Friday, April 10, 2026

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

TOP STORY

LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS / OVERSIGHT UPDATED

Coons' Legislative Portfolio Hits Day 22 With Zero Movement Across All Tracked Bills — No Cosponsors, No Hearings, No Markups as Week Two of Q2 Closes

As the second week of Q2 2026 closes, Sen. Coons' entire tracked legislative portfolio remains completely frozen. S. 4144 (ESCRA Act, Day 22), S. 4145 (Pro Codes Act, Day 22), S. 4089 (Blue Envelope Act, Day 29), S. 4011 (Tropical Forest/Coral Reef, Day 36), and S. 3891 (ICE Accountability Act, Week 9+) have attracted zero cosponsors, zero scheduled hearings, and zero committee markups. This sustained inactivity across five bills spanning four separate committees raises serious questions about Coons' legislative effectiveness as a senior senator entering his sixteenth year in office.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes Delawareans deserve a senator who can build coalitions and move legislation, not one who introduces bills that languish without a single cosponsor. As a former Delaware State Senator, Dr. Katz authored and passed multiple bills — including the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway legislation (Katz SB 241) and DHIN restructuring — demonstrating a track record of bipartisan legislative achievement. Coons' inability to attract even one cosponsor for five consecutive bills suggests Washington careerism over results.

• TALKING POINTS

- Five Coons bills across four committees — zero cosponsors, zero hearings, zero markups after weeks of inactivity
- Dr. Katz passed bipartisan legislation in the Delaware State Senate, including the Scenic Byway bill and DHIN restructuring — results, not press releases
- After 16 years in office, Coons can't convince a single colleague to cosponsor his recent bills
- Delaware needs a senator who delivers, not one who introduces dead-on-arrival legislation for headlines
- Dr. Katz's record of lobby reform (SB 141), term limits (SB 61), and government transparency (SR 14) shows he fights for accountability

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4144 · Congress.gov — S. 4145 · Congress.gov — S. 4089

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DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS / FY2027 BUDGET / DOGE

FY2027 Defense Budget Hearing Series — Week Four; Coons' Anti-DOGE Narrative Expected to Resume Monday

The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee closes its fourth week of FY2027 budget hearings as Congress heads into the weekend. 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 procurement reform or waste reduction. Staff should monitor whether any Friday afternoon hearing transcripts or Coons press statements emerge characterizing defense efficiency efforts negatively.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong defense spending AND fiscal accountability — these are not mutually exclusive. Per his economy and fiscal responsibility platform, Dr. Katz believes the federal government must be restructured for efficiency, as he demonstrated with his Delaware State Senate legislation establishing an independent council to evaluate and reorganize state government services. Coons' framing of every efficiency measure as a threat reveals a commitment to bureaucratic status quo over taxpayer stewardship.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz supports robust defense funding while demanding fiscal accountability — exactly what Delaware's Dover AFB families deserve
- Coons treats every efficiency reform as a threat instead of finding real waste to cut
- Dr. Katz authored legislation in Delaware to restructure and reorganize government for efficiency — he knows how to do this responsibly
- Ranking Member Coons should be leading on procurement reform, not reflexively defending bloated bureaucracy
- Strong defense and fiscal discipline go hand-in-hand — that's Dr. Katz's position

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 32 of Tracking

Staff has been tracking for thirty-two days whether Coons has issued any formal statement, floor remarks, committee questions, or social media posts regarding the Administration's expanded National Guard border deployment. No confirmed public position has been identified. This extended silence on a major defense and border security issue is notable for the

Ranking Member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, whose oversight portfolio directly includes National Guard funding and operations.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong border security and robust ICE enforcement, consistent with his platform's emphasis on secure borders. Coons' silence on the National Guard border deployment — now over a month without a public position — suggests he is unwilling to either support border security or publicly oppose it and face voter backlash. Delawareans deserve a senator with the courage to state his position clearly.

• TALKING POINTS

- 32 days and counting — Coons still won't say whether he supports or opposes National Guard border deployment
- Dr. Katz supports secure borders and strong ICE enforcement — no ambiguity, no hiding
- The Ranking Member of Defense Appropriations oversees National Guard funding — silence on deployment is a dereliction of oversight duty
- Coons' border silence contrasts with his vocal opposition to ICE accountability — he opposes enforcement but won't say so openly
- Delaware voters deserve straight answers on border security

SOURCES: Coons.senate.gov · Senate Appropriations Committee ↑ INDEX

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION / DELAWARE

Dover AFB FY2027 Military Construction — End-of-Week Status; No New Hearing Announcements

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 close their fourth week. No new milcon hearing dates specific to Dover AFB have been announced. Staff should monitor for any Coons press releases or SASC/SAC-D hearing schedules that reference Dover AFB infrastructure needs heading into next week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes Dover AFB is Delaware's most critical federal asset and supports robust military construction funding to maintain its strategic airlift mission, per his veterans and defense platform. This is an area where Dr. Katz can acknowledge bipartisan interest in Dover AFB funding while emphasizing that strong defense requires a senator who fights for resources, not one who uses defense hearings primarily as an anti-DOGE messaging platform.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dover AFB is Delaware's most important federal asset — it deserves a senator laser-focused on its funding and mission
- Dr. Katz supports robust military construction at Dover to maintain America's strategic airlift capability
- Coons should be using his Ranking Member position to champion Dover AFB milcon, not just score political points on DOGE
- Dover's 436th and 512th Airlift Wings and the Mortuary Affairs Center serve the entire nation — Delaware's senator must deliver for them

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Dover AFB — U.S. Air Force ↑ INDEX

RECENT LEGISLATION

CONSUMER PROTECTION / BANKING

S. 4144 — ESCRA Act (Credit Repair Organizations) — Day 22 in Banking Committee, No Cosponsors

Coons' ESCRA Act, introduced March 19 to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act, enters its twenty-second day in the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee with no cosponsors and no committee activity scheduled. The bill remains in referral status with no indication of hearing or markup. Without a single cosponsor after more than three weeks, the bill appears unlikely to advance this session.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports consumer protection that actually reaches Delawareans. Per his economy and cost of living platform, Dr. Katz believes in policies that alleviate regulatory burdens on small businesses while protecting consumers — a balance Coons' stalled, zero-cosponsor approach fails to achieve.

• TALKING POINTS

- 22 days, zero cosponsors — Coons' consumer protection bill is going nowhere
- Dr. Katz supports effective consumer protections that balance business growth with consumer safety
- Introducing bills without building coalitions is press release politics, not legislating
- Delawareans struggling with credit repair scams need results, not symbolic gestures

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4144 ↑ INDEX

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S. 4145 — Pro Codes Act of 2026 (Copyright/Open Access) — Day 22 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 twenty-second day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no committee activity. The bill addresses whether standards incorporated into law should be freely accessible — a narrow but important transparency question. No hearing has been scheduled.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has a demonstrated record of championing government transparency — he authored Delaware's live-streaming legislation for the State Senate (Katz SR 14) and pushed for open and transparent redistricting (Katz SR 9). Coons' inability to attract even one cosponsor for a transparency-adjacent bill underscores the gap between his rhetoric and his effectiveness.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz passed live-streaming legislation for the Delaware State Senate — real transparency, real results
- Coons' Pro Codes Act has zero cosponsors after 22 days — a pattern of legislative isolation
- Government transparency matters — Dr. Katz pushed open redistricting (SR 9) and lobby reform (SB 141) in Delaware
- Delawareans deserve open government advocates who actually deliver, not just introduce bills

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4145

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JUDICIARY / LAW ENFORCEMENT / DISABILITY RIGHTS

S. 4089 — Blue Envelope Act — Day 29 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 during traffic stops, enters its twenty-ninth day in the Senate Judiciary Committee with no cosponsors and no scheduled hearing. The bill approaches one full month of inactivity.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports law enforcement and first responder training — per his first responders platform, he believes in solving the problems faced by first responders including training and resource needs. As a physician who has treated patients across the disability spectrum, Dr. Katz understands the importance of equipping law enforcement with

proper tools and training. The question is whether Coons is serious about this issue or merely using it for messaging.

• TALKING POINTS

- Nearly a month with zero cosponsors — if Coons cared about this issue, he'd be building a coalition
- Dr. Katz supports comprehensive first responder training and resources, per his first responders platform
- As a physician, Dr. Katz has treated patients with autism and disabilities — he understands these challenges firsthand
- Good policy requires coalition-building, not just bill introductions

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4089

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ENVIRONMENT / FOREIGN AID

S. 4011 — Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization — Day 36, No Movement

Coons' reauthorization of the 1998 Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act (S. 4011), introduced March 5, hits its thirty-sixth day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with no cosponsors and no committee activity. The bill would reauthorize foreign conservation programs at a time when the American public and Congress are scrutinizing overseas spending. As the longest-stalled bill in Coons' current portfolio, it exemplifies the disconnect between his legislative priorities and Senate appetite.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports environmental stewardship — he authored Delaware's Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway legislation (Katz SB 241) — but believes taxpayer dollars should prioritize American communities first. Per his energy and environment platform, Dr. Katz favors science-based, domestically focused environmental policy rather than open-ended foreign conservation spending during a period of fiscal constraint.

• TALKING POINTS

- 36 days, zero cosponsors — Coons' foreign conservation bill is dead on arrival
- Dr. Katz authored and passed the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway law — environmental stewardship that benefits Delawareans directly
- Taxpayer dollars should prioritize American communities before foreign coral reef programs
- Dr. Katz supports science-based environmental policy focused on clean water, clean air, and American energy independence

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 4011 ↑ INDEX

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 reporting requirements and constraints on ICE operations at a time when the Administration is expanding interior enforcement to address illegal immigration. The bill remains the most ideologically revealing item in Coons' portfolio, signaling his alignment with the progressive wing's anti-enforcement posture.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and secure borders — he opposes legislative efforts to hamstring immigration enforcement agencies. Coons' ICE Accountability Act represents exactly the kind of anti-enforcement posture that Dr. Katz believes is failing Delawareans and all Americans. While Coons works to constrain ICE, Dr. Katz believes ICE should be empowered to do its job.

• TALKING POINTS

- Nine weeks and counting — Coons' bill to hamstring ICE can't attract a single cosponsor
- Dr. Katz supports strong ICE enforcement and opposes legislative constraints on immigration agencies
- Coons wants to tie ICE's hands while communities deal with the consequences of open border policies
- Even Senate Democrats won't cosponsor Coons' anti-ICE bill — that tells you everything
- Secure borders and strong enforcement are not controversial — except to career politicians like Coons

SOURCES: Congress.gov — S. 3891 (Staff Verify Bill Number) ↑ INDEX

APPROPRIATIONS & DELAWARE FUNDING

FEDERAL FUNDING / DELAWARE

[STAFF VERIFY] FY2026 Federal Funding Status — Friday End-of-Week Confirmation

Staff should confirm before close of business Friday the current status of FY2026 federal funding. Determine whether the government is operating under a continuing resolution, an enacted omnibus, or individual appropriations bills. Any CR expiration date or shutdown deadline should be flagged immediately. Delaware-specific impacts — including Dover AFB

operations, VA facilities, and federal civilian workforce — should be assessed against current funding levels.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes in fiscal responsibility and the timely passage of appropriations bills — governing by continuing resolution is a failure of leadership. Per his economy platform, Dr. Katz supports comprehensive fiscal planning, not lurching from CR to CR. Coons has served in the Senate for sixteen years and has presided over repeated failures to pass timely appropriations.

• TALKING POINTS

- Governing by continuing resolution is not governing — it's failure by both parties, but especially by long-tenured senators like Coons
- Dr. Katz supports fiscal responsibility and timely budgeting — per his economy and cost of living platform
- Delaware's federal workforce and military installations need funding certainty, not political brinksmanship
- After 16 years, Coons should be delivering stable funding — instead we get crisis-to-crisis budgeting

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Congress.gov ↑ 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, IRS Wilmington, and various federal courts. Staff should verify current RIF numbers specific to Delaware and determine whether any new agency-specific reduction announcements have been made this week. Coons' messaging frames all workforce reductions as harmful regardless of efficiency gains.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes government should be restructured for efficiency and accountability — as demonstrated by his Delaware State Senate legislation establishing an independent council to evaluate and reorganize state government services. Dr. Katz supports protecting essential federal jobs in Delaware, particularly at Dover AFB, while opposing the blanket defense of bureaucratic bloat that characterizes Coons' approach.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz authored legislation to restructure Delaware state government for efficiency — he knows how to reform responsibly
- Protecting essential federal jobs at Dover AFB and VA facilities is non-negotiable — but defending bureaucratic bloat is not the same thing
- Coons opposes ALL efficiency reforms — that's not governance, it's protecting the status quo
- Delaware deserves a senator who distinguishes between essential services and wasteful bureaucracy

SOURCES: Coons.senate.gov · Senate Appropriations Committee ↑ INDEX

DELAWARE

BUSINESS CLIMATE / CORPORATE GOVERNANCE / DELAWARE ECONOMY UPDATED

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

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 state. Coons has made no public statement addressing this trend or proposing measures to shore up Delaware's franchise tax base and corporate law advantage. Delaware's corporate franchise taxes represent a significant portion of state revenue, and the loss of major corporate domicile registrations has long-term fiscal implications.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes Delaware's business-friendly environment is its economic lifeblood. Per his economy platform — which emphasizes reducing corporate tax burdens and incentivizing business investment — Dr. Katz understands that states and countries compete for corporate headquarters. Coons' six-week silence on ExxonMobil choosing Texas over Delaware reflects a senator disconnected from his state's core economic interests. Dr. Katz authored legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax (Katz SB 100) to make the state more competitive.

• TALKING POINTS

- Six weeks of silence — Coons has nothing to say about major corporations bypassing Delaware
- Dr. Katz authored legislation to repeal Delaware's corporate income tax (SB 100) — he understands competitiveness
- Delaware's franchise tax revenue depends on remaining the nation's corporate domicile of choice — Coons is asleep at the wheel
- Texas is winning corporate relocations while Delaware's senior senator focuses on foreign coral reefs

- Dr. Katz's economy platform prioritizes reducing corporate tax burden and incentivizing business investment

SOURCES: Delaware Division of Corporations · Coons.senate.gov ↑ INDEX

DELAWARE ECONOMY / QUALITY OF LIFE

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

Staff should check Friday 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 relative to Sun Belt states, with net domestic outmigration a growing concern. Any new data should be cross-referenced against cost-of-living indices, housing affordability data, and tax burden comparisons to identify talking points about quality of life under Coons' long tenure.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes Delaware's quality of life — including homeownership, education, and economic opportunity — is declining under the status quo. Per his homeownership platform, the median home price in Delaware surged 53% from $221,100 in 2018 to $339,400 in 2023, pricing out working families. Dr. Katz supports tax incentives for first-time homebuyers and policies to increase affordable housing supply. Outmigration reflects the failure of career politicians like Coons to address bread-and-butter issues.

• TALKING POINTS

- Delaware home prices up 53% in five years — working families are being priced out under Coons' watch
- Dr. Katz supports tax incentives and discounted rates for first-time homebuyers, per his homeownership platform
- When people leave Delaware, they're voting with their feet against the policies Coons has supported for 16 years
- Dr. Katz believes quality of life starts with affordable housing, good schools, and economic opportunity

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau · IRS Statistics of Income — Migration Data ↑ INDEX

VETERANS / DELAWARE / HEALTHCARE

Veterans Affairs — Southern Delaware VA Facility Advocacy — Friday End-of-Week 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 appropriations language, site selection announcements, or hearing schedules have emerged this week. Staff should verify whether any VA MISSION Act market assessments or VISN-4 recommendations have been updated regarding southern Delaware facility needs.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz has specifically called for a VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware, per his veterans platform, recognizing that Kent and Sussex County veterans urgently need accessible, advanced medical care for unique health challenges including PTSD, traumatic brain injury, and service-related conditions. As a physician with over 40 years of healthcare experience, Dr. Katz brings clinical expertise to VA facility planning that a career politician simply cannot match.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz has called for a VA Advanced Medical Facility in Southern Delaware — not vague 'advocacy,' a specific facility commitment
- As a physician and former pediatric critical care anesthesiologist, Dr. Katz understands VA healthcare needs at a clinical level
- Kent and Sussex County veterans shouldn't have to drive hours for specialty care — Dr. Katz's veterans platform addresses this directly
- Coons has been advocating for years without delivering a facility — Dr. Katz brings the healthcare expertise to get it done

SOURCES: VA.gov — VISN 4 · Coons.senate.gov ↑ INDEX

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 has been scheduled as of Friday. Coons' position frames executive military action as inherently dangerous, aligning with the progressive caucus's effort to limit Commander-in-Chief authority during an active period of Iranian nuclear escalation and regional proxy conflict.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong Commander-in-Chief authority and believes tying the President's hands on Iran during a period of nuclear escalation endangers American national security. Per his defense platform, Dr. Katz believes sustaining a robust military force is essential for preserving global peace and international stability. Coons' effort to constrain presidential military authority signals weakness to adversaries like Iran at exactly the wrong time.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz supports strong Commander-in-Chief authority — the President must be able to respond to Iranian threats without congressional delay
- Coons' War Powers push signals weakness to Tehran at the worst possible moment
- Dr. Katz's defense platform: a robust military force is essential for global peace and stability
- Iran's nuclear program won't wait for a Senate floor vote — our Commander-in-Chief needs flexibility
- Coons prioritizes constraining American power over deterring Iranian aggression

SOURCES: Senate Foreign Relations Committee · Congress.gov ↑ INDEX

GOVERNMENT REFORM / FOREIGN AFFAIRS UPDATED

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

Coons has continued his vocal opposition to DOGE-driven workforce reduction plans targeting the State Department and USAID, now entering a seventh week of sustained public messaging. Coons has characterized these reductions as catastrophic to American diplomatic capacity and foreign aid delivery. No new floor statements or committee actions have been confirmed this week, but Coons' consistent messaging positions him as a leading Senate voice against foreign affairs workforce streamlining.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz believes government agencies — including the State Department and USAID — must be restructured for efficiency and accountability, per his economy platform's emphasis on fiscal responsibility. Dr. Katz's Delaware State Senate record includes legislation to establish an independent council for government restructuring, demonstrating his approach: evaluate, reform, and deliver results rather than reflexively defending every government position.

• TALKING POINTS

- Seven weeks of Coons opposing every State Department and USAID efficiency reform — that's defending bloat, not diplomacy

- Dr. Katz authored government restructuring legislation in Delaware — reform is possible without dismantling essential services
- American taxpayers deserve accountability from foreign aid agencies, not blank-check defenses from career politicians
- Efficiency at State and USAID means more effective diplomacy, not less — Coons conflates reform with destruction

SOURCES: Coons.senate.gov · Senate Foreign Relations Committee ↑ INDEX

UKRAINE / FOREIGN AID

[STAFF VERIFY] Ukraine Supplemental Aid — Friday Status Check

Coons has been one of the Senate's most vocal advocates for continued military and economic assistance to Ukraine. Staff should verify Friday whether any new supplemental aid package language has been introduced, whether appropriations subcommittee markups have addressed Ukraine funding, and whether Coons has made any new public statements this week. Track any shifts in Senate Republican support for additional Ukraine aid packages.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports American strength and leadership abroad but believes every foreign expenditure must be justified to taxpayers and balanced against domestic priorities. Per his economy platform's emphasis on fiscal responsibility and investing in American infrastructure, Dr. Katz believes Delawareans deserve transparency about the total cost of Ukraine aid and a clear strategy for how it advances American security interests.

• TALKING POINTS

- Every dollar sent overseas must be justified to Delaware taxpayers — Dr. Katz demands transparency and accountability
- Dr. Katz supports American leadership but opposes open-ended spending without clear strategic objectives
- Coons advocates unlimited Ukraine aid while Delaware roads, schools, and VA facilities go underfunded
- Fiscal responsibility means prioritizing — something Coons hasn't demonstrated in 16 years

SOURCES: Senate Appropriations Committee · Coons.senate.gov ↑ INDEX

SENATE DEMOCRAT CAUCUS WATCH

HOMELAND SECURITY / FISCAL POLICY

DHS and TSA Funding — Senate Democrats Expected 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 security spending. The caucus strategy aims to frame enforcement funding as draconian while redirecting money toward asylum processing and alternatives to detention. Coons, as a loyal caucus member and cosponsor of the ICE Accountability Act, is expected to align fully with this approach. No new floor action has been scheduled this week.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz supports strong DHS funding with emphasis on border security and robust ICE enforcement — the opposite of the Senate Democrat caucus position. Per his border security platform, Dr. Katz believes secure borders are fundamental to national sovereignty. Coons' alignment with a caucus strategy to defund enforcement and expand asylum processing reflects priorities that are out of step with most Delawareans.

• TALKING POINTS

- Senate Democrats want to gut ICE funding and weaken border enforcement — Coons is right there with them
- Dr. Katz supports fully funding DHS with a focus on border security and interior enforcement
- Coons cosponsored the ICE Accountability Act — his anti-enforcement record is clear
- Delaware families want safe communities, not a senator who fights to weaken immigration enforcement
- Dr. Katz believes secure borders and strong ICE are fundamental to national sovereignty

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

ELECTION INTEGRITY / IMMIGRATION

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

The SAVE Act (H.R. 22), requiring documentary proof of U.S. citizenship to register to vote in federal elections, remains pending in the Senate after passing the House in April 2025 (220-208, largely party-line). Senate Democrats are expected to oppose or filibuster the bill, framing it as voter suppression. No Senate Democrat has indicated support. Coons has not made a specific public statement on the SAVE Act but is expected to vote with his caucus against it. No new floor action has been scheduled.

⚡ **KATZ CONTRAST POINT:** Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act. He believes only U.S. citizens should vote in U.S. elections — a position supported by overwhelming majorities of Americans across party lines. Dr. Katz opposes Senate Democrat efforts to block or filibuster the

bill, characterizing their resistance as a choice to protect a broken system over basic election integrity. Coons' expected opposition places him against common-sense safeguards that most Delawareans support.

• TALKING POINTS

- Dr. Katz strongly supports the SAVE Act — only citizens should vote in American elections, period
- Coons is expected to side with his caucus to block proof-of-citizenship requirements for voter registration
- Overwhelming majorities of Americans support citizenship verification to vote — Coons is on the wrong side
- Blocking the SAVE Act means choosing political advantage over election integrity
- Dr. Katz opposes the Senate Democrat filibuster of basic election security measures

SOURCES: Congress.gov — H.R. 22 · GovTrack — H.R. 22 ↑ INDEX

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 data point: Coons' entire legislative portfolio at zero cosponsors — an increasingly potent effectiveness argument. ExxonMobil redomiciliation entering sixth week without Coons comment strengthens the 'disconnected from Delaware' narrative. Staff should develop a comprehensive 'legislative effectiveness scorecard' comparing Katz's Delaware State Senate record to Coons' 119th Congress output.

• TALKING POINTS

- Coons: 16 years in Washington, five stalled bills, zero cosponsors this quarter — time for change
- Dr. Katz: physician, business owner, former state senator with a record of passed legislation

- Coons focuses on foreign affairs and Washington politics — Dr. Katz focuses on Delaware families
- The race is physician vs. politician, results vs. rhetoric, Delaware vs. Washington

SOURCES: GovTrack — Sen. Coons · Dr. Mike Katz Campaign ↑ INDEX

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

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