



TRC QUARTERLY REPORT

FOURTH QUARTER 2025

CONGRESSIONAL OVERVIEW

On September 30th, the government shut down due to Congress's failure to pass a continuing resolution or individual appropriations bills to keep the government funded past the end of the fiscal year. The 43-day government shutdown ended on November 12th after the House passed the amended continuing resolution by a vote of 222-209. Alongside the bill, three Fiscal Year 2026 full-year funding packages were approved: Military Construction-Veterans Affairs, Agriculture, and the Legislative Branch. The three full-year appropriations bills fund the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and military construction projects, as well as congressional operations through September 30th, 2026. All other agencies are funded until January 30th.

In early December, the House and Senate Armed Services Committees [released](#) the final text of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026. The legislation authorizes \$900.6 billion for defense spending and includes a 3.8% pay raise for military service members. On December 10, the House [voted](#) to advance the legislation in a 312-112 vote. On December 17th, the Senate [passed](#) the legislation in a 77-20 vote. President Trump signed the legislation into law on December 17th.

In December, the Senate faced the expiration of Obamacare subsidies on December 31st. On December 11th, the Senate rejected two dueling health care plans. The Democratic proposal to extend the enhanced tax credits for three years fell [short](#) of the 60-vote threshold to proceed with consideration of the package, 51-48. Four Republicans voted in favor of the Democratic plan: Sens. Susan Collins (R-ME), Josh Hawley (R-MO), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), and Dan Sullivan (R-AK). The Republican [proposal](#), which would have expanded health savings accounts as an alternative to the expiring subsidies, also failed to advance, 51-48. The vote was mainly along party lines, but Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) opposed the GOP package. On December 16th, the House [approved](#) a GOP health care package that would not address expiring tax credits, in a 216-211 vote. The Senate did not take up the legislation before leaving for the holiday recess, allowing the subsidies to expire. ●

TRC OVERVIEW



TRC's newest team member, Maya Harris-Cameron.

TRC is excited to [welcome](#) Maya Harris-Cameron to serve as Director. Maya joins us from the Department of Energy (DOE), where she served as a Supervisory Legislative Affairs Specialist at DOE's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. Earlier in her career, Maya held senior positions in DOE's Office of the

Chief Financial Officer and the National Nuclear Security Administration. Before joining DOE, Maya served as a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Producing for Film and Television from American University and a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from Howard University.

In November, three TRC team members were [recognized](#) by the National Institute for Lobbying and Ethics (NILE) for their outstanding contributions to the profession. TRC President and Founder George McElwee and Senior Vice President Katie Hazlett were named among NILE's 2025 Top



From left to right: George McElwee, Mackenzie Campbell, and Katie Hazlett.

Lobbyists, while Legislative Assistant and Operations Manager Mackenzie Campbell was recognized as a 2025 Student Advocate of the Year. This is the third time Katie received this recognition, and the second for George.

In December, George and Katie were [recognized](#) as 2025 Top Lobbyists by *The Hill*. This is the fifth time George has received this recognition, and the second for Katie. Each year, The Hill recognizes government affairs professionals who are highly influential, deeply connected, and consistently deliver meaningful results for their clients. This year, George and Katie were selected from more than 1,800 nominations. They were named alongside many industry leaders, including Aaron Grau, Executive Director of Invest in the USA (IIUSA), a TRC client.

In December, Katie was [appointed](#) to serve on the House Chiefs of Staff Alumni Association's Board of Directors. The House Chiefs of Staff Alumni Association (HCOSAA) is a professional association composed of former Chiefs of Staff to Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, offering professional development and networking opportunities to current and former staff.

Birdon

In December, Katie traveled to Pensacola to meet with city officials. Additionally, Katie presented at a workshop with the local universities regarding funding opportunities and public-private partnerships.

The City of Aberdeen, Maryland

Throughout the quarter, TRC monitored Aberdeen's priorities in the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations cycle, including \$2 million for the City's Water Infrastructure Project, Swan Meadows, and \$300,000 for outdoor recreation.



Tom Stockmeyer, Cyware's Managing Director, outside of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building

Cyware

In December, TRC hosted Cyware in Washington, DC, to meet with the Office of the National Cyber Director to advocate for CISA's Threat Intelligence Enterprise Services (TIES) program. Tom Stockmeyer, Cyware's Managing Director, also met with the majority staff from the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection, who elected a new Chairman, Rep. Andy Ogles (R-TN-05), in November after the previous chair, Rep. Andrew Garbarino (R-NY-02), was elected chair of the full committee.

Additionally, in December, Cyware sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD), Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Homeland Security Chairman Rand Paul (R-KY), and Homeland Security Ranking Member Gary Peters (D-MI) to urge the swift confirmation of Sean Plankey as CISA's Director. His nomination has been placed on multiple holds by Sens. Rick Scott (R-FL), Ron Wyden (D-OR), Ted Budd (R-NC), and Thom Tillis (R-NC) for various reasons.

National Technology Security Coalition

In December, TRC hosted the National Technology Security Coalition's (NTSC) new Executive Director, Chris Sullivan, in Washington, DC, for a series of congressional meetings with members of the Homeland Security Committee and cybersecurity leaders.

In December, NTSC sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD), Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Chairman Rand Paul (R-KY), and Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Ranking Member Gary Peters (D-MI) to advocate for the swift confirmation of Sean Plankey as Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

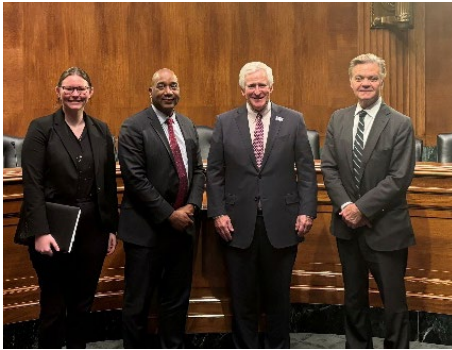
Granite Construction

In December, TRC hosted Granite Construction in Washington, DC, for a series of congressional meetings primarily with members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation & the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Coast Guard, Maritime, and Fisheries.

In December, TRC successfully [secured](#) language in the Fiscal Year 2026 National Defense Authorization Act authorizing the use of progressive design-build for military construction projects. This was a multi-year TRC-led effort that will allow the Department of War to utilize a tool that will deliver projects on time and with a more accurate budget from the start of the project, resulting in fewer cost overruns. TRC is told the Department plans to utilize this new tool on a \$2 billion project. The bill language requires the Department to submit yearly reports on its use of progressive design-build. Additionally, TRC secured supportive language for progressive design-build in the Fiscal Year 2026 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, getting buy-in from both authorizers and appropriators on this priority.



IIUSA outside of Rep. Russell Fry's (R-SC-07) office.



IIUSA receives a tour of the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing room.

Invest in the USA

In November, TRC hosted more than twenty members of Invest in the USA (IIUSA) in Washington, DC, for their quarterly lobby day. Through more than 30 congressional meetings, IIUSA advocated for reauthorization of the EB-5 Regional Center Program.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

In November, TRC hosted People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) in Washington, DC, for a series of congressional meetings to advocate for the Cease Animal Research Grants Overseas (CARGO) Act, which would prohibit the National Institutes of Health (NIH) from sending taxpayer-funded grants to foreign laboratories for experiments involving animals. As a direct result of this engagement, the bill gained four new cosponsors. The legislation now has the support of 26 members of Congress (17 Republicans, 9 Democrats).

City of Kenner, Louisiana

Throughout the quarter, TRC advocated for Kenner's FY26 appropriations request for the City's water infrastructure needs. In the first year that the City has requested funds, TRC has helped secure over \$8 million in appropriations bills for Kenner. TRC continues to monitor the appropriations process and hopes to deliver big news for Kenner in 2026.

PhilaPort

Throughout the quarter, TRC has worked with the Pennsylvania delegation and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to urge approval of PhilaPort's application to construct a cruise terminal, which is subject to an FAA aeronautical study due to its proximity to an airport. In December, PhilaPort was notified that the FAA approved the structure and determined that it would pose no hazard to air navigation. TRC continues to work with the Pennsylvania delegation and the FAA to urge approval of another aeronautical study to determine whether the cruise ship itself will pose a hazard to air navigation. The cruise terminal is scheduled to open in April 2026.

Salute Home Loans

Throughout the quarter, the Homes for Every Local Protector, Educator, and Responder (HELPER) Act gained 11 new cosponsors in the House and 1 in the Senate. This bipartisan bill would create a first-time homebuyer program under the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) that would eliminate down payment and monthly mortgage insurance premium requirements for police officers, firefighters, teachers, EMTs, and paramedics. In total, this Congress, the bill has garnered support from 127 members of Congress.



From left to right: Gretchen Cividini, Chris Ott, and Jason Pfaff outside DOE's Office of Electricity.

From left to right: Gretchen Cividini, Chris Ott, Sen. Jim Risch (R-ID), and Jason Pfaff.



POWER Engineers/WSP

In October, TRC hosted POWER Engineers/WSP in Washington, DC, for a series of meetings with the Department of Energy, including discussions with the Office of Electricity and the Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER). POWER Engineers/WSP also met with Senator Jim Risch (R-ID), among other Congressional leaders. As of the end of 2025, POWER Engineers will now be a part of WSP, and the POWER Engineers name will no longer be used. TRC looks forward to representing WSP on energy and environmental issues in 2026.

FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

In October, George and Katie attended a fundraiser for Sen. Dave McCormick (R-PA). Maya attended the Sustainable Energy & Environment Coalition (SEEC) Institute's 2025 Solutions Summit, featuring Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL), Rep. Sean Casten (D-IL), Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY), Rep. Mike Levin (D-CA), Rep. Andrea Salinas (D-OR), and Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA). The summit convened members of Congress and other policymakers, private-sector innovators, advocates, and researchers for a day of solutions-focused dialogue, collaboration, and actionable strategies toward a sustainable energy future.

Additionally, in October, Katie participated in a meet-and-greet with Craig Haggard, a candidate for Indiana's 4th Congressional District. On behalf of the WSP PAC, Katie attended events with Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID-02), Sen. Jim Risch (R-ID), and Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT). Additionally, in October, Katie attended the Department of Energy's Appointees Happy Hour. Finally, Katie attended the AUKUS Defense Industry Update at the Australian Embassy in Washington, DC with client, Birdon.

In December, on behalf of IIUSA's PAC, George attended fundraisers for Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-01), Rep. Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA-14), Mark Amodei (R-NV-02). Additionally, George attended a fundraiser for Rep. Ryan Mackenzie (R-PA-07) and met with a candidate for Congress, Trever Nehls (R-TX-22). Maya attended the inaugural Department of Energy Alumni Network's meet-up in Washington. The alumni network facilitates non-partisan policy engagement and preserves agency institutional knowledge. Also in December, she attended the Axios Live Business Roundtable breakfast event featuring Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI), Rep. Julie Fedorchak (R-ND), Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-CO), and Brendan Bechtel, CEO of Bechtel and Chair of Business Roundtable's Infrastructure Committee on the Future of Permitting Reform on Capitol Hill. ●

