

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

TOP STORY

LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS / OVERSIGHT **UPDATED**

Coons' Legislative Portfolio Enters Day 19 of Complete Stasis — Congress Returns From Weekend With Six Tracked Bills Showing Zero Movement, Zero Cosponsors

As the Senate reconvenes Tuesday for the second week of Q2 2026, Sen. Coons' entire tracked legislative portfolio remains frozen. All six monitored bills — S. 4144 (ESCRA Act, Day 19), S. 4145 (Pro Codes Act, Day 19), S. 4089 (Blue Envelope Act, Day 26), S. 4011 (Tropical Forest/Coral Reef, Day 33), S. 3891 (ICE Accountability Act, Week 9) — have attracted zero cosponsors, zero committee hearings, and zero markups. This pattern of legislative inactivity deepens the effectiveness contrast heading into the second full working week of Q2.

⚡ KATZ CONTRAST POINT: Dr. Katz has a demonstrated record of introducing legislation that moved — including Delaware's DHIN restructuring, the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway bill (Katz SB 241), and comprehensive lobby reform (Katz SB 141) — all during a single term in the Delaware State Senate. Dr. Katz believes that after 16 years in office, Coons' inability to attract a single cosponsor on any of his recent bills raises serious questions about legislative relevance and effectiveness.

• TALKING POINTS

- Six Coons bills, zero cosponsors, zero hearings — that's not legislating, that's press-release governance
- Dr. Katz passed real legislation in one Delaware State Senate term: scenic byway protection, lobby reform, DHIN restructuring, government transparency measures
- After 16 years in office, Coons can't convince a single colleague to cosponsor his bills — Delaware deserves a senator who builds coalitions
- Effectiveness matters: Dr. Katz's track record in the Delaware Senate shows what a results-oriented legislator looks like

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4144 · Congress.gov — S. 4145 · Congress.gov — S. 4089 [↑ INDEX](#)

DEFENSE & PENTAGON

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

FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Week Four Opens Tuesday; Service Branch-Specific Testimony Expected

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee enters its fourth week of FY2027 budget hearings with Tuesday expected to bring service branch-specific testimony. As Ranking Member, Coons has consistently used these sessions to frame DOGE-driven efficiency reforms as threats to military readiness rather than engaging on substantive cost savings. Staff should monitor today's hearing schedule for Coons' questions and any prepared statements targeting defense spending reforms.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong defense spending and Commander-in-Chief authority (per his defense/veterans platform), while also supporting fiscal responsibility and government restructuring — as demonstrated by his Delaware Senate legislation establishing an independent council to develop a five-year plan to restructure state government. Dr. Katz believes you can support both a strong military and efficient use of taxpayer dollars simultaneously, a balance Coons refuses to strike.

• TALKING POINTS

- Strong defense and fiscal responsibility aren't mutually exclusive — Dr. Katz has championed both throughout his career
- Coons uses his Ranking Member seat to score political points against efficiency reforms instead of fighting for defense readiness
- Dr. Katz introduced legislation to restructure and reorganize Delaware state government — he understands how to make government work better, not just spend more
- Every dollar wasted on Pentagon bureaucracy is a dollar not going to warfighters and their families

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · C-SPAN

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DEFENSE / BORDER SECURITY

[STAFF VERIFY] Coons Statements on National Guard Border Deployment — No Confirmed Public Position Through Day 29 of Tracking

Staff has been tracking for twenty-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. As of Tuesday morning, no confirmed Coons position has been identified. His silence on a major defense-border intersection issue — while holding the Defense Appropriations Ranking Member seat — remains conspicuous.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement (per his immigration/border security platform). Dr. Katz believes the Defense Appropriations Ranking Member has an obligation to take a clear public position on National Guard border deployments — Coons' nearly month-long silence suggests he is caught between his party's open-borders caucus and Delaware voters who support border security.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- 29 days of silence from the Defense Appropriations Ranking Member on National Guard border deployment — that's not leadership
- Dr. Katz supports using every legal tool to secure the border, including National Guard deployments
- Coons won't speak up because his party's base opposes border enforcement — Delaware voters deserve honesty, not political calculation
- A senator who won't take a position on how our military is being deployed doesn't deserve the Ranking Member gavel

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

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MILITARY CONSTRUCTION / DELAWARE

Dover AFB FY2027 Military Construction — Week Four Hearing Cycle; Staff Should Monitor for Delaware-Specific Testimony

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 hearings enter their fourth week. No new MILCON announcements or hearing testimony specific to Dover AFB have been confirmed. Staff should monitor Tuesday's hearing schedule and any Coons amendments or questions regarding Delaware military infrastructure.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports robust funding for Dover AFB as critical national defense infrastructure and a major Delaware economic engine (per his defense and veterans platform). Dr. Katz can acknowledge bipartisan support for Dover AFB while pivoting to his broader argument that Delaware needs a senator who fights for military readiness, not one who uses defense hearings primarily to score partisan points against efficiency reforms.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dover AFB is Delaware's most important federal installation — it deserves a senator who prioritizes readiness over partisan posturing
- Dr. Katz supports full MILCON funding for Dover AFB modernization and mission sustainment

- The Carson Center performs the most sacred mission in the U.S. military — ensuring our fallen come home with dignity
- Dover AFB funding should be bipartisan, but the broader defense budget debate needs a senator who supports both strength and efficiency

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

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RECENT LEGISLATION

CONSUMER PROTECTION / BANKING

S. 4144 — ESCRA Act (Credit Repair Organizations) — Day 19 in Banking Committee, No Cosponsors

Coons' ESCRA Act, introduced March 19 to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act, enters its nineteenth day in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee with no cosponsors and no committee action scheduled. The bill has attracted no public endorsements from consumer advocacy groups or industry stakeholders. Its continued isolation in committee underscores questions about Coons' ability to build coalitions on even modest regulatory measures.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports consumer protection through market-based solutions and reducing regulatory burdens that increase costs for consumers (per his economy/cost of living platform). Dr. Katz believes adding layers of federal regulation to credit repair organizations without addressing the root causes of consumer financial distress — inflation, stagnant wages, and excessive government spending — is treating symptoms, not the disease, a distinction he understands as a physician.

• TALKING POINTS

- Day 19, zero cosponsors — even Coons' own party colleagues won't sign on to this bill
- Dr. Katz supports consumer protection through economic growth, not more federal regulation that drives up costs
- As a physician, Dr. Katz knows the difference between treating symptoms and curing the disease — Coons' approach is symptomatic
- Delawareans need a senator who tackles the root causes of financial hardship: inflation, stagnant wages, and runaway spending

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4144

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S. 4145 — Pro Codes Act of 2026 (Copyright/Open Access) — Day 19 in Judiciary, No Cosponsors

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 nineteenth day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no hearing scheduled. The bill addresses the narrow issue of public access to privately authored codes adopted into law. No industry groups or open-government organizations have issued public statements of support.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government transparency — he introduced live streaming of the Delaware State Senate (Katz SR 14) and open redistricting with public participation (Katz SR 9) during his time in the Delaware General Assembly. Dr. Katz believes transparency should extend beyond niche copyright issues to fundamental accountability measures that let citizens see what their government is doing.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz introduced live streaming of the Delaware State Senate — real transparency, not niche copyright adjustments
- Coons' transparency bill has zero cosponsors after 19 days — Dr. Katz's transparency measures actually passed
- Open government means letting citizens watch their government in action, not just tweaking copyright law
- Katz SR 14 and SR 9 — live streaming and open redistricting — show what meaningful transparency legislation looks like

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

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JUDICIARY / LAW ENFORCEMENT / DISABILITY RIGHTS

S. 4089 — Blue Envelope Act — Day 26 in Judiciary, No Action

Coons' Blue Envelope Act (S. 4089), introduced March 12 to authorize DOJ grants for programs assisting law enforcement in identifying and safely interacting with individuals with autism and other disabilities, enters its twenty-sixth day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no committee action. The bill addresses a real community need but has failed to gain any legislative traction.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports law enforcement and first responders (per his first responders platform) and, as a pediatric-trained physician, has direct professional experience with patients across the disability spectrum. Dr. Katz believes equipping law enforcement with tools for safe interactions with disabled individuals is a worthy goal, but

questions why Coons can't attract a single cosponsor in nearly a month — suggesting this is a press-release bill rather than a serious legislative effort.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz's pediatric medical background gives him firsthand understanding of the needs of individuals with disabilities and their families
- Good concept, zero execution — 26 days without a single cosponsor shows Coons isn't doing the work to build support
- Dr. Katz supports first responders and believes they deserve proper training and resources for all community interactions
- Legislation without coalition-building is just a press release with a bill number

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4089

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ENVIRONMENT / FOREIGN AID

S. 4011 — Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization — Day 33, No Movement

Coons' reauthorization of the 1998 Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act (S. 4011), introduced March 5, passes its thirty-third day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with no cosponsors and no hearing scheduled. The bill authorizes U.S. funding for conservation of tropical forests and coral reefs in developing nations. Its continued stagnation raises questions about whether Coons is prioritizing foreign environmental aid over Delaware-specific environmental and economic needs.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports environmental stewardship with a focus on American interests first — as demonstrated by his authorship of Delaware's Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway legislation (Katz SB 241, 146th General Assembly). Dr. Katz believes a Delaware senator's environmental priorities should start with Delaware's beaches, waterways, and open spaces, not tropical forests in foreign nations, especially when the bill can't attract a single cosponsor.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz authored and passed Delaware's Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway legislation — protecting Delaware's environment, not foreign forests
- 33 days, zero cosponsors — Coons is prioritizing foreign environmental aid that even his own colleagues won't support
- Delaware's beaches and waterways face real environmental challenges — where's Coons' bill for that?

- Dr. Katz believes in environmental protection that starts at home, with American interests and Delaware communities first

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4011

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IMMIGRATION / OVERSIGHT

S. 3891 — ICE Accountability Act — Week 9 Stalled in Judiciary Committee

Coons' ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891), introduced February 12, enters its ninth week stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no new cosponsors or committee action. The bill would impose additional oversight requirements and restrictions on ICE operations. As the Administration continues to ramp up interior enforcement, Coons' bill remains a symbolic marker of his opposition to robust immigration enforcement — and an increasingly useful contrast point for the Katz campaign.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement (per his immigration/border security platform). Dr. Katz opposes legislation designed to hamstring ICE agents enforcing existing law. Dr. Katz believes Coons' ICE Accountability Act is mislabeled — it's not about accountability, it's about weakening enforcement at a time when Delawareans are feeling the effects of illegal immigration on public safety, healthcare, and housing.

• TALKING POINTS

- Coons' ICE bill isn't about accountability — it's about tying the hands of agents enforcing the law
- Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement to protect Delaware communities from the effects of illegal immigration
- Nine weeks, no cosponsors — even Senate Democrats don't want their name on a bill to weaken immigration enforcement
- Delawareans feel the impact of illegal immigration on housing costs, healthcare access, and public safety — Coons wants to make it worse

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 3891 (staff verify exact URL)

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APPROPRIATIONS & DELAWARE FUNDING

FEDERAL FUNDING / DELAWARE

[STAFF VERIFY] FY2026 Federal Funding Status — Tuesday Confirmation Needed

Staff should confirm Tuesday morning the current status of FY2026 federal funding. Determine whether the government is operating under a continuing resolution, an enacted omnibus, or individual appropriations bills. Any impending CR expiration dates should be flagged immediately for messaging and campaign scheduling purposes. Delaware's federal workforce and military installations are directly affected by funding uncertainty.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and opposes the cycle of continuing resolutions and omnibus spending packages that deny taxpayers transparency (per his economy/cost of living platform and his Delaware Senate legislation on government restructuring). Dr. Katz believes 16-year incumbents like Coons bear direct responsibility for the broken appropriations process.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- The broken appropriations process is a feature, not a bug, for career politicians like Coons who thrive on last-minute omnibus deals
- Dr. Katz supports returning to regular order — transparent, timely appropriations that let the public see where their money goes
- Delaware's federal workforce and military families deserve funding certainty, not government-by-CR
- After 16 years in the Senate, Coons owns this dysfunction

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Congress.gov

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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 Wilmington, and USDA facilities. Staff should verify current Delaware-specific RIF numbers, agency-by-agency breakdowns, and any new Coons statements or floor activity this week. These numbers are critical for calibrating campaign messaging — both to acknowledge legitimate workforce concerns and to frame the broader efficiency argument.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports government restructuring and efficiency — as demonstrated by his Delaware Senate legislation establishing an independent council to develop a five-year plan to restructure and reorganize state government. Dr. Katz believes the federal government can be made more efficient while protecting core services and Delaware jobs,

but that Coons' blanket opposition to any reform serves government bureaucracy, not Delaware taxpayers.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz introduced legislation to restructure Delaware state government — he knows how to reform responsibly
- Coons' blanket opposition to efficiency reforms protects bureaucracy, not Delaware workers
- Taxpayers deserve a government that works better and costs less — Dr. Katz has a track record of pursuing that
- Real leadership means finding waste and eliminating it, not defending every government job regardless of necessity

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

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DELAWARE

BUSINESS CLIMATE / CORPORATE GOVERNANCE / DELAWARE ECONOMY

UPDATED

ExxonMobil Texas Redomiciliation — Coons Enters Week Six Without Addressing Delaware's Eroding Corporate Franchise Position

ExxonMobil's board-recommended redomiciliation from New Jersey to Texas — bypassing Delaware entirely — now enters its sixth week as a data point in Delaware's eroding position as America's premier corporate domicile. Coons has made no public statement addressing the trend of major corporations choosing Texas over Delaware for reincorporation. Texas' business-friendly regulatory and tax environment continues to attract corporate relocations that historically would have benefited Delaware's franchise tax revenue.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports reducing corporate tax burdens to attract and retain businesses — he introduced legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax (Katz SB 100, 146th General Assembly) to make the state more competitive for job creation. Dr. Katz believes Delaware's eroding corporate franchise position is a direct consequence of the anti-business regulatory climate championed by career politicians like Coons at the federal level.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- ExxonMobil chose Texas over Delaware — six weeks of silence from Coons on why companies are fleeing states governed by his party's policies
- Dr. Katz introduced legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax (SB 100) — he understands what it takes to attract businesses

- Delaware's corporate franchise is an economic lifeline — Coons' silence on its erosion is a dereliction of his duty to the state
- When companies choose Texas over Delaware, it's a referendum on the business climate Democrats have created

SOURCES: [Coons.senate.gov](https://coons.senate.gov) · [Delaware Division of Corporations](#)

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DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

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

Staff should check Tuesday morning whether updated Census Bureau population estimates or IRS migration data for Delaware have been released. Recent trends have shown Delaware experiencing slower population growth and net domestic outmigration to lower-cost, lower-tax states. These data points are critical for framing the broader argument that Delaware's quality of life and cost of living are driving residents to leave — an issue Coons has not publicly addressed.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports policies that make Delaware more affordable for working families — including tax reforms, energy independence to lower costs, and homeownership initiatives (per his homeownership platform, which notes Delaware median home prices surged 53% from 2018 to 2023). Dr. Katz believes outmigration is a symptom of failed federal economic policies that Coons has supported for 16 years.

• TALKING POINTS

- Delaware home prices up 53% in five years — working families are being priced out of the American Dream
- When residents leave Delaware for lower-cost states, it's a vote of no confidence in the policies Coons has championed
- Dr. Katz supports tax incentives for first-time homebuyers and policies to increase affordable housing supply
- After 16 years of Coons in the Senate, is Delaware more or less affordable? The numbers speak for themselves

SOURCES: [U.S. Census Bureau](#) · [IRS SOI 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 developments have been confirmed as of Tuesday. Staff should monitor for any appropriations language, committee testimony, or Coons press events related to southern Delaware VA services this week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has specifically called for a VA advanced medical facility in southern Delaware to serve veterans in Kent and Sussex counties (per his veterans platform). As a physician with over 40 years of healthcare experience, Dr. Katz brings subject-matter expertise to VA healthcare advocacy that a career politician cannot match. Dr. Katz believes this facility should be a top priority, not an item that languishes in the appropriations queue.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Dr. Katz has called for a VA advanced medical facility in southern Delaware — this is a core campaign commitment, not a talking point
- As a physician, Dr. Katz understands the unique healthcare challenges facing veterans — including PTSD, TBI, and chronic pain management
- Kent and Sussex County veterans shouldn't have to drive hours for specialized care — Dr. Katz supports bringing care to where veterans live
- Coons has talked about southern Delaware VA services for years — Dr. Katz has the healthcare expertise to make it happen

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

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FOREIGN POLICY & DIPLOMACY

WAR POWERS / IRAN / FOREIGN RELATIONS

Iran War Powers Debate — No Floor Vote Scheduled; Coons Continues Push to Constrain Commander-in-Chief Authority

Coons remains a vocal supporter of Sen. Tim Kaine's War Powers Resolution aimed at restraining the President's ability to take military action against Iran without prior congressional authorization. No floor vote is currently scheduled. Coons has framed this effort as reasserting congressional prerogatives, but the practical effect would be to telegraph constraints on U.S. military options to Iranian adversaries at a moment of heightened regional tension.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong defense and Commander-in-Chief authority (per his defense platform). Dr. Katz believes that telegraphing military constraints to adversaries like Iran undermines American deterrence and puts U.S. servicemembers at greater risk. Dr. Katz opposes efforts to tie the President's hands on time-sensitive national security decisions.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Telling Iran what America won't do is not foreign policy — it's an invitation to aggression
- Dr. Katz supports the Commander-in-Chief's authority to protect American lives and interests without telegraphing constraints to adversaries
- Coons' war powers posture would give Iran a roadmap of American limitations — that's dangerous
- Strong deterrence requires adversaries to believe America will act — Coons wants to take that off the table

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Congress.gov

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GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS **UPDATED**

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

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, now entering an eighth week of sustained public messaging. Coons has characterized these reforms as gutting American diplomacy and foreign aid capacity. Staff should monitor Tuesday for any new Coons floor statements, press releases, or committee activity on this topic as Congress returns from the weekend.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and government restructuring (per his economy/cost of living platform and his Delaware Senate legislation on government reorganization). Dr. Katz believes bloated foreign aid bureaucracies should be reformed to ensure taxpayer dollars are spent effectively, and that Coons' reflexive defense of every State Department and USAID position serves the Washington establishment, not American taxpayers or Delaware families struggling with inflation.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Eight weeks of Coons defending the State Department bureaucracy — where's the same energy for Delaware families struggling with grocery bills?
- Dr. Katz supports efficient foreign aid that serves American interests, not a bloated bureaucracy that serves itself

- Government reform means every agency justifies its spending — the State Department and USAID are not exempt
- Coons is fighting harder for USAID desk jobs than for Delawareans who can't afford their mortgage payments

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

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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 circulated, whether a floor vote is expected this month, and whether Coons has made new public statements. Track any dollar amounts, conditions, or oversight provisions being discussed.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports American fiscal responsibility and believes any foreign aid must include strict oversight, accountability, and clear benchmarks (per his economy/cost of living platform emphasizing fiscal discipline). Dr. Katz believes open-ended commitments of taxpayer money abroad — while Delawareans face inflation and housing unaffordability — reflect misplaced priorities.

• TALKING POINTS

- Every dollar sent overseas without accountability is a dollar taken from Delaware families
- Dr. Katz supports fiscal discipline in foreign aid — clear benchmarks, strict oversight, and defined objectives
- Coons' enthusiasm for blank-check foreign spending contrasts sharply with his silence on Delaware's housing affordability crisis
- Accountability abroad and prosperity at home — that's the balance Dr. Katz supports

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

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SENATE DEMOCRAT CAUCUS WATCH

HOMELAND SECURITY / FISCAL POLICY

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

Senate Democrats are expected to use upcoming DHS and TSA funding debates to push for restrictions on interior immigration enforcement, oppose expanded ICE detention capacity, and

resist increases in Border Patrol staffing. The Democrat caucus strategy is to use funding bills as vehicles for policy riders that would constrain enforcement operations. Coons, as a loyal caucus member and author of the ICE Accountability Act (S. 3891), is expected to align with this approach. No specific floor action is scheduled for Tuesday.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement (per his immigration/border security platform). Dr. Katz opposes using DHS funding bills to weaken immigration enforcement. Dr. Katz believes Senate Democrats' strategy of leveraging appropriations to defund enforcement — while Coons simultaneously pushes S. 3891 to hamstring ICE — reveals a coordinated effort to undermine border security that Delaware voters reject.

• **TALKING POINTS**

- Senate Democrats want to use the DHS funding bill to defund immigration enforcement — Coons is a willing participant
- Dr. Katz supports fully funding DHS, ICE, and Border Patrol without anti-enforcement policy riders
- Coons' ICE Accountability Act plus his party's DHS funding strategy equals a one-two punch against border security
- Delaware voters support law enforcement — Coons is voting with Chuck Schumer, not with Delaware

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Congress.gov — S. 3891

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ELECTION INTEGRITY / IMMIGRATION

SAVE America Act — Senate Democrats Continue to Block Voter Citizenship Verification; Coons Expected to Vote With Caucus Against

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 the measure. No floor vote is currently scheduled for Tuesday.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act and believes only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections — a position shared by the overwhelming majority of Americans. 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. Dr. Katz's support for

government transparency (Katz SR 14, live streaming; Katz SR 9, open redistricting) demonstrates his consistent commitment to open, honest democratic processes.

• TALKING POINTS

- Only citizens should vote in American elections — that's not controversial, that's common sense, and Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act
- Coons and Senate Democrats are blocking a bill supported by the vast majority of Americans — why?
- Dr. Katz championed open redistricting and government transparency in the Delaware Senate — he supports election integrity at every level
- If Democrats are confident non-citizen voting isn't happening, why oppose proving citizenship to register?
- Coons' silence on the SAVE Act speaks volumes — he'll vote with Schumer against election integrity when the time comes

SOURCES: Congress.gov — H.R. 22 · 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: Iran war posture, DOGE/government spending debate, ICE oversight bill, healthcare policy (Katz's home turf as a physician). This week's messaging priority should be the legislative effectiveness contrast — six bills, zero cosponsors, nine weeks of stagnation on the ICE bill. The ExxonMobil redomiciliation story entering week six without a Coons response is an increasingly useful Delaware-specific economic vulnerability.

• TALKING POINTS

- Coons: 16 years in office, six stalled bills, zero cosponsors — what is Delaware getting for its investment?
- Dr. Katz: physician, business owner, former state senator with a record of passing legislation that made a difference

- Key vulnerabilities to press this week: legislative stagnation, ExxonMobil silence, border security avoidance, war powers overreach
- Healthcare contrast is Dr. Katz's strongest lane — 40+ years of medical experience vs. a career politician with no healthcare expertise

SOURCES: GovTrack — Sen. Coons Profile · DrMikeKatz.com

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

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