

THE RESERVE COMPONENT

# TRC QUARTERLY REPORT

THIRD QUARTER 2026

## CONGRESSIONAL OVERVIEW

As Congress entered the final months before midterm elections, lawmakers faced a crowded legislative agenda. Before breaking for August recess, the Senate passed a continuing resolution to fund the government through December 11th and avoid a potential shutdown on October 1st. The Senate approved the measure 90 to 6 before leaving town and sent it to the House for consideration. When the House returned on September 1st, it passed the stopgap funding measure 370 to 48. President Trump signed the legislation into law on September 2nd, avoiding a government shutdown at the end of the fiscal year.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) has encountered roadblocks this quarter. On July 21st, the House passed its version of the NDAA by a vote of 216 to 212, authorizing $1.15 trillion in defense spending. Meanwhile, progress in the Senate has stalled. On July 14th, the Senate's version of the NDAA failed to clear a procedural motion requiring 60 votes, 50 to 46. Majority Leader **John Thune (R-SD)** moved to reconsider, and progress is expected to resume after the election.

Following the November elections, Congress will have five legislative weeks to resolve several major priorities. The most immediate priority will be FY27 appropriations, with current funding set to expire on December 11th. Lawmakers will also need to address the FY27 NDAA and other expiring authorizations, including surface transportation, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), and the farm bill.

## TRC OVERVIEW

In September, TRC welcomed **Emelia Adler** as a Government Affairs Coordinator for the Fall semester. Emelia is a Junior at the University of Maryland pursuing a bachelor's degree in international relations. Previously, Emelia interned for **Rep. Tom Suozzi** (D-NY-03). At TRC, Emelia supports clients through policy research and meeting coordination.



In August, TRC partnered with the National Institute for Lobbying and Ethics (NILE) to host their annual congressional staff appreciation barbecue. During the event, TRC engaged with hundreds of congressional staff, giving us a chance to thank them for their hard work—our work wouldn't be possible without their dedication.



Mackenzie (right) at the NILE Congressional Staff Appreciation BBQ.

### Birdon America

In July, Katie and George attended "Summer Down Under," with Birdon America, a networking event with the Florida Delegation hosted by the Australian Embassy in partnership with the State Society of Florida. The event brought together leaders from government, industry, and the business community to celebrate Florida's strong relationship with Australia. Katie also attended "Defence Day" at the Australian Embassy with Birdon in July.



Birdon's Sandra Armstrong (right) with Rep. Jimmy Patronis (R-FL-01) (left).




Katie (left) with Birdon America at "Defence Day."

### Granite Construction

Throughout the quarter, TRC continued to track the progress of surface transportation reauthorization, including H.R.8870, the BUILD America 250 Act, and H.R.8748, the Surface Transportation Research and Development Act, where TRC secured language encouraging the use of reclaimed asphalt pavement, a key priority for Granite Construction. Additionally, TRC continued to track the Fiscal Year 2027 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), where TRC secured an amendment authorizing the use of progressive design-build for U.S. Coast Guard projects. The House passed its version of the FY27 NDAA in July, and TRC continues to monitor the bill as it moves through the legislative process.

In September, TRC hosted Granite Construction in Washington, D.C., for a series of PAC events and meetings with members of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.



Granite Construction's Don Roland (right) and Tina Mudd (left) with Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA-02).



Granite Construction's Don Roland (left) and Tina Mudd (right) with Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) & staff.



### Cyware

In September, TRC hosted Cyware in Washington, D.C. for a series of congressional meetings with the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security, and the Office of the National Cyber Director (ONCD).

### City of Kenner, Louisiana

This quarter, TRC notified Kenner about its potential eligibility for a cost-share requirement waiver for Fiscal Year 2026 Congressional Directed Spending/Community Project Funding. TRC advised the City on the waiver requirements, and the Environmental Protection Agency ultimately granted the City a waiver of the cost-sharing requirements for its Wastewater Treatment Plant project.

### WSP

In July, TRC facilitated a meeting with the Department of Energy's Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESAR) to discuss WSP's work securing critical infrastructure.

In September, TRC also facilitated a meeting for WSP and Lawrence Livermore National Lab. During the month, TRC also helped connect WSP with the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management.

### Invest in the USA

Invest in the USA (IIUSA) hosted its Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C., bringing together industry leaders to discuss the future of the EB-5 program and advocacy priorities. George joined a panel discussion and updated IIUSA members on the association's advocacy efforts and legislative priorities.

Following the summit, TRC hosted IIUSA in Washington, D.C. for their quarterly fly-in. IIUSA members met with nearly 50 congressional offices to advocate for reauthorization of the EB-5 Regional Center Program.

The night before their lobby day, IIUSA hosted its first-ever fundraiser for Senate **Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA)**, where they more than tripled their fundraising goal.



IIUSA's President Bill Gresser (right) speaking with Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY).



Rep. Lance Gooden (R-TX-05) speaking with IIUSA.

### National Technology Security Coalition

In July, TRC hosted the National Technology Security Coalition (NTSC) in Washington, D.C. for its annual legislative day and National Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) Policy Conference. NTSC members heard from several congressional leaders, including **Reps. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA-19), James Walkinshaw (D-VA-11),** and **Vince Fong (R-CA-20).**



NTSC's Executive Director Chris Sullivan speaks with Rep. James Walkinshaw (D-VA-11).

In September, TRC hosted **Chris Sullivan**, NTSC's Executive Director, in Washington, D.C., for a series of meetings with key cybersecurity officials and congressional offices, including CISA Acting Director **Nick Andersen**; Foundation for Defense of Democracies' Rear Admiral **Mark Montgomery**; senior staff from the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection and the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology; and staff from **Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY)**'s office.




CISA Acting Director Nick Andersen (middle), NTSC Executive Director Chris Sullivan (right), and George McElwee (left).




Edie Falco meets with Rep. Maxwell Frost (D-FL-10).



Edie Falco meets with Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ).

### People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

In July, TRC hosted People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) in Washington, D.C., for a series of congressional meetings. Alongside PETA, **Edie Falco**, Emmy Award-winning actress and PETA Honorary Director, met with several members of Congress, including **Reps. Mike Quigley (D-IL-05), Greg Steube (R-FL-17), Brendan Boyle (D-PA-02), Maxwell Frost (D-FL-10), Jared Moskowitz (D-FL-23), Gus Bilirakis (R-FL-12), Aaron Bean (R-FL-04),** and **Cory Booker (D-NJ).**

In July, PETA hosted its annual congressional veggie dog lunch on Capitol Hill. The event drew hundreds of congressional staff, who received lunches, vegan cookbooks, and several giveaway items.

### Salute Home Loans

In September, **Sam Royer** of Salute Home Loans, visionary behind the Homes for Every Local Protector, Educator, and Responder (HELPER) Act (H.R.2094/S.978), met with **Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD)** in South Dakota to discuss the bill's key provisions and how it would help first responders and teachers nationwide achieve homeownership.

Throughout the quarter, the HELPER Act continued to build bipartisan support, adding more than 10 new cosponsors in both the House and Senate.



Sam Royer (left) and Moody County Sheriff Troy Wellman (right) with Leader Thune (center).

### Supply Chain Federation

In September, TRC hosted the Supply Chain Federation in Washington, D.C., for meetings with DOT Assistant **Secretary Michael Rutherford**, the U.S. Maritime Administration, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and many Congressional offices.



Supply Chain Federation at the U.S. Maritime Administration.



Don Roland (left) with Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA-21)



Don Roland (left) with Rep. Marilyn Strickland (D-WA-10)

### Fundraising and Events

In July, George attended a fundraiser for **Rep. Nick Begich (R-AK)**. Sophie attended a webinar on the grid and a Road Gang Luncheon with Transportation & Infrastructure Ranking Member **Rick Larsen (D-WA-02)**. Sophie also attended the American Council for Capital Formation's policy forum on permitting reform.

In July, on behalf of IIUSA's PAC, George attended fundraisers for **Reps. Maria Salazar (R-FL-27), Jared Moskowitz (D-FL-23), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-01), Ed Case (D-HI-01), Becca Balint (D-VT-AL), Jim Jordan (R-OH-04), Katherine Clark (D-MA-05),** and **Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)**. On behalf of Granite Construction's PAC, Katie attended fundraisers for **Reps. David Rouzer (R-NC-07), Rick Crawford (R-AR-01), Pete Aguilar (D-CA-33), Jay Obernolte (R-CA-23), Jim Costa (D-CA-21), Marilyn Strickland (D-WA-10), Zoe Lofgren (D-CA-19), Rick Larsen (D-WA-02), Salud Carbajal (D-CA-24), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), John Curtis (R-UT)** with special guest **John Thune (R-SD)**.

In September, on behalf of IIUSA's PAC, George attended fundraisers for **Reps. Pete Aguilar (D-CA-33), Bryan Steil (R-WI-01), Joe Neguse (D-CO-04), Pramila Jayapal (D-WA-07), Sam Liccardo (D-CA-16), Mike Johnson (R-LA-03), Tom Cole (R-OK-04), Greg Stanton (D-AZ-04), Laurel Lee (R-FL-15), Tim Kennedy (D-NY-26), Scott Fitzgerald (R-WI-05), Jim Jordan (R-OH-04), Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY-08),** and **Sens. Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Chris Coons (D-DE), Chuck Grassley (R-IA),** and **Susan Collins (R-ME)** with special guest **John Thune (R-SD)**. Additionally, in September, on behalf of Granite Construction's PAC, Katie attended fundraisers for **Rep. Trent Kelly (R-MI-01), Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA-02),** and **Sens. Ted Cruz (R-TX), Alex Padilla (D-CA), Mike Lee (R-UT), , Bill Hagerty (R-TN),** and **Patty Murray (D-WA).** Finally, in September, Mackenzie, Sophie, and Alexa also attended a public forum at the Library of Congress.

## NEW CLIENTS

In September, TRC began representing **ZenaDrone** on behalf of Winning Strategies Washington.

ZENADRONE

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