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. No markup has been scheduled. War Powers Act expedited procedures could allow a discharge to the floor without committee action.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports the President's Commander-in-Chief authority and opposes legislative efforts to constrain the executive branch's ability to respond to Iranian aggression, per his strong defense platform. Coons' cosponsorship signals prioritization of partisan positioning over American security.

#### • TALKING POINTS

- Coons is formally on record trying to limit the President's ability to confront Iranian threats
- Dr. Katz supports Commander-in-Chief authority — the Constitution vests it in the President, not in 535 backseat drivers
- Iran doesn't wait for committee markups — neither should America's defense posture
- Per Katz's defense platform: strong deterrence prevents war; legislative hand-tying invites it

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](#) - S.J.Res. 191

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## S.Res. 716 — China Policy Sense of the Senate Resolution — Day 8 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 eighth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The resolution text was published in the Congressional Record (CR S2178-2179). Staff review of the full text should be completed to identify specific policy positions, particularly on Taiwan, trade, technology competition, and military posture in the Indo-Pacific.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports a strong, comprehensive approach to the China threat that goes beyond non-binding sense-of-the-Senate resolutions. Per his energy and environment platform supporting American energy independence and critical mineral security, Dr. Katz believes the U.S. needs binding legislation to reduce dependence on Chinese supply chains — not symbolic resolutions that collect dust in committee.

### • TALKING POINTS

- A sense-of-the-Senate resolution on China is like sending a strongly worded letter — Beijing doesn't read them
- Dr. Katz supports binding legislation to reduce America's dangerous dependence on Chinese supply chains
- Per Katz's energy platform: American energy and mineral independence is a national security imperative
- Coons has been in the Senate since 2010 — China has only grown more aggressive on his watch
- Staff should complete review of S.Res. 716 text (CR S2178-2179) and flag any exploitable weaknesses

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — S.Res. 716 · [Senate Foreign Relations Committee](#) † [INDEX](#)

ENERGY / NATIONAL SECURITY / MINERALS **UPDATED**

## S. 4392 — Allied Energy and Mineral Security Act — Day 11 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 eleventh day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with zero cosponsors. Bill text has not yet been publicly available for detailed analysis. The zero-cosponsor status entering its second week suggests Coons has not secured support even within his own caucus for this initiative.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports American energy independence, including nuclear energy and advanced energy technologies, per his energy and environment platform. Dr. Katz authored Delaware's National Scenic Byway legislation (SB 241) demonstrating his commitment to balancing energy development with environmental stewardship. Coons' energy bill has zero cosponsors after eleven days — even his own colleagues won't sign on.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Eleven days, zero cosponsors — even Senate Democrats won't back Coons' energy bill
- Dr. Katz supports real American energy independence: nuclear, advanced technology, and domestic production
- Per Katz's energy platform: energy policy should enhance America's global competitiveness, not depend on allied cooperation that may not materialize
- Coons introduces bills that go nowhere — Delaware needs a senator who can actually build coalitions

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

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LABOR / RETIREMENT BENEFITS **UPDATED**

## **S. 4362 — Railroad Retirement Fairness Act — Day 17 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 seventeenth day in the Senate HELP Committee with zero cosponsors. No committee action has been scheduled. The continued zero-cosponsor status suggests this bill lacks momentum.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fair retirement benefits for American workers, per his economy and cost of living platform. However, Dr. Katz believes the broader issue is that career politicians like Coons introduce bills with no pathway to passage — padding legislative records without delivering results for working families.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Seventeen days, zero cosponsors — another Coons bill going nowhere
- Delaware railroad workers deserve real advocacy, not bill introductions designed for press releases
- Per Katz's economy platform: working families need results, not symbolic gestures from career politicians

- Coons has been in the Senate 16 years — his legislative record is a graveyard of zero-cosponsor bills

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

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CONSUMER PROTECTION / BANKING **UPDATED**

## S. 4144 — ESCRA Act — Day 50 in Banking Committee; Zero Cosponsors, No Movement

Coons' ESCRA Act, introduced March 19 to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act, enters its fiftieth day in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee with zero cosponsors and no committee action. The bill has shown no signs of advancing. This fifty-day milestone with zero support further underscores the pattern of Coons introducing legislation that fails to gain traction.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports consumer protections that help working families, per his economy and homeownership platforms. But fifty days with zero cosponsors reveals a senator who cannot persuade even one colleague to support his proposals — that's not leadership, it's legislative theater.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Fifty days, zero cosponsors — the ESCRA Act is another Coons bill collecting dust
- Per Katz's economy platform: consumers deserve real protections, not bills designed for press clippings
- Delaware families struggling with credit issues need action, not a senator who introduces bills and walks away
- Coons' inability to attract a single cosponsor after 50 days speaks to his diminished influence in the Senate

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

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## S. 4145 — Pro Codes Act — Day 50 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 fiftieth day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with zero cosponsors and no action. Like S. 4144, this bill has shown no signs of life.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government transparency — he authored Delaware legislation requiring live streaming of the State Senate (SR 14, 146th General Assembly) and open redistricting processes (SR 9). Coons' government transparency bill has zero cosponsors after fifty days, while Katz actually passed transparency legislation in Delaware.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Katz passed government transparency legislation in Delaware (SR 14, SR 9) — Coons can't get one cosponsor in fifty days
- Dr. Katz has a proven record on transparency: live streaming, open redistricting, lobby reform
- The Pro Codes Act joins Coons' growing list of bills that go nowhere — pattern, not exception
- Delaware needs a senator who delivers results, not one who introduces bills for his résumé

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

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IMMIGRATION / OVERSIGHT **UPDATED**

## **S. 3891 — ICE Accountability Act — Week 13 Stalled in Judiciary Committee; No Action**

Coons' ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891), introduced February 12, remains stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee entering its thirteenth week with no new cosponsors or committee action. The bill would impose additional reporting requirements and oversight mechanisms on ICE operations, which critics argue would burden enforcement capacity and hamstring agents during an ongoing border crisis.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, per his border security platform. Dr. Katz opposes the ICE Accountability Act as a thinly veiled attempt to undermine immigration enforcement through bureaucratic burdens. Coons spent Day 59 silent on the National Guard border deployment but found the energy to introduce a bill hamstringing ICE — those priorities tell you everything.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons won't comment on the National Guard securing the border, but he'll introduce bills to hamstring ICE
- Per Katz's border security platform: strong ICE enforcement protects American communities and the rule of law
- Thirteen weeks stalled — even Senate Democrats won't cosponsor Coons' anti-ICE bill
- The ICE Accountability Act is accountability theater: it burdens agents, not criminals
- Dr. Katz opposes any legislation designed to weaken interior immigration enforcement

LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS / OVERSIGHT **UPDATED**

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

As of May 8, Sen. Coons has ten tracked items in the 119th Congress: S.J.Res. 191 (Day 8, cosponsor), S.Res. 716 (Day 8), S.Res. 702 (passed UC, ceremonial), S. 4392 (Day 11, zero cosponsors), S. 4362 (Day 17, zero cosponsors), S. 4144 (Day 50, zero cosponsors), S. 4145 (Day 50, zero cosponsors), S. 3891 (Week 13, stalled). The only item to pass is S.Res. 702, a ceremonial resolution honoring the American Chemical Society's 150th anniversary. Every substantive Coons bill has zero cosponsors.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz's record in the Delaware State Senate demonstrates the ability to build coalitions and pass real legislation — including the DHIN restructuring, term limits bill (SB 61), comprehensive lobby reform (SB 141), Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway preservation (SB 241), and live streaming of the State Senate (SR 14). Coons' only legislative success in the 119th Congress is congratulating chemists.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Coons' only legislative achievement this Congress: congratulating the American Chemical Society — that's it
- Every substantive Coons bill has zero cosponsors — a 16-year senator who can't convince one colleague to co-sign
- Dr. Katz passed real legislation in Dover: DHIN restructuring, lobby reform (SB 141), term limits (SB 61), transparency measures
- Delaware deserves a senator who builds coalitions, not one who introduces bills for press releases and moves on
- The zero-cosponsor pattern isn't bad luck — it's a pattern of a senator without influence where it counts

## 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 funding provisions, earmarks, or grant announcements that Coons has claimed credit for. This information is critical for appropriations messaging through the weekend.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per his fiscal responsibility platform, Dr. Katz supports timely, transparent appropriations processes — not governing by crisis through continuing resolutions and omnibus packages. Dr. Katz's Delaware State Senate record includes establishing an independent council to restructure state government spending, demonstrating his commitment to disciplined budgeting.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Per Katz's fiscal platform: governing by continuing resolution is fiscal malpractice — Delaware taxpayers deserve better
- Coons has been on Appropriations for years — if the process is broken, he owns part of the blame
- Dr. Katz established an independent restructuring council for Delaware state government — he knows how to bring fiscal discipline
- Every day without a real budget is a day Delaware can't plan for its future

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Coons.senate.gov — Press † 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 announcements, funding commitments, or construction timelines have been identified this week. Staff should check for any Friday VA-related press releases or social media posts from Coons.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per his veterans platform, Dr. Katz has specifically called for a VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware to address the urgent healthcare needs of veterans in Kent and Sussex counties, including mental health, substance abuse, and specialty care. As a physician with over forty years in healthcare, Dr. Katz brings clinical expertise to this issue that career politician Coons cannot match. Dr. Katz's DHIN initiative in Delaware demonstrates his ability to stand up healthcare infrastructure.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz has specifically called for a VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware — it's on his platform
- Per Katz's veterans platform: Kent and Sussex County veterans need accessible, advanced medical care — not more promises
- As a physician, Dr. Katz understands the unique healthcare challenges veterans face — from PTSD to complex surgical recovery
- Dr. Katz built Delaware's Health Information Network from a business plan — he knows how to stand up healthcare infrastructure
- Coons has been advocating for years — where's the facility?

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

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**DELAWARE**

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

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

ExxonMobil's board-recommended redomiciliation from New Jersey to Texas — bypassing Delaware entirely — now enters its fourteenth 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 bolster Delaware's business climate. Delaware's franchise tax revenue, a major state budget pillar, could face long-term erosion if the redomiciliation-to-Texas trend accelerates among major corporations.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz understands business competitiveness — he introduced legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax (SB 100, 146th General Assembly) to encourage businesses to operate in Delaware and generate jobs. Dr. Katz's economy platform calls for reducing the corporate tax burden and incentivizing business investment. Coons' fourteen weeks of silence on corporate flight from Delaware speaks to his disconnect from the state's economic foundation.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- ExxonMobil is moving to Texas, not Delaware — fourteen weeks of silence from Coons
- Dr. Katz introduced SB 100 to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax to attract and retain businesses
- Per Katz's economy platform: reducing corporate tax burden and incentivizing investment keeps businesses — and jobs — in Delaware

- Delaware's franchise tax revenue is at risk if major corporations keep choosing Texas over the First State
- Coons has been in office 16 years while Delaware's corporate brand erodes — that's his record

SOURCES: Delaware Division of Corporations · Reuters

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DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

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

Staff should check whether updated Census Bureau population estimates or IRS migration data for Delaware have been released this week. Recent trends have shown Delaware experiencing slower population growth and net domestic outmigration to lower-cost states. Any new data should be flagged immediately for campaign messaging on cost of living and quality of life.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per his homeownership platform, Dr. Katz has identified the core drivers of Delaware's affordability crisis: median home prices surged 53% from \$221,100 (2018) to \$339,400 (2023). Dr. Katz supports tax incentives and discounted interest rates for first-time homebuyers, increased affordable housing supply, and zoning reforms. Outmigration data would underscore that Coons' 16-year tenure has coincided with Delaware becoming less affordable and less competitive.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Delaware home prices surged 53% from 2018 to 2023 — families are being priced out under Coons' watch
- Per Katz's homeownership platform: tax incentives for first-time buyers and zoning reform can make housing affordable again
- When people leave Delaware, they take their talent, tax revenue, and community investment with them
- Dr. Katz supports real solutions: increased affordable housing supply, not empty promises from a 16-year incumbent

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau · IRS SOI Migration Data

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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, IRS, and other agencies. Staff should verify whether any Delaware-specific RIF numbers, agency closure announcements, or affected employee counts have been publicly released this week. This data is needed to calibrate messaging — both to acknowledge real impacts on Delaware workers and to contrast Coons' blanket anti-reform stance.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per his government reform record, Dr. Katz authored legislation in the Delaware State Senate to establish an independent council to restructure and reorganize state government, demonstrating his commitment to efficient government that protects taxpayers while respecting workers. Dr. Katz can acknowledge that workforce transitions affect real Delaware families while arguing that blanket opposition to government efficiency — Coons' position — is not a plan.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz has a record of responsible government reform — his Delaware restructuring council bill proves it
- Opposing all efficiency improvements isn't protecting workers — it's protecting bureaucracy
- Per Katz's reform record: government should serve taxpayers efficiently, and transitions should be managed responsibly
- Coons' position is that zero federal jobs can ever be eliminated — that's not serious governance
- Staff: we need Delaware-specific RIF numbers to make this contrast concrete and credible

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) — [Press](#) · [OPM.gov](https://www.opm.gov)

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FOREIGN POLICY & DIPLOMACY

GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS **UPDATED**

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

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, now entering a fifteenth week of sustained public messaging. Coons has characterized the cuts as gutting American diplomacy and weakening national security. Staff should monitor for any Friday floor statements, op-eds, or media appearances on this topic. No new developments confirmed since Wednesday.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per his fiscal responsibility platform, Dr. Katz believes foreign aid and diplomatic spending should be subject to the same efficiency standards as every other government program. Dr. Katz supports effective diplomacy and development but opposes

the notion that any foreign affairs spending is immune from accountability. Coons' fifteen-week campaign against State/USAID reform suggests he views these budgets as untouchable — that's not the accountability taxpayers deserve.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Fifteen weeks of Coons defending every dollar in the State Department and USAID budgets — zero accountability
- Per Katz's fiscal platform: foreign aid spending must serve American interests, not bureaucratic inertia
- Dr. Katz supports effective diplomacy — but effectiveness requires accountability, not blank checks
- Coons has spent more time defending USAID bureaucrats than addressing Delaware's cost-of-living crisis
- Every dollar in the State Department budget should justify itself — Coons opposes even asking the question

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://www.coons.senate.gov) — Press · Senate Foreign Relations Committee † 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 Senate leadership has scheduled any Ukraine-related floor action, or whether Coons has made new public statements this week. No confirmed developments since last brief.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Per his strong defense platform, Dr. Katz believes U.S. foreign assistance decisions must prioritize American national security interests and include robust oversight mechanisms. Dr. Katz supports a strong defense posture that deters aggression, but opposes open-ended commitments without clear strategic objectives, measurable outcomes, and congressional accountability.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz supports a strong defense that deters aggression — but every dollar of foreign aid needs oversight and accountability
- Coons champions unlimited Ukraine spending with no endgame — that's not strategy, it's a blank check
- Per Katz's defense platform: strong defense includes fiscal discipline in how aid is spent

- Delaware taxpayers deserve to know where their money is going and what it's achieving

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Coons.senate.gov — Press † 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 increased funding for border wall construction and technology. The caucus strategy treats DHS funding as a vehicle for limiting enforcement rather than strengthening it. Coons, as a member of the Appropriations Committee and cosponsor of the ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891), is aligned with this caucus position. No new floor action or committee markup on DHS funding has been confirmed this week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, per his border security platform. Dr. Katz opposes any attempt to use the DHS funding process to defund or restrict immigration enforcement operations. Senate Democrats — and Coons with them — are using the power of the purse not to secure the homeland, but to prevent the enforcement of existing immigration law.

#### • TALKING POINTS

- Senate Democrats want to use DHS funding to handcuff ICE — Dr. Katz supports funding that secures the border
- Coons cosponsored the ICE Accountability Act and sits on Appropriations — he's the enforcement-weakening caucus in one senator
- Per Katz's border security platform: DHS funding should expand enforcement capacity, not restrict it
- Every dollar diverted from border security to bureaucratic reporting requirements makes Americans less safe
- Delaware communities deserve a senator who funds law enforcement, not one who funds restrictions on it

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Congress.gov — S. 3891 † 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 but is expected to vote with his caucus against it. No new floor action has been scheduled this week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act. He believes only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections — a position most Americans share. 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. Coons' expected opposition puts him against common-sense election security that the vast majority of Americans support.

### • TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act — only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections
- Coons and Senate Democrats are expected to block proof-of-citizenship voting requirements — why oppose verifying eligibility?
- Polls consistently show overwhelming bipartisan public support for citizenship verification — Democrats are out of step
- Per Katz's position: opposing the SAVE Act is choosing a broken system over basic election integrity
- If you need an ID to board a plane, you should need to prove citizenship to vote for the people who govern the country

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](#) — H.R. 22 (SAVE Act) · [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. This week's key vulnerability: the zero-cosponsor pattern across all substantive bills in the 119th Congress

undermines Coons' carefully cultivated image as a bipartisan dealmaker and influential senior senator.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Strategic note for Katz: Coons is well-funded and active on national security. Key vulnerabilities this week: Iran war posture (S.J.Res. 191 cosponsorship), legislative ineffectiveness (zero-cosponsor pattern across all substantive bills), DOGE/government spending debate, ICE oversight bill (Week 13 stalled), Delaware business climate erosion (ExxonMobil Week 14), and healthcare policy (Katz's home turf as a physician). The legislative ineffectiveness angle is ripening as a comprehensive contrast — consider developing it into a standalone campaign theme.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- After 16 years, Coons' only legislative achievement this Congress is a ceremonial resolution — Delaware deserves better
- Dr. Katz passed real legislation in Delaware: healthcare reform, government transparency, lobby reform, term limits
- Coons is the Ranking Member on Defense Appropriations who cosponsors resolutions to limit the Commander-in-Chief — pick a lane
- Dr. Katz brings 40+ years of healthcare expertise, business ownership, and a proven legislative record to this race
- The zero-cosponsor pattern is the data point — it tells the story of a senator without influence where it matters

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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