

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 19 in Foreign Relations Committee; No Markup Scheduled as Week Three Continues

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 nineteenth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with no markup or hearing date publicly scheduled. Coons is listed as a cosponsor of the resolution, which was read twice and referred to committee on April 30. The resolution continues to serve as the centerpiece of Senate Democrats' effort to reassert congressional war powers authority and constrain the Administration's posture toward Iran, but the Republican-controlled committee has shown no urgency to advance it.

⚡ KATZ CONTRAST POINT: Dr. Katz supports strong Commander-in-Chief authority and believes the President must retain flexibility to defend American interests and deter Iranian aggression without being hamstrung by congressional micromanagement. Per Dr. Katz's veterans and defense platform, sustaining a robust military force is essential for preserving global peace and international stability — cosponsoring resolutions that tie the Commander-in-Chief's hands undermines that mission.

• TALKING POINTS

- Coons cosponsored a resolution to pull U.S. forces back from Iran — Dr. Katz believes the Commander-in-Chief needs flexibility to protect Americans abroad
- Day 19 with no markup — even the committee recognizes this resolution is more political messaging than serious policy
- Dr. Katz's platform calls for sustaining a robust military that deters adversaries; Coons' approach signals weakness to Tehran
- Delaware has a proud military tradition at Dover AFB — our service members need leaders who back their mission, not undercut it

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

DEFENSE & PENTAGON

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS / FY2027 BUDGET / DOGE

FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Week Eleven Continues; Coons Expected to Press Anti-DOGE Messaging as Ranking Member

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee enters Tuesday of its eleventh 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 the defense industrial base. Staff should monitor today's hearing schedule for any new witnesses or Coons questioning that generates news. Coons' messaging continues to conflate targeted efficiency reforms with wholesale cuts to military capability.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility across all federal agencies, including the Pentagon, consistent with his platform calling for restructuring and reorganizing government operations — as demonstrated by his Delaware Senate legislation establishing an independent council for state government restructuring (Katz legislation: Establishing a Five Year Plan to Restructure and Reorganize State Government). Opposing any efficiency review is not the same as supporting the troops.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz believes you can support a strong defense AND demand taxpayer accountability — these are not mutually exclusive
- Coons opposes efficiency reviews as Ranking Member but has no counter-proposal to reduce Pentagon waste
- Dr. Katz authored state-level government restructuring legislation — he understands how to make government work better
- Every dollar wasted in Pentagon bureaucracy is a dollar not going to warfighters at Dover AFB and elsewhere

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

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION / DELAWARE

Dover AFB FY2027 Military Construction — Tuesday 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 or announcements specific to Dover AFB have emerged. Staff should continue monitoring the Defense Appropriations markup schedule for MILCON line items affecting Delaware installations.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports Dover AFB funding and can acknowledge Coons' work on Delaware military construction where warranted, while pivoting to the broader point that Delaware's military installations deserve a Senator who supports the full spectrum of national defense — including border security and Commander-in-Chief authority — per Dr. Katz's defense and veterans platform.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dover AFB is Delaware's largest military installation and a national strategic asset — it deserves full-spectrum advocacy
- Dr. Katz can acknowledge bipartisan wins for Dover while making clear he would fight for both military funding AND the defense posture to back it up
- Supporting Dover AFB means supporting the mission — including readiness, not just construction dollars
- Dr. Katz's veterans platform calls for advanced VA medical facilities in southern Delaware to serve those who served

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Dover AFB — Official

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DEFENSE / BORDER SECURITY **UPDATED**

[STAFF VERIFY] Coons Statements on National Guard Border Deployment — No Confirmed Public Position Through Day 66 of Tracking

Staff has been tracking for sixty-six days whether Coons has issued any formal statement, floor remarks, committee questions, or social media posts regarding the Administration's expanded National Guard deployment to the southern border. As of Tuesday morning, no confirmed public position from Coons has been identified. This continued silence is notable given his role as Defense Appropriations Ranking Member and his willingness to comment on other military deployments. Staff should check Coons' official channels and Tuesday hearing transcripts.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, consistent with his platform. He believes the National Guard deployment is an appropriate use of military resources to support border security. Coons' sixty-six days of silence on the deployment — while simultaneously cosponsoring resolutions to restrict military operations against Iran — exposes a glaring double standard on when he believes military deployments deserve oversight.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- 66 days and counting — Coons has had nothing to say about National Guard troops securing our border

- The Defense Appropriations Ranking Member comments on every military issue EXCEPT border security
- Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and secure borders — he doesn't pick and choose which deployments to acknowledge
- Coons cosponsored a war powers resolution on Iran within days but can't find the words to address border deployments

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://www.coons.senate.gov) - Press · Senate Appropriations Committee † INDEX

RECENT LEGISLATION

LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS / OVERSIGHT **UPDATED**

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

As of May 19, Sen. Coons has ten tracked items in the 119th Congress: S.J.Res. 191 (Day 19, cosponsor), S.Res. 716 (Day 19), S.Res. 702 (passed UC, ceremonial), S. 4392 (Day 22, zero cosponsors), S. 4362 (Day 28, zero cosponsors), S. 4144 (Day 61, zero cosponsors), S. 4145 (Day 61, zero cosponsors), and S. 3891 (Week 14+, zero cosponsors). The only measure to achieve passage is S.Res. 702, a ceremonial resolution commending the American Chemical Society's 150th anniversary. No substantive Coons-authored legislation has attracted a single cosponsor or received committee action in the 119th Congress.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes effective governance requires building coalitions and passing legislation that makes a tangible difference. In the Delaware State Senate, Dr. Katz authored and passed multiple bills — including the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway legislation (Katz SB 241), DHIN restructuring, lobby reform (Katz SB 141), and term limits legislation (Katz SB 61). Zero cosponsors across five substantive Coons bills suggests a senator who introduces bills for press releases, not results.

• TALKING POINTS

- Five Coons bills, zero cosponsors — not a single colleague in either party has signed on
- The only Coons measure to pass in the 119th Congress was a ceremonial resolution about a chemistry society anniversary
- Dr. Katz passed real legislation in the Delaware Senate: scenic byway protection, lobby reform, government transparency
- After 15 years in office, Coons can't find one cosponsor — Dr. Katz built bipartisan coalitions as a freshman state senator

ENERGY / NATIONAL SECURITY / MINERALS **UPDATED**

S. 4392 — Energy Security Pacts Act — Day 22 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 twenty-second day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with zero cosponsors. The bill's focus on allied energy partnerships contrasts with the Administration's emphasis on domestic energy production and American energy independence. No committee hearing or markup has been scheduled.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports American energy independence as a core platform plank, including advocacy for nuclear energy and the ADVANCE Act, and investment in domestic energy production. While allied energy cooperation has value, Dr. Katz believes the priority must be unleashing American energy production first — not creating new international frameworks that may constrain U.S. energy decisions. Per Dr. Katz's energy and environment platform, energy policy should enhance America's global competitiveness.

• TALKING POINTS

- Coons' energy bill focuses on international pacts — Dr. Katz believes American energy independence comes first
- Day 22 with zero cosponsors — even energy hawks in both parties aren't interested
- Dr. Katz supports nuclear energy, the ADVANCE Act, and domestic production that creates American jobs
- Delaware families paying high energy bills need a Senator focused on lowering costs, not negotiating international energy pacts

LABOR / RETIREMENT BENEFITS **UPDATED**

S. 4362 — Railroad Retirement Fairness Act — Day 28 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 twenty-eighth day in the Senate HELP Committee with zero cosponsors and no committee action. The bill addresses a niche retirement benefit issue affecting railroad workers but has failed to attract support from any other senator, including senators from states with far larger railroad workforces.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports protecting retirement benefits for workers and believes fiscal responsibility includes honoring commitments to those who have paid into retirement systems. However, the zero-cosponsor pattern — even from senators representing major railroad states — raises questions about whether this bill was introduced as a serious legislative effort or a messaging exercise. Per Dr. Katz's economy platform, he supports policies that genuinely improve workers' standard of living.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- 28 days and zero cosponsors — not even senators from major railroad states have signed on
- Dr. Katz supports protecting workers' retirement benefits through fiscally responsible policy
- Introducing bills without building support is legislative theater, not leadership
- Dr. Katz's economic platform prioritizes real results: jobs, wages, and retirement security for all workers

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

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CONSUMER PROTECTION / BANKING **UPDATED**

S. 4144 — ESCRA Act — Day 61 in Banking Committee; Zero Cosponsors, No Movement

Coons' ESCRA Act, introduced March 19 to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act, enters its sixty-first day in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee with zero cosponsors and no committee action. The bill has generated no public hearings, no markup, and no evident interest from committee leadership or other members.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports consumer protection but believes regulatory approaches must be carefully calibrated to avoid unintended consequences that restrict access to credit — especially for working families trying to rebuild their financial standing. Per Dr. Katz's economy and homeownership platform, policies should make financial services more accessible, not layer on regulations that make credit harder to obtain.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- 61 days, zero cosponsors — the Banking Committee has shown no interest in this bill
- Dr. Katz supports consumer protection that expands access to credit, not restricts it
- Working families trying to buy a home need credit access, not more regulatory barriers
- Dr. Katz's homeownership platform calls for tax incentives and discounted rates for first-time buyers — real solutions

COPYRIGHT / GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY **UPDATED**

S. 4145 — Pro Codes Act — Day 61 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 sixty-first day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with zero cosponsors and no committee action. The bill addresses an arcane but important transparency issue — public access to copyrighted technical standards incorporated into federal regulations — but has attracted zero support.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government transparency — his Delaware Senate record includes legislation for live streaming of the Delaware State Senate (Katz SR 14) and open redistricting processes (Katz SR 9). The Pro Codes Act's transparency objective is sound, but Coons' inability to attract a single cosponsor for even a good-government measure reflects his diminished legislative influence after 15 years in office.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz has a real transparency record: live-streaming the Delaware Senate, open redistricting
- Even on a reasonable good-government bill, Coons can't find one ally — that's a leadership problem
- Government transparency requires coalition-building, not just bill introductions
- Dr. Katz authored multiple transparency and ethics reform bills that actually passed in Delaware

IMMIGRATION / OVERSIGHT

S. 3891 — ICE Accountability Act — Week 14+ Stalled in Judiciary Committee; No Action

Coons' ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891), introduced February 12, remains stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee entering its fifteenth week with no new cosponsors or committee action. The bill would impose new reporting requirements and oversight mechanisms on Immigration and Customs Enforcement operations, which critics argue would burden enforcement operations and signal anti-enforcement priorities.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and secure borders, consistent with his platform. He opposes legislation designed to layer bureaucratic obstacles on immigration enforcement agencies. The ICE Accountability Act's framing as 'oversight' is a thinly veiled effort to obstruct the enforcement mission — a position Dr. Katz rejects.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- 15 weeks stalled, zero cosponsors — even Democrats won't sign onto Coons' anti-ICE bill
- Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement, not bills designed to handcuff enforcement officers
- 'Accountability' is Washington code for obstruction when it comes to border enforcement
- Delaware families deserve a Senator who backs law enforcement, not one who tries to tie their hands

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

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APPROPRIATIONS & DELAWARE FUNDING

FEDERAL FUNDING / DELAWARE

[STAFF VERIFY] FY2026 Federal Funding Status — Tuesday 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 Delaware-specific funding items, earmarks, or grant announcements that Coons has claimed credit for or that affect Delaware constituents. This information is critical for framing Coons' appropriations effectiveness versus messaging.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and believes the annual appropriations process should be completed on time rather than lurching from CR to CR. Per his platform calling for restructuring government operations and reducing the corporate tax burden to spur economic growth, Dr. Katz believes Washington's broken budget process is a symptom of exactly the dysfunction he ran for office to fix.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- The federal budget process is broken — CRs and omnibus packages are not responsible governance
- Dr. Katz's platform calls for fiscal responsibility and disciplined government spending
- After 15 years on Appropriations, Coons has not fixed the broken budget cycle

- Delaware taxpayers deserve a Senator who insists on on-time budgets and transparent spending

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Congress.gov – Appropriations ↑ INDEX

GOVERNMENT REFORM / DELAWARE JOBS

[STAFF VERIFY] DOGE-Driven Federal Workforce Cuts — Delaware-Specific Impact Numbers

Coons has been among the most vocal Senate Democrats opposing DOGE-driven reductions-in-force across federal agencies. Delaware has a significant federal workforce presence, including at Dover AFB, the VA Wilmington Medical Center, IRS Wilmington, and other federal facilities. Staff should verify current Delaware-specific RIF numbers, furlough notices, or hiring freeze impacts. Coons is expected to continue framing DOGE cuts as attacks on Delaware jobs.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government efficiency and restructuring, consistent with his Delaware Senate legislation establishing an independent council to evaluate state services and develop a five-year restructuring plan (Katz legislation: Establishing a Five Year Plan to Restructure and Reorganize State Government). He believes government reform can be done responsibly without eliminating essential services — but the status quo of bureaucratic bloat is not acceptable either.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz authored government restructuring legislation in Delaware — he knows how to reform responsibly
- Opposing ALL efficiency reforms is not the same as protecting Delaware jobs
- Federal agencies need accountability — Dr. Katz supports targeted reform, not blanket protection of bloat
- Coons' approach: defend every government dollar and every position regardless of whether it serves taxpayers

SOURCES: Coons.senate.gov – Press · OPM – Federal workforce data ↑ INDEX

DELAWARE

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

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

ExxonMobil's board-recommended redomiciliation from New Jersey to Texas — bypassing Delaware entirely — now enters its eighteenth week as a data point in Delaware's eroding position as America's premier corporate domicile state. Coons has not publicly addressed the broader trend of major corporations choosing Texas, Nevada, or other states over Delaware for incorporation or redomiciliation. Delaware's franchise tax revenue and Court of Chancery prestige are long-term economic assets that require active defense.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports policies that make Delaware competitive for business, including his Delaware Senate legislation to repeal the state corporate income tax (Katz SB 100, 146th General Assembly). When major corporations bypass Delaware, it threatens the franchise tax revenue that funds state services. Eighteen weeks of silence from Coons on this trend is a dereliction of his duty to protect Delaware's economic interests.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- ExxonMobil chose Texas over Delaware — 18 weeks later, Coons has said nothing
- Dr. Katz authored legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax to attract business
- Delaware's franchise fee and Court of Chancery advantages are eroding — the state's senior Senator is silent
- A physician understands prevention: you address problems before they become crises. Coons is ignoring the symptoms

SOURCES: Delaware Division of Corporations · Reuters

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DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

[STAFF VERIFY] Delaware Population and Outmigration Trends — Tuesday 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 relative to peer states and potential net outmigration of higher-income taxpayers. These trends affect Delaware's tax base, housing market, and political dynamics. Any new data should be flagged for campaign messaging development.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes Delaware's economic competitiveness directly affects population trends. Per his economy and homeownership platform, the median home sales price in Delaware surged 53% from \$221,100 in 2018 to \$339,400 in 2023 — making the state less affordable and contributing to outmigration pressures. A Senator focused on lowering costs and growing the economy could reverse these trends.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Delaware home prices up 53% in five years — working families are being priced out
- Dr. Katz's homeownership platform calls for first-time buyer incentives and affordable housing supply
- When people leave Delaware, the tax base shrinks and services suffer — Coons has no plan to reverse this
- Dr. Katz's economic platform addresses the upstream causes: education, workforce development, tax reform

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

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VETERANS / DELAWARE / HEALTHCARE

Veterans Affairs — Southern Delaware VA Facility Advocacy — Tuesday 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 or appropriations developments have been identified as of Tuesday morning. Staff should monitor for any Coons press releases, VA site selection updates, or FY2027 MILCON/VA line items affecting southern Delaware veterans' healthcare access.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has called for a VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware, a commitment outlined on his veterans platform. As a physician with over forty years in healthcare, Dr. Katz brings clinical expertise to the question of what services veterans actually need — not just general advocacy for 'expanded services.' His platform specifically addresses mental health, physical health, and transition challenges facing veterans in Kent and Sussex counties.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz's veterans platform specifically calls for an advanced VA medical facility in southern Delaware
- As a physician, Dr. Katz understands what clinical services veterans need — not just talking points
- Kent and Sussex County veterans deserve specialized care close to home, not a 90-minute drive to Wilmington
- Dr. Katz brings 40 years of healthcare experience to veterans' healthcare policy — Coons brings 15 years of press releases

FOREIGN POLICY & DIPLOMACY

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

S.Res. 716 — China Policy Sense of the Senate Resolution — Day 19 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 nineteenth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The resolution was referred to committee on April 30 with its text entered into the Congressional Record. No hearing or markup date has been announced. The resolution's non-binding nature limits its practical impact, though it provides Coons a vehicle for China-related messaging.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports a strong, clear-eyed posture toward China that includes economic competitiveness, military deterrence, and protection of American intellectual property. Per Dr. Katz's energy and economy platforms, American energy independence and domestic manufacturing capacity are the most effective tools for countering Chinese influence — not non-binding sense-of-the-Senate resolutions that signal concern without requiring action.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- A non-binding resolution doesn't deter Beijing — American energy independence and economic strength do
- Dr. Katz's platform calls for investing in domestic manufacturing and reducing dependence on Chinese supply chains
- After 15 years on Foreign Relations, Coons' China policy contribution is a sense-of-the-Senate resolution
- Dr. Katz believes the best China strategy starts with a strong American economy and military — not symbolic votes

GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS **UPDATED**

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

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, now entering a nineteenth week of sustained public

messaging. Coons has characterized the reductions as gutting American diplomacy and endangering national security interests abroad. The Administration has framed the cuts as eliminating redundancy and refocusing foreign aid on American strategic priorities. Staff should monitor for any new Coons floor statements or social media posts on this topic Tuesday.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports targeted government reform and fiscal responsibility, including at the State Department and USAID. Per his platform on government restructuring, Dr. Katz believes every agency should justify its spending and staffing levels. Foreign aid should advance American interests and be subject to rigorous oversight — not protected from any scrutiny as Coons demands.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- 19 weeks of Coons opposing ANY reform at State and USAID — that's not oversight, it's obstruction
- Dr. Katz supports foreign aid that advances American interests, with rigorous accountability
- Taxpayer-funded agencies should justify their budgets — Dr. Katz authored restructuring legislation in Delaware to do exactly that
- Coons' position: every foreign aid dollar is sacred, but he cosponsors resolutions to restrict military operations

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) — Press · State Department

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UKRAINE / FOREIGN AID

[STAFF VERIFY] Ukraine Supplemental Aid — Tuesday Status Check

Coons has been one of the Senate's most vocal advocates for continued military and economic assistance to Ukraine. Staff should verify Tuesday whether any new supplemental aid package language has been introduced, whether floor debate is anticipated, or whether Coons has made new public statements linking Ukraine funding to the FY2027 defense appropriations process. Monitor for any connection between Ukraine aid advocacy and the Iran war powers resolution.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong American defense and alliances but believes all foreign aid must be subject to strict accountability and must advance measurable American strategic interests. Per his fiscal responsibility and veterans platforms, every dollar spent abroad should be weighed against unmet needs at home — including the advanced VA medical facility Dr. Katz has called for in southern Delaware.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz supports allies but demands accountability for every foreign aid dollar

- Before sending more aid abroad, we should fully fund veterans' healthcare at home — including in southern Delaware
- Coons never met a foreign aid package he wouldn't support — but where's his plan for fiscal accountability?
- Dr. Katz believes foreign commitments must align with American strategic interests, not just good intentions

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Congress.gov

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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 increased border security funding. The caucus strategy has been to attach anti-enforcement riders and amendments to must-pass funding legislation. Coons, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, is positioned to participate directly in these efforts. No specific new amendment language or floor action has been confirmed for Tuesday.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement, consistent with his platform. He opposes Senate Democrat efforts to use DHS funding bills as vehicles to defund or restrict immigration enforcement. Homeland security funding should strengthen enforcement capacity, not undermine it. Dr. Katz believes ICE officers deserve full funding, full staffing, and the backing of their elected officials.

• TALKING POINTS

- Senate Democrats are trying to use DHS funding bills to handcuff ICE — Dr. Katz opposes this approach
- Dr. Katz supports secure borders and full ICE funding — no riders, no games
- Coons sits on Appropriations and could fight for enforcement funding — instead he votes with his caucus to restrict it
- Delaware communities deserve a Senator who funds law enforcement, not one who tries to defund ICE through budget tricks

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · DHS — Budget

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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 has been scheduled for Tuesday.

⚡ **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. Per his reform credentials — including Delaware Senate legislation on lobby reform (Katz SB 141) and open redistricting (Katz SR 9) — Dr. Katz has a consistent record of fighting for clean, transparent government processes.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz supports the SAVE Act — only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections, full stop
- Senate Democrats are blocking a common-sense bill that most Americans support — Coons is expected to join them
- Dr. Katz has a proven record on government integrity: lobby reform, transparency, open redistricting in Delaware
- If Coons opposes requiring proof of citizenship to vote, he should explain why to Delaware voters
- Election integrity is not voter suppression — it's the foundation of democratic legitimacy

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.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Strategic note for Katz: Coons is well-funded and active on national security. Key vulnerabilities entering week of May 19: (1) Iran war powers resolution cosponsor — constraining Commander-in-Chief authority, (2) zero-cosponsor pattern across five substantive bills in the 119th Congress — legislative ineffectiveness, (3) 66+ days of silence on National Guard border deployment — selective oversight, (4) ICE Accountability Act stalled 15 weeks — anti-enforcement positioning, (5) 18 weeks of silence on ExxonMobil redomiciliation bypassing Delaware — neglecting state economic interests, (6) healthcare policy is Katz's home turf as a physician with 40+ years of experience vs. Coons' lack of healthcare credentials.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Coons' 15-year record is long on press releases and short on results — zero cosponsors tell the story
- Dr. Katz brings real-world experience: physician, business owner, state legislator who passed real bills
- Key contrast areas: defense posture, border security, legislative effectiveness, healthcare expertise
- Delaware deserves a Senator who delivers results, not one who's built a career on ceremonial resolutions

SOURCES: GovTrack — Coons · Dr. Mike Katz for Senate

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

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