



The NEA Monthly Lobbyist Report for Members

NEA - September 2026

Engagement

This month, Lobbyit compiled a roundup of STLDI-related legislation in the 119th Congress and began reaching out to sponsors and cosponsors in preparation for the 120th. Given that the legislative agenda upon Congress' return in November will likely be dominated by appropriations and pressing reauthorizations, and as we wait for the rulemaking on STLDI to be published, we wanted to ensure that we are well positioned for re-engaging on the legislative side in 2027. We reached out to Rep. Andy Biggs' team, and spoke with Lauren Cook, a Senior Legislative Assistant, about finding a successor to introduce his bill next Congress as the Congressman is running for Arizona governor. In addition, we set up a meeting with Sen. Ron Johnson's to maintain continuity next Congress and ensure it is on the top of their legislative agenda — the latter is planning for October 13th.

Work on the Hill

President Trump signed the House and Senate reconciled Continuing Resolution on September 2nd, keeping the government funded through December 11th and pushing the final FY27 decisions into the post-election lame duck. The stopgap tracks the framework Congress agreed to back in August, so nothing about the underlying fight has really changed, but it averted a government shutdown at the end of the month.

Appropriators are already uneasy about how the administration is handling the foreign assistance money Congress directed in prior spending. On September 22nd, Senators Patty Murray and Brian Schatz, the top Democrats on Appropriations, warned that the administration plans to redirect \$2.5 billion in global health and development funds to cover the costs of shutting down USAID, the agency it has worked to dismantle throughout the President's second term, while impounding another \$725 million set aside for counternarcotics, countering Russia, and economic competitiveness programs. Murray and Schatz argued that Congress appropriated that money for specific purposes and that the administration has no authority to spend it on something else.

The House, for its part, is already gone. Members left town for a seven-week pre-midterm stretch after a short September work period dominated by affordability debates. AI data centers driving up utility bills, higher gas and grocery prices, and a fresh Federal Reserve rate hike all weighed on consumers and drove a flurry of late moves before the chamber adjourned for its fall recess. There was an unsuccessful push to temporarily suspend the federal gas tax, a war powers resolution on the Iran conflict that passed the House 214-208 with four Republicans crossing over, and passage of the Ratepayer Protection Act, a bipartisan bill meant to keep data-center growth from pushing up household utility bills. The Senate rejected its own version of the war powers measure days later, and a companion data-center bill stalled in the upper chamber as well.

The Iran conflict remains unresolved. In late September, Iran floated a seven-day ceasefire that would have reopened the Strait of Hormuz and restarted talks over its nuclear program. Under the proposal, the U.S. would have lifted its naval blockade, unfrozen some Iranian assets, and eased sanctions on Iranian oil, with Iran reopening the Strait and returning to the table. Trump rejected it, and has said publicly that he expects the war to wind down shortly after the November midterms and that Iran could come to a deal once the election is behind us. U.S. officials have also kept renewed strikes on the table. Talks continue through regional mediators, Qatar and Pakistan among them, and U.S.-led efforts to keep tankers moving through the Strait have eased some of the immediate pressure to settle. Given how much oil runs through that waterway, the standoff keeps global energy and shipping markets on edge. Sanctions and trade measures remain central to the response on both Iran and Russia. On September 18, the President signed the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026 (H.R. 5334), which authorizes mandatory sanctions on Russian government-affiliated entities and oligarchs, lets the President impose tariffs of up to 500% on Russian imports, and allows tariffs of up to 100% on goods from countries that remain among the largest buyers of Russian oil and gas. It also extends the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 for another five years. By linking the Russia sanctions to tariffs on third countries, the law could push the economic effects well beyond Russia and tie sanctions policy more tightly to trade policy. The President retains broad waiver authority throughout.

On the agriculture side, the 2026 Farm Bill is moving, but slowly. The House passed its version, the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 (H.R. 7567), earlier this year, and after an August markup that failed to advance the Senate's companion, the Senate Agriculture Committee finally cleared its bill on a party-line vote on September 16th. The bill updates the core agriculture, nutrition, conservation, forestry, and rural development programs and folds in year-round E15 sales, fertilizer-price transparency, and expanded agricultural research. Democrats are largely united against it over the new SNAP cost-sharing it locks in. Under last summer's Big Beautiful Bill (H.R. 1), the federal share of SNAP administrative costs drops from roughly 50% to 25% starting in FY27, and beginning in 2028 states with high payment-error rates will owe a portion of benefit costs for the first time. Democrats call the shift unfair to states and are pushing to delay the benefit cost-sharing piece. With 60 votes generally needed on the floor, and a Senate vote not expected until after the midterms, the bill will need real bipartisan buy-in to get anywhere.

Looking ahead, with the House out until after the elections and the Senate heading into its own recess soon, the lame duck is shaping up to be an incredibly busy sprint. FY2027 appropriations top the list, with current funding set to run out December 11th and the Senate poised to introduce their versions of the bills after the midterms. The post-election sessions could also bring new priorities to the front, and how members vote may depend a good deal on how the elections shake out. As it stands, Congress has left a significant amount of work waiting for them after the recess, and all eyes now turn towards the midterms on November 3rd.

Ways and Means Weighs No Surprises Act Overhaul

Members of the House Ways and Means Committee are drafting legislation to revise the 2020 No Surprises Act, the law that shields patients from surprise out-of-network bills in emergencies but has generated far more payment disputes than Congress anticipated. Its independent dispute resolution (IDR) arbitration process has in some cases awarded physicians outsized payments, while insurers have at times refused to pay when they lose — leaving both doctors and insurers

pressing Congress for fixes, which Chairman Jason Smith (R-MO) is trying to satisfy on both sides. The effort spans multiple committees: House Energy and Commerce ranking member Frank Pallone (D-NJ) has sent letters to the IDR arbitration firms seeking details on how they resolve disputes and comply with the law, and the Senate HELP Committee is holding a member roundtable this month. Our conversations with the staff of outgoing HELP Chair Bill Cassidy (R-LA), an original NSA cosponsor, have indicated that the NSA is a major component of his legacy-building agenda for the remainder of the term. With limited floor time before the midterms and a lame-duck session dominated by appropriations, lawmakers have a narrow window to act before the new Congress convenes in January.

The No Surprises Act applies to employer-sponsored (ERISA) group health plans, so how the IDR system is reformed directly affects NEA members' work. Arbitration outcomes that favor providers flow through to plan costs and premiums, and a reform package could reset the qualifying-payment-amount methodology, the arbitration rules, and enforcement against insurers that refuse to pay — all central to employer plan cost and design. We will ensure the flexible plan perspective remains represented as the committees move, and to watch whether a change to the bill rides a year-end vehicle when Congress returns.

Medicare Lifts DME Supplier Moratorium, Adds Prior-Authorization Rules

CMS has lifted the six-month nationwide moratorium, imposed in February, that barred new durable medical equipment (DME) suppliers from enrolling in Medicare, replacing it with a more targeted vetting regime after industry pushback that the freeze stalled expansions, acquisitions, and ownership changes. Starting in October, new suppliers and those with recent ownership changes face a "Probationary Prior Authorization" process in which CMS reviews their bills before paying, and the agency expanded the list of products subject to prior authorization (adding braces, splints, and bone-growth stimulators). The move fits the administration's broader anti-fraud campaign, which also includes the WISeR prior-authorization payment model launched in six states in January. WISeR has drawn protests from physician groups and congressional Democrats alleging AI-driven claim denials; the Senate rejected a party-line resolution to rescind it in July, while the House FY2027 CMS funding bill (H.R. 9260) would block WISeR after a bipartisan Appropriations amendment — Senate text has yet to be released.

This is primarily a Medicare-supplier and anti-fraud matter, so while not a direct hit to the STLDI debate it does serve as a bellwether. But the expansion of prior authorization and pre-payment review — and the fight over AI-assisted denials under WISeR — reflects utilization-management trends that tend to migrate from Medicare into other forms of commercial coverage and may become cornerstones of the debate around flexible coverage plans. The congressional pushback (the WISeR funding rider, the Wyden resolution) signals how contested these tools are becoming. NEA may want to monitor the prior-authorization debate as a preview of pressures and practices that could reach member employers' plans.

CMS Purges 760,000 ACA Enrollments Over Suspected Fraud

On September 22nd, CMS announced it had canceled 315,000 unauthorized enrollments on the Affordable Care Act exchanges, causing more than 760,000 people to lose coverage, following an August investigation into enrollments the agency believed were fraudulent. Administrator Oz said CMS expects to recoup \$2.2 billion in advance premium-tax-credit payments. The crackdown targets "phantom enrollees" — individuals signed up without their knowledge by

unscrupulous brokers collecting commissions on zero-dollar-premium plans. CMS also said it has terminated more than 200 brokers since January and imposed a moratorium on new ACA agents and brokers for the 2027 plan year. Republicans last year cited phantom enrollments as a reason they declined to extend the expiring enhanced premium tax credits, arguing the subsidies expanded zero-premium plans and the associated fraud exposure.

Although this centers on the individual exchanges rather than employer plans, it matters to NEA members in two ways. First, the integrity and cost of the individual market shape the viability of strategies that route workers to exchange coverage where broker conduct and marketplace stability directly affect how well those arrangements work. Second, the fight over the expired enhanced tax credits is a central health-cost issue in the December and post-election agenda, with real implications for the coverage landscape if Democrats retake the House and/or Senate in January. We will continue to track both the credits debate and any marketplace-integrity rules that reach broker and HRA arrangements.

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 20

Richard L. Trumka
Protecting the Right to
Organize Act of 2025

Pro Title: PRO Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill amends the National Labor Relations Act and related laws to strengthen employee rights, including expanded definitions of employer and employee, new protections against unfair labor practices, and provisions for electronic voting in union elections.

Introduced: 03/05/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Bobby Scott VA-03

Latest Actions:

- 03/05/2025 - Referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce.
- 03/05/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Education and the Workforce Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 90

Health Coverage Choice
Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Health Coverage Choice Act defines short-term limited duration insurance as coverage with an expiration date less than 12 months after the original effective date and a total duration of no more than three years, including renewals or extensions.

Introduced: 01/03/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Andy Biggs AZ-05

Latest Actions:

- 01/03/2025 - Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
- 01/03/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Energy and Commerce Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 379

Healthcare Freedom and Choice Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Healthcare Freedom and Choice Act nullifies a federal rule on short-term, limited-duration insurance and independent, noncoordinated excepted benefits coverage published in April 2024.

Introduced: 01/14/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Buddy Carter GA-01

Latest Actions:

- 01/14/2025 - Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- 01/14/2025 - Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- 01/14/2025 - Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Committees: House Education and the Workforce Committee, House Energy and Commerce Committee, House Ways and Means Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 400

No taxpayer funding for United Nations Human Rights Council Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill prohibits U.S. contributions to the United Nations Human Rights Council by withholding a portion of annual UN budget funds based on the allocated share for the council and bans voluntary contributions.

Introduced: 01/14/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Chip Roy TX-21

Latest Actions:

- 01/14/2025 - Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.
- 01/14/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Foreign Affairs Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 421

Small Business
Regulatory Flexibility
Improvements Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill enhances the Regulatory Flexibility Act by expanding coverage to include rules with indirect economic effects, beneficial impacts, and rules affecting tribal organizations and land management plans, while requiring detailed analyses and public participation.

Introduced: 01/15/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Ben Cline VA-06

Latest Actions:

- 06/10/2025 - Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute by the Yeas and Nays: 13 - 12.
- 06/10/2025 - Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- 01/15/2025 - Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Small Business, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Committees: House Judiciary Committee, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, House Small Business Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 703

Main Street Tax Certainty
Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Main Street Tax Certainty Act makes permanent the qualified business income deduction under the Internal Revenue Code, effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

Introduced: 01/23/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Lloyd Smucker PA-11

Latest Actions:

- 01/23/2025 - Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
- 01/23/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Ways and Means Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 789

Transparency and
Predictability in Small

AI Summary: The act requires the Small Business Administration to disclose reasons for cancelled solicitations and provide assistance to small businesses affected by cancellations, including referrals to similar contracting opportunities.

Business Opportunities Act

No Priority No Stance

Introduced: 01/28/2025

Sponsor: Rep. George Latimer NY-16

Latest Actions:

- 06/04/2025 - Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- 06/03/2025 - Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- 06/03/2025 - On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H2396)

Committees: House Small Business Committee, Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 804

Rural Small Business Resilience Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Rural Small Business Resilience Act requires the Small Business Administration to ensure rural individuals affected by disasters have full access to assistance through targeted outreach and marketing.

Introduced: 01/28/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Kelly Morrison MN-03

Latest Actions:

- 02/26/2025 - Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- 02/26/2025 - Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- 02/26/2025 - On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 415 - 8 (Roll no. 49). (text: 2/24/2025 CR H746)

Committees: House Small Business Committee, Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 832

Small Business Advocacy Improvements Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Small Business Advocacy Improvements Act of 2025 clarifies the Office of Advocacy's primary functions and duties, including its role in the international economy and representing small businesses before foreign governments and international entities.

Introduced: 01/31/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Roger Williams TX-25

Latest Actions:

- 02/25/2025 - Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- 02/25/2025 - Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- 02/25/2025 - On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 396 - 15 (Roll no. 44). (text: CR H739)

Committees: House Small Business Committee, Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 833

Educational Choice for
Children Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill provides a tax credit for charitable donations to nonprofit organizations that award scholarships to low-income elementary and secondary students, with limits on contribution amounts and a volume cap to prevent overuse.

Introduced: 01/31/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Adrian Smith NE-03

Latest Actions:

- 01/31/2025 - Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- 01/31/2025 - Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- 01/31/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Education and the Workforce Committee, House Ways and Means Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 935

Health Care Workforce
Innovation Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Health Care Workforce Innovation Act of 2025 establishes a program to fund community-driven, innovative training models for allied health professionals, prioritizing underserved and rural areas.

Introduced: 02/04/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Andrew Garbarino NY-02

Latest Actions:

- 02/04/2025 - Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
- 02/04/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Energy and Commerce Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 976

1071 Repeal to Protect
Small Business Lending
Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: This bill repeals data collection requirements for small business loans under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, aiming to reduce regulatory burdens on financial institutions and improve small business access to credit.

Introduced: 02/04/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Roger Williams TX-25

Latest Actions:

- 05/06/2025 - Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 65.
- 05/06/2025 - Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Financial Services. H. Rept. 119-91.
- 05/06/2025 - POLITICO Pro - The House Financial Services Committee voted along party lines Wednesday to advance legislation that would repeal a CFPB rule requiring lenders to report demographic data on small-business loan recipients. The bureau finalized a rule last March under Section 1071 of the Dodd-Frank act forcing financial institutions to turn over data about the race, ethnicity and gender of the loan recipients, in addition to information on lending decisions and the price of credit. Republicans say the regulatory compliance costs spurred by the rule will force small lenders to pull out of small business lending. House Small Business Chair Roger Williams (R-Texas), who introduced the rollback and also sits on Financial Services, said the rule “represents yet another overreach that harms Main Street.”

Committees: House Financial Services Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 1163

Prove It Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Prove It Act of 2025 requires greater transparency in federal regulatory decisions by mandating initial regulatory flexibility analyses that consider indirect costs to small businesses and establishing review procedures for such analyses, including petitions and full reviews by the Small Business Administration's Chief Counsel.

Introduced: 02/10/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Brad Finstad MN-01

Latest Actions:

- 05/04/2026 - Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 119-108, Part II.
- 05/04/2026 - Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 552.
- 05/21/2025 - Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute by the Yeas and Nays: 14 - 12.

Committees: House Judiciary Committee, House Small Business Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 1642

Connecting Small
Businesses with Career
and Technical Education
Graduates Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The act amends the Small Business Act to include requirements for small business development centers and women's business centers to engage with career and technical education graduates, promoting hiring and business development connections.

Introduced: 02/26/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Roger Williams TX-25

Latest Actions:

- 06/04/2025 - Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- 06/03/2025 - Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- 06/03/2025 - On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 396 - 5 (Roll no. 146). (text: CR H2392)

Committees: House Small Business Committee, Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 2066

Investing in All of
America Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Investing in All of America Act of 2025 modifies the Small Business Investment Act to exclude certain government-funded investments from leverage limits for small businesses in rural, low-income, or critical technology areas.

Introduced: 03/11/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Dan Meuser PA-09

Latest Actions:

- 05/19/2026 - Became Public Law No: 119-92.
- 05/19/2026 - Signed by President.
- 05/12/2026 - Presented to President.

Committees: House Small Business Committee, Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 2094

HELPER Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill establishes a mortgage insurance program for first responders, including law enforcement, firefighters, paramedics, and teachers, allowing them to purchase or repair homes with no down payment and no monthly insurance premiums.

Introduced: 03/14/2025

Sponsor: Rep. John Rutherford FL-05

Latest Actions:

- 03/14/2025 - Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.
- 03/14/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Financial Services Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 2520

César E. Chávez and the
Farmworker Movement
National Historical Park
Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill establishes the César E. Chávez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park in California and Arizona, redesignating the existing César E. Chávez National Monument and including additional significant sites related to the farmworker movement.

Introduced: 03/31/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Raul Ruiz CA-25

Latest Actions:

- 03/31/2025 - Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
- 03/31/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Natural Resources Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 2571

Self-Insurance Protection
Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill amends the ERISA to exclude certain medical stop-loss insurance from the definition of health insurance coverage for self-insured group health plans, and preempts state laws that restrict such insurance.

Introduced: 04/01/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Bob Onder MO-03

Latest Actions:

- 12/15/2025 - Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 356.
- 12/15/2025 - Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Education and Workforce. H. Rept. 119-408.
- 06/25/2025 - Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 21 - 15.

Committees: House Education and the Workforce Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 2952

SALT Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The SALT Act amends the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 to clarify reporting requirements for payments, loans, and agreements related to employee organizing and labor dispute information.

Introduced: 04/17/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Burgess Owens UT-04

Latest Actions:

- 04/17/2025 - Referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce.
- 04/17/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Education and the Workforce Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 2965

Small Business
Regulatory Reduction Act
of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025 requires the Small Business Administration Administrator to ensure the small business regulatory budget for the SBA is not greater than zero, and mandates an annual report on federal rules impacting small businesses.

Introduced: 04/17/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Beth Van Duyne TX-24

Latest Actions:

- 12/04/2025 - Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- 12/03/2025 - Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- 12/03/2025 - On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 223 - 190 (Roll no. 310). (text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR 12/02/2025 H4987)

Committees: House Small Business Committee, Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 3174

Made in America
Manufacturing Finance
Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The act increases loan limits for small manufacturers to \$7,500,000 or \$9,000,000 if the loan exceeds \$10,000,000, with specific provisions for export-related financing.

Introduced: 05/01/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Roger Williams TX-25

Latest Actions:

- 05/13/2026 - Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.
- 12/04/2025 - Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 283.
- 12/04/2025 - Senate vitiated previous action of 12/02/2025 by Unanimous Consent.

Committees: House Small Business Committee, Senate Finance Committee, Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 3736

The Small Business
Representation in
Contracting Rulemaking
Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill adds the Small Business Administration Administrator to the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council and requires a report on personnel, resources, and policy recommendations within 90 days of enactment.

Introduced: 06/04/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Lateefah Simon CA-12

Latest Actions:

- 06/04/2025 - Referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- 06/04/2025 - Referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- 06/04/2025 - Introduced in House

Committees: House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, House Small Business Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 4549

Office of Rural Affairs Enhancement Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Office of Rural Affairs of the Small Business Administration is amended to clarify its responsibilities, including appointing an Assistant Administrator with rural business experience and expanding outreach through webinars and events.

Introduced: 07/21/2025

Sponsor: Rep. Maggie Goodlander NH-02

Latest Actions:

- 12/02/2025 - Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 282.
- 12/01/2025 - Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- 12/01/2025 - On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H4916-4917)

Committees: House Small Business Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 8210

A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill reauthorizes the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, introducing updates to workforce development provisions, including expanded definitions for foundational skills, employer-directed training, and digital literacy, as well as reforms to state and local workforce planning, accountability, and regional coordination.

Introduced: 04/06/2026

Sponsor: Rep. Tim Walberg MI-05

Latest Actions:

- 04/21/2026 - POLITICO Pro - The House Education and Workforce Committee advanced legislation Tuesday that would update a federal workforce development law and shift adult education programs from the Education Department to the Labor Department. The A Stronger Workforce for America Act, sponsored by Chair Tim Walberg (R-Mich.), was approved in a 19-14 party-line vote, over the objections of Democrats who contend that it would advance President Donald Trump's efforts to dismantle the Education Department. Walberg's legislation would reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, which expired in 2020. In addition to transferring the adult education programs, it would also fund and govern federal job training programs that help upskill workers and connect them with employers. The Education and

Labor departments struck a deal last year to hand the management of career, technical and adult education to Labor. Walberg's bill does not include moving career and technical education programs. Lawmakers came close to reauthorizing the program with bipartisan support in 2024 until Elon Musk and online conservatives railed against an end-of-year spending bill, resulting in House Republicans scrapping the reauthorization from the package.

- 04/21/2026 - Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 19 - 14.
- 04/21/2026 - Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held

Committees: House Education and the Workforce Committee, House Ways and Means Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

H.R. 8736

Restoration of
Employment Choice for
Adults with Disabilities
Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill amends the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to allow young adults aged 18 or older to accept employment without subminimum wage restrictions, with new requirements for state-level counseling efforts and documentation access.

Introduced: 05/12/2026

Sponsor: Rep. Glenn Grothman WI-06

Latest Actions:

- 05/21/2026 - Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 18 - 15.
- 05/21/2026 - Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- 05/12/2026 - Referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce.

Committees: House Education and the Workforce Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 202

Helping Small Businesses
THRIVE Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill establishes a pilot program allowing eligible small businesses to purchase commodity futures to hedge against price volatility, with specific rules on covered commodities, eligibility, and program administration.

Introduced: 01/23/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Jeanne Shaheen NH

Latest Actions:

- 01/23/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- 01/23/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 213

Main Street Tax Certainty Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Main Street Tax Certainty Act makes permanent the qualified business income deduction under Section 199A of the Internal Revenue Code.

Introduced: 01/23/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Steve Daines MT

Latest Actions:

- 01/23/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- 01/23/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Finance Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 292

Educational Choice for Children Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill provides a tax credit for charitable donations to nonprofit organizations that award scholarships to low-income elementary and secondary students, with limits on contribution amounts and a volume cap to prevent overuse.

Introduced: 01/29/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Bill Cassidy LA

Latest Actions:

- 01/29/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- 01/29/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Finance Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 400

Paid Family and Medical Leave Tax Credit Extension and Enhancement Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill enhances the paid family and medical leave credit by allowing employers to choose between a wage-based or insurance-premium-based credit, with adjustments for aggregation rules and state-mandated leave, and includes outreach requirements for small businesses and tax professionals.

Introduced: 02/04/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Deb Fischer NE

Latest Actions:

- 02/04/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

- 02/04/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Finance Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 852

Richard L. Trumka
Protecting the Right to
Organize Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill amends key labor laws to strengthen employee rights, including defining joint employers, clarifying employee status, expanding protections against unfair labor practices, and permitting fair share agreements.

Introduced: 03/05/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders VT

Latest Actions:

- 03/05/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
- 03/05/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 853

INNOVATE Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The INNOVATE Act enhances SBIR and STTR programs by improving small business success, expanding Phase II funding, reducing administrative burdens, strengthening security measures, and streamlining commercialization standards.

Introduced: 03/05/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Joni Ernst IA

Latest Actions:

- 07/23/2025 - Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.
- 03/05/2025 - Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.
- 03/05/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Committees: Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 978

HELPER Act of 2025

AI Summary: The bill establishes a mortgage insurance program for first responders, including law enforcement, firefighters, paramedics, and teachers, allowing them to purchase or repair homes with no down payment and no monthly insurance premiums.

No Priority No Stance

Introduced: 03/12/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Ashley Moody FL

Latest Actions:

- 03/12/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
- 03/12/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 1048

Connecting Small
Businesses with Career
and Technical Education
Graduates Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill amends the Small Business Act to require Small Business Development Centers and Women's Business Centers to assist graduates of career and technical education programs in hiring and starting small businesses.

Introduced: 03/13/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Roger Marshall KS

Latest Actions:

- 03/13/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- 03/13/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 1555

Made in America
Manufacturing Finance
Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill increases loan limits for small manufacturers, defining them as businesses in sectors 31, 32, or 33 of the NAICS with all production facilities in the U.S., and raises loan caps under the Small Business Act and Small Business Investment Act.

Introduced: 05/01/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Joni Ernst IA

Latest Actions:

- 05/13/2026 - Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.
- 03/11/2026 - Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.
- 01/14/2026 - Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held.

Committees: Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 1573

SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2025 extends program authority, increases agency funding, enhances outreach to underserved groups, improves commercialization support, and includes safeguards for small businesses majority-owned by foreign entities or private equity firms.

Introduced: 05/01/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Ed Markey MA

Latest Actions:

- 05/01/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- 05/01/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 3111

Small Businesses before Bureaucrats Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The bill increases the National Labor Relations Board's dollar threshold for jurisdiction over labor disputes, with the threshold rising by a factor of ten for 2026 and thereafter adjusted annually using the Personal Consumption Expenditure Per Capita Index.

Introduced: 11/05/2025

Sponsor: Markwayne Mullin OK

Latest Actions:

- 11/05/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
- 11/05/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 3116

Fairness in Filing Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The Fairness in Filing Act restricts unfair labor practice charges to those filed in good faith and with proper documentation or certification, and imposes fines for bad faith or frivolous filings.

Introduced: 11/06/2025

Sponsor: Sen. Bill Cassidy LA

Latest Actions:

- 11/06/2025 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
- 11/06/2025 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

FEDERAL - 119TH
CONGRESS

S. 3586

AI for Mainstreet Act

No Priority No Stance

AI Summary: The AI for Mainstreet Act requires small business development centers to provide guidance on artificial intelligence use, including best practices and cybersecurity, and to conduct outreach to small businesses.

Introduced: 01/07/2026

Sponsor: Sen. Todd Young IN

Latest Actions:

- 01/07/2026 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
- 01/07/2026 - Introduced in Senate

Committees: Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee