

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

TOP STORY

WAR POWERS / IRAN / COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

S.J.Res. 191 — Iran War Powers Resolution Enters Day 10 in Foreign Relations Committee; Weekend Pressure Mounts Ahead of Week Three

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 tenth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Coons is listed as a cosponsor. No markup has been scheduled and no discharge petition has been filed. With the Senate returning Monday for a full legislative week, Democratic sponsors are expected to intensify pressure for committee action or a floor vote, potentially tying the resolution to broader FY2027 defense authorization debates.

⚡ KATZ CONTRAST POINT: Dr. Katz supports the Commander-in-Chief's constitutional authority to protect American national security interests, including with respect to Iran's nuclear threat. Per his veterans and defense platform, Dr. Katz believes that telegraphing withdrawal timelines to adversaries like Iran undermines American deterrence and endangers U.S. service members. Coons' cosponsorship of S.J.Res. 191 signals a willingness to constrain presidential war powers at a moment of heightened Iranian aggression.

• TALKING POINTS

- Coons is cosponsoring a resolution that would handcuff the Commander-in-Chief while Iran accelerates its nuclear program — that's the wrong signal at the wrong time
- Dr. Katz believes the President must retain flexibility to respond to imminent threats without broadcasting retreat timelines to Tehran
- Delaware is home to Dover AFB, a critical power-projection hub — our senator should be strengthening deterrence, not undermining it
- Per Dr. Katz's defense platform: a robust military force is essential for preserving global peace and maintaining international stability
- This resolution tells Iran's mullahs that Congress will do their work for them — Dr. Katz opposes that approach

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](#) — S.J.Res. 191 · [Senate Foreign Relations Committee](#) † [INDEX](#)

FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Weekend Recess; Week Ten Preview

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee is in weekend recess following 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 and to characterize proposed workforce streamlining as reckless cuts. Week ten is expected to bring additional service-specific budget hearings; staff should monitor for scheduling announcements Monday morning.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and government restructuring, consistent with his Delaware Senate legislation establishing an independent council for a five-year plan to restructure and reorganize state government. Dr. Katz believes efficiency reviews — including DOGE initiatives — can strengthen defense readiness by redirecting wasteful spending to warfighter priorities, rather than protecting bureaucratic bloat as Coons appears to do.

• TALKING POINTS

- Coons frames every efficiency review as a 'reckless cut' — Dr. Katz sees an opportunity to redirect resources to frontline readiness
- Dr. Katz authored legislation in the Delaware Senate to restructure government for efficiency — he supports bringing that same discipline to the Pentagon's back office
- Dover AFB families deserve a senator who fights for readiness funding, not one who protects bureaucratic overhead
- Nine weeks of hearings and Coons' main message has been to defend the status quo — Delaware deserves better

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · C-SPAN — Senate Hearings ↑ INDEX

Dover AFB FY2027 Military Construction — Sunday 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 project announcements, funding marks, or Coons statements specific to Dover AFB have surfaced this weekend. Staff should monitor the Week 10 hearing schedule for any Dover-relevant testimony.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong investment in Dover AFB infrastructure and recognizes the base's strategic importance to both national defense and Delaware's economy, per his veterans and defense platform. This is an area where Dr. Katz can acknowledge bipartisan agreement on Dover's value while pivoting to argue that Coons' broader defense posture — including cosponsoring the Iran war powers resolution — undermines the very mission Dover supports.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dover AFB is Delaware's most important national security asset — Dr. Katz supports robust MILCON funding for the base
- Supporting Dover means supporting the mission — not cosponsoring resolutions that would constrain how our forces operate globally
- Dr. Katz recognizes bipartisan work on Dover funding but challenges Coons to match that support with a strong defense posture overall
- The Mortuary Affairs mission at Dover deserves a senator who honors service members' sacrifice with strong deterrence policy

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 61 of Tracking

Staff has been tracking for sixty-one 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 from Coons has been identified. His continued silence is notable given his role as Defense Appropriations Ranking Member, where border deployment funding directly intersects his portfolio.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong border security and robust ICE enforcement, per his platform on secure borders. Coons' sixty-one days of silence on the National Guard border deployment — while vocally opposing ICE operations through S. 3891 — suggests he opposes enforcement but is unwilling to say so publicly on the military component. Dr. Katz believes Delawareans deserve clarity from their senator on border security, not strategic silence.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Sixty-one days and counting — Coons still won't say whether he supports National Guard troops securing our border

- Coons introduced a bill to hamstringing ICE but can't bring himself to comment on National Guard border deployments — that tells you everything
- Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement — no ambiguity, no silence, no hedging
- As Defense Appropriations Ranking Member, Coons controls the purse strings for this deployment — his silence is a policy choice

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov - Press Releases](#) · [Senate Appropriations Committee](#)

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RECENT LEGISLATION

WAR POWERS / IRAN / FOREIGN RELATIONS

S.J.Res. 191 — Iran War Powers Resolution — Day 10 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 and no new cosponsors have been added over the weekend.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports the Commander-in-Chief's authority to defend American interests against Iranian aggression, per his defense platform emphasizing that sustaining a robust military force is essential for preserving global peace. Coons' cosponsorship signals prioritization of congressional micromanagement over operational flexibility.

• TALKING POINTS

- Ten days in committee with no markup — this resolution is more about messaging than governing
- Dr. Katz supports presidential authority to respond to Iranian threats swiftly and decisively
- Coons cosigns a retreat resolution while Iran enriches uranium — wrong priorities for Delaware's senator
- The men and women at Dover AFB execute global missions every day — they need a senator who backs their chain of command

SOURCES: [Congress.gov - S.J.Res. 191](#) · [Senate Foreign Relations Committee](#) ↑ INDEX

FOREIGN POLICY / CHINA / NATIONAL SECURITY

S.Res. 716 — China Policy Sense of the Senate Resolution — Day 10 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 tenth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The resolution text was published in the Congressional Record (CR S2178-2179). No markup or committee action has been scheduled. Staff review of the full text should be completed to identify any provisions that constrain executive flexibility on China policy.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports a strong posture toward China that prioritizes American economic competitiveness and national security. Per his energy and environment platform, Dr. Katz advocates for American energy and mineral independence to reduce reliance on Chinese supply chains. Staff should complete text review of S.Res. 716 to determine whether the resolution aligns with or undermines these goals.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- China policy requires strength and clarity — sense-of-the-Senate resolutions are no substitute for action
- Dr. Katz supports American energy and mineral independence to break China's stranglehold on critical supply chains
- Staff should review S.Res. 716 text closely — does it strengthen or weaken the President's hand on China?
- Delaware's economy depends on global competitiveness — Dr. Katz believes that starts with being tough on Beijing, not just passing resolutions

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](#) — S.Res. 716 · [Congressional Record](#)

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ENERGY / NATIONAL SECURITY / MINERALS

S. 4392 — Allied Energy and Mineral Security Act — Day 13 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 thirteenth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with zero cosponsors. Bill text has not yet been published on [Congress.gov](#). Without cosponsors or text, the bill's viability and policy substance remain unclear.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports American energy independence and nuclear energy development, per his energy and environment platform, including his endorsement of the ADVANCE Act for nuclear technology. Coons' bill title references 'allied' energy security — staff should scrutinize whether this prioritizes foreign energy partnerships over

domestic production. Dr. Katz believes energy independence starts at home, not through allied frameworks that could dilute American advantage.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Thirteen days, zero cosponsors, no published text — Coons' energy bill is going nowhere
- Dr. Katz supports energy independence that begins with American production — nuclear, natural gas, and domestic minerals
- Why does Coons' bill emphasize 'allied' energy security instead of American energy dominance?
- Dr. Katz backed the ADVANCE Act for nuclear energy development — that's real energy security, not a press release

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

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LABOR / RETIREMENT BENEFITS

S. 4362 — Railroad Retirement Fairness Act — Day 19 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 nineteenth day in the Senate HELP Committee with zero cosponsors and no committee action. The bill's zero-cosponsor status entering its third week suggests limited caucus support.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports protecting retirement benefits for working Americans, per his economy and cost-of-living platform. However, the zero-cosponsor pattern across Coons' legislative portfolio raises questions about his effectiveness in building coalitions. Dr. Katz's Delaware Senate record includes advancing bipartisan legislation — a contrast to Coons' solitary bill introductions that stall in committee.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Nineteen days, zero cosponsors — Coons can't even get one colleague to sign onto his railroad retirement bill
- Dr. Katz believes in protecting workers' retirement security through effective coalition-building, not headline bills that die in committee
- Coons has been in the Senate since 2010 — after sixteen years, he should be able to find a cosponsor
- Dr. Katz built bipartisan coalitions in the Delaware Senate; Coons' zero-cosponsor pattern shows Washington isolation

CONSUMER PROTECTION / BANKING

S. 4144 — ESCRA Act — Day 52 in Banking Committee; Zero Cosponsors, No Movement

Coons' ESCRA Act, introduced March 19 to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act, enters its fifty-second day in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee with zero cosponsors and no committee action. The bill continues to languish with no indication of markup or hearing scheduling.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports consumer protection measures that are practical and achievable, per his economy platform. Coons' ESCRA Act at fifty-two days with zero cosponsors exemplifies the pattern of introducing legislation with no viable path to passage — a messaging exercise rather than serious lawmaking.

• TALKING POINTS

- Fifty-two days, zero cosponsors — the ESCRA Act is dead on arrival
- Delawareans dealing with credit repair scams need real solutions, not press-release legislation
- Dr. Katz supports consumer protections that can actually pass — which means building coalitions, not just filing bills
- Coons' legislative portfolio is a graveyard of zero-cosponsor bills

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S. 4145 — Pro Codes Act — Day 52 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 fifty-second day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with zero cosponsors. No committee action has been taken.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government transparency — he authored Delaware SR 14 requiring live streaming of the Delaware State Senate and SR 9 mandating open and transparent redistricting. The Pro Codes Act may touch transparency principles, but its fifty-two days of inaction and zero cosponsors show Coons' inability to advance even modest reform.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz passed live-streaming and open-redistricting legislation in Delaware — he delivers on transparency, not just talks about it
- Fifty-two days, zero cosponsors for the Pro Codes Act — another Coons bill going nowhere
- Government transparency requires leadership and coalition-building — Dr. Katz demonstrated both in Dover
- Coons files transparency-adjacent bills but can't get a single colleague to support them

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](#) — S. 4145

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IMMIGRATION / OVERSIGHT

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 oversight and reporting requirements on ICE operations, which critics characterize as bureaucratic obstacles to immigration enforcement.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and secure borders, per his platform. Coons' ICE Accountability Act represents an effort to hamstring enforcement through bureaucratic red tape — and even his own caucus won't cosponsor it. Dr. Katz opposes any legislation that creates new barriers to interior immigration enforcement.

• TALKING POINTS

- Thirteen weeks stalled with zero cosponsors — even Senate Democrats won't touch Coons' anti-ICE bill
- Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement to keep Delaware communities safe
- The ICE Accountability Act is a bureaucratic sabotage bill dressed up as oversight
- Coons wants to handcuff ICE with paperwork while Delaware communities deal with the consequences of open-border policies
- Dr. Katz believes ICE agents need support and resources, not more red tape from Washington

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](#) — S. 3891

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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 10, Sen. Coons has ten tracked items in the 119th Congress: S.J.Res. 191 (Day 10, cosponsor), S.Res. 716 (Day 10), S.Res. 702 (passed UC, ceremonial), S. 4392 (Day 13, zero cosponsors), S. 4362 (Day 19, zero cosponsors), S. 4144 (Day 52, zero cosponsors), S. 4145 (Day 52, zero cosponsors), and S. 3891 (Week 13+, zero cosponsors). The only bill to pass is S.Res. 702, a ceremonial resolution commending the American Chemical Society's 150th anniversary. Every substantive Coons-led bill has zero cosponsors.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz's Delaware Senate record demonstrates an ability to advance substantive legislation — including DHIN restructuring, term limits (SB 61), lobby reform (SB 141), and the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway (SB 241). Coons' zero-cosponsor pattern after sixteen years in the Senate is a powerful effectiveness contrast. Dr. Katz believes legislating means building coalitions, not filing bills that die alone in committee.

• **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 convince even one colleague to sign on
- Dr. Katz passed real legislation in Delaware: health IT reform, term limits, lobby reform, environmental preservation
- After sixteen years in Washington, Coons' legacy is press releases, not laws
- Delawareans deserve a senator who can build coalitions — Dr. Katz did it in Dover and will bring that approach to D.C.

SOURCES: [Congress.gov - Sen. Coons Legislation](#) · [Congress.gov - S.Res. 702](#)

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APPROPRIATIONS & DELAWARE FUNDING

FEDERAL FUNDING / DELAWARE

[STAFF VERIFY] FY2026 Federal Funding Status — Sunday 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. This directly affects Delaware federal installations, including Dover AFB, and any pending grants or contracts. No changes are expected over the weekend but Monday confirmation is essential.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and opposes continuing-resolution governance that creates uncertainty for military bases and federal facilities, per his economy platform. Coons' role as Defense Appropriations Ranking Member means he bears direct responsibility for the state of defense funding — extended CRs on his watch reflect a failure to lead.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Governing by continuing resolution is fiscal malpractice — Dover AFB and Delaware federal workers deserve budget certainty
- Coons is the Ranking Member on Defense Appropriations — if we're stuck in a CR, he owns part of that failure
- Dr. Katz supports passing real budgets on time, per his commitment to fiscal responsibility
- Delaware's federal workforce shouldn't have to plan their lives around Washington's inability to do its job

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee

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VETERANS / DELAWARE / HEALTHCARE

Veterans Affairs — Southern Delaware VA Facility Advocacy — Sunday 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 over the weekend. Staff should monitor for any FY2027 VA MILCON or lease action items when the Senate returns Monday.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has called for a VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware, per his veterans platform, citing the urgent need for accessible, advanced medical care for veterans in Kent and Sussex counties. As a physician, Dr. Katz brings direct healthcare operational expertise to this issue that Coons lacks. Dr. Katz believes this facility should address unique veteran health challenges including mental health, traumatic brain injury, and PTSD.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz's veterans platform specifically calls for a VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware — this is a core commitment
- As a physician who has treated patients across the spectrum, Dr. Katz understands what veterans need from a healthcare facility

- Kent and Sussex County veterans shouldn't have to drive hours for specialty care — Dr. Katz has a plan to fix that
- Coons talks about VA expansion — Dr. Katz brings forty years of healthcare expertise to actually make it happen

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) - Veterans · [Dr. Katz - Veterans Platform](#) † [INDEX](#)

DELAWARE

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

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

ExxonMobil's board-recommended redomiciliation from New Jersey to Texas — bypassing Delaware entirely — now enters its fifteenth 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 policy responses to protect Delaware's franchise tax base and corporate governance leadership. The silence is increasingly notable as more companies explore Texas and Nevada redomiciliation options.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz authored SB 100 in the Delaware Senate to repeal the state corporate income tax to attract business investment and generate jobs. His pro-business record demonstrates an understanding that Delaware's corporate franchise is an economic lifeline that requires active protection. Coons' fifteen weeks of silence on ExxonMobil's decision to bypass Delaware signals indifference to the state's most important economic competitive advantage.

• TALKING POINTS

- Fifteen weeks of silence — Coons has nothing to say about one of the biggest threats to Delaware's economy
- Dr. Katz authored legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax to make the state more competitive — he understands what's at stake
- Delaware's corporate franchise generates billions in revenue — if companies keep choosing Texas, Delaware taxpayers pay the price
- Coons has been in the Senate for sixteen years and has no plan to protect Delaware's business brand
- Dr. Katz believes Delaware must actively compete for corporate business, not assume companies will always choose us

DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

[STAFF VERIFY] Delaware Population and Outmigration Trends — Sunday 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 increased outmigration to lower-cost, lower-tax states. Any new data should be flagged for use in economic messaging around cost of living and homeownership affordability.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz's platform addresses the root causes of outmigration: cost of living, housing affordability, and economic opportunity. Per his homeownership platform, the median Delaware home price surged 53% from \$221,100 in 2018 to \$339,400 in 2023. Dr. Katz supports tax incentives for first-time homebuyers and policies to increase affordable housing supply — concrete responses to the affordability crisis driving Delawareans out of state.

• TALKING POINTS

- Delawareans are leaving for states with lower costs and better opportunities — that's a failure of leadership
- Dr. Katz's homeownership platform addresses the 53% surge in Delaware home prices with tax incentives and affordable housing supply policies
- Coons has been in Washington for sixteen years while Delaware became less affordable — where's his housing plan?
- Dr. Katz believes homeownership is foundational to the American Dream and supports concrete federal policies to make it achievable again

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 various other agencies. Staff should verify current Delaware-

specific RIF numbers, any reinstatement orders, and whether Coons has released state-specific impact data this week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government restructuring and efficiency, per his Delaware Senate legislation establishing an independent council for a five-year plan to restructure state government. Dr. Katz believes government reform can protect essential services and Delaware jobs while eliminating waste — but that requires leadership and a plan, not blanket opposition to any change as Coons practices.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz authored Delaware legislation to restructure government responsibly — he knows reform can protect jobs while cutting waste
- Coons opposes all efficiency reforms reflexively — Dr. Katz supports smart restructuring that protects Delaware's federal workforce
- Government reform isn't a threat to Delaware — waste and bloat are the real threats to sustainable federal employment
- Dr. Katz believes Dover AFB and Delaware VA jobs are safe when government is run efficiently — waste elsewhere threatens those positions

SOURCES: Coons.senate.gov — Press Releases · Dr. Katz — Government Restructuring

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FOREIGN POLICY & DIPLOMACY

GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS **UPDATED**

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

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, now entering a sixteenth week of sustained public messaging. Coons has characterized these reductions as gutting American diplomatic capacity and soft power. No new floor statements or press releases were identified over the weekend, but this remains a core Coons messaging theme heading into the new legislative week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and efficient government, per his economy platform and his Delaware Senate government restructuring legislation. While Dr. Katz believes America needs robust diplomacy, he also believes that USAID and the State Department — like all agencies — must justify their spending and eliminate

redundancy. Sixteen weeks of blanket opposition from Coons suggests defense of bureaucracy rather than defense of diplomacy.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Sixteen weeks of opposing every efficiency measure — Coons is defending the bureaucracy, not American diplomacy
- Dr. Katz supports effective American diplomacy but believes every federal agency must justify its spending
- USAID has been plagued by waste and mismanagement for years — reform is overdue, not reckless
- Coons' approach: oppose all reform, protect all spending, question nothing — that's not leadership

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

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UKRAINE / FOREIGN AID

[STAFF VERIFY] Ukraine Supplemental Aid — Sunday Status Check

Coons has been one of the Senate's most vocal advocates for continued military and economic assistance to Ukraine. Staff should verify Sunday whether any new supplemental aid package language has been introduced, whether any floor vote is scheduled for the coming week, and whether Coons has issued new statements tying Ukraine aid to FY2027 defense appropriations. No new developments identified over the weekend.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong defense and American leadership in global security, per his defense platform. Any Ukraine aid must be weighed against fiscal responsibility and American readiness priorities. Dr. Katz believes that before committing additional billions abroad, Congress must ensure accountability for funds already appropriated and prioritize American military readiness.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz supports American global leadership but demands accountability for every dollar sent overseas
- Coons pushes for more Ukraine spending without adequate oversight of existing funds — that's not responsible
- American military readiness must come first — Dr. Katz believes foreign aid should supplement, not compete with, our own defense needs

- Fiscal responsibility means asking hard questions about foreign aid — something Coons refuses to do

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Senate Appropriations 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 technology funding. No new floor action is expected over the weekend, but the coming week may see committee-level positioning on DHS spending riders. Coons, as a loyal caucus member, is expected to align with Democratic leadership's approach of conditioning DHS funding on enforcement restrictions.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong border security, robust ICE enforcement, and full DHS funding without anti-enforcement riders, per his secure borders platform. Coons' expected alignment with the caucus position of restricting ICE and conditioning DHS funding stands in direct opposition to Dr. Katz's call for secure borders and strong immigration enforcement. Dr. Katz opposes using the appropriations process to sabotage border security.

• TALKING POINTS

- Senate Democrats want to defund enforcement by attaching anti-ICE riders to DHS spending bills — Dr. Katz opposes this approach
- Dr. Katz supports full DHS and TSA funding without strings that hamstring border security
- Coons votes with his caucus to restrict ICE — Dr. Katz stands with law enforcement and border security
- Delaware communities deserve safety — that means funding ICE, not handcuffing it through budget riders
- Dr. Katz believes the appropriations process should strengthen border security, not be weaponized against it

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Congress.gov — DHS Appropriations

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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 floor action is expected this weekend.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act, believing 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 verification that the overwhelming majority of voters support.

• TALKING POINTS

- The SAVE Act is simple: prove you're a citizen to vote in American elections — Dr. Katz supports this, Coons' caucus blocks it
- Polls consistently show Americans overwhelmingly support voter citizenship verification — Coons is on the wrong side
- Dr. Katz believes election integrity is foundational to democracy — opposing the SAVE Act undermines public trust
- Senate Democrats call citizenship verification 'voter suppression' — Dr. Katz calls it common sense
- Coons won't even state his position publicly — his silence speaks volumes about where he stands with his caucus

SOURCES: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) — H.R. 22 (SAVE Act) · [GovTrack](https://www.govtrack.us) — H.R. 22

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2026 RACE CONTEXT

CAMPAIGN INTELLIGENCE

Race Snapshot: Coons vs. Katz (General: Nov. 3, 2026)

Sen. Coons (D) is running for a third full term. Republican primary: Dr. Mike Katz vs. John Shulli — primary set for September 15, 2026. Delaware is historically Solid Democratic. Coons has missed 3.0% of Senate roll call votes since 2010. His legislative profile focuses on

International Affairs (27%), Commerce (21%), and Labor (10%). Committees: Appropriations (Defense Subcommittee Ranking Member), Foreign Relations, Judiciary.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Strategic note for Katz: Coons is well-funded and active on national security. Key vulnerabilities: Iran war posture, DOGE/government spending debate, ICE oversight bill, healthcare policy (Katz's home turf as a physician). The zero-cosponsor legislative pattern is a growing effectiveness narrative. Mother's Day weekend provides a natural opportunity for Katz to highlight his healthcare background — as a physician, he understands the health challenges Delaware families face. ExxonMobil redomiciliation (now Week 15) remains an unforced-error opportunity as Coons stays silent on Delaware's eroding business climate.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons has been in Washington since 2010 — Dr. Katz offers fresh leadership with real-world healthcare and business experience
- After sixteen years, Coons' only passed legislation in the 119th Congress is a congratulatory resolution — Delaware deserves more
- Dr. Katz is a physician, business owner, and former state senator with a proven legislative record — not a career politician
- Key contrast areas: Iran war powers, border security, ICE enforcement, healthcare expertise, government reform, Delaware business climate
- The September 15 primary is four months away — building name recognition and contrast messaging now is critical

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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