National Employers Association

The NEA Monthly Lobbyist Report for Members

NEA - October 2026

Engagement

On October 13th, Lobbyit met with Conner Morrill and Ryan Orr in the office of Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) to discuss his work on STLDI policy and the outlook for healthcare flexibility heading into the 120th Congress. We thanked the office for the Senator's longstanding leadership on the issue, including S. 2641 last Congress and the letter he led in 2017 urging CMS to act on STLDIs. We walked through NEA's priority of restoring the 2018 rule allowing plans of up to 36 months, rather than the 4-month cap set under the Biden administration, and noted that while CMS announced non-enforcement of the Biden rule last year, it has not formally rescinded it. We explained that roughly a dozen states would offer STLDI coverage with clearer rulemaking in place, but are holding back out of concern that non-enforcement could be reversed quickly.

Conner agreed that formal rulemaking from the administration would be the ideal fix. He noted that the implementation timeline discussed coming out of the legal challenges to the Biden rule pointed to summer 2026, which has now passed. If the administration does not propose a new rule, he expects the Senator would want to reintroduce S. 2641 next Congress. On the idea of a new letter to CMS, Conner said the office had floated it when S. 2641 was introduced but has not revisited it since. He and Ryan seemed open and said they will check in with the Senator, adding that the office would reach out to us if they need help with cosponsors or letter drafting.

Work on the Hill

Congress spent October away from Washington as lawmakers campaigned ahead of the November 3rd midterms. With floor activity on hold, attention has shifted to the crowded agenda waiting after Election Day. Control of the House and Senate will shape the rest of President Trump's term, including spending, oversight and regulatory policy.

Appropriations remain the top concern for the lame duck window. The House has passed three of the twelve Fiscal Year 2027 appropriations bills, while the Senate had yet to complete any floor action before the pre-election recess, leaving Congress to choose between an omnibus, another continuing resolution or a hybrid before the December 11th deadline. Senators Susan Collins and Patty Murray are leading an effort to add language to the Labor-HHS-Education bill protecting grantmaking from political interference, with similar protections under consideration for environmental research grants. The current CR's temporary restriction on OMB's proposed federal grants rule also expires on December 11th, making it part of the negotiations.

Healthcare deadlines are close behind. Community Health Center Fund mandatory funding expires December 31rd, along with the temporary 2.5% Medicare physician payment increase. Both will likely ride on a year-end funding package.

Permitting reform is another major post-election priority. Senators Mike Lee, Martin Heinrich, Shelley Moore Capito and Sheldon Whitehouse negotiated the Bipartisan American

Affordability and Jobs Act, which would speed environmental reviews and transmission development while easing obstacles to pipeline construction. It also requires data centers to cover the transmission costs tied to their electricity demand rather than passing them to other ratepayers. Industry groups including the American Petroleum Institute and American Clean Power Association coordinated support in October, but disputes over environmental protections, tribal interests and offshore wind permits remain ahead of a procedural vote after the elections.

Energy costs became a bigger issue this month. Retail diesel averaged about $6.28 a gallon on October 19th, more than $2.65 above a year earlier. Following bipartisan pressure from senators, the administration moved to loan nearly a third of the emergency heating oil reserve, and Northeast Democrats are pushing for emergency LIHEAP funding that could surface in appropriations talks. With the Strait of Hormuz still blocked and high prices still hovering at the pump, energy affordability has remained a key component of both parties' midterm platform.

The month's biggest flashpoint in Washington came on October 16th, when President Trump signed an executive order waiving key provisions of the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act two days before they were set to take effect, citing national interests. The waiver drew criticism from members of both parties, but with Congress in recess until after the midterms, there were limited opportunities to respond right away. The legislative branch will look to respond when they return from their recess in the coming weeks.

Several other must-pass bills are also lined up for the lame duck. On the Farm Bill, the House passed the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 on April 30th by a 224-200 vote, and the Senate Agriculture Committee reported its own version in September, with SNAP state cost-sharing still the main sticking point. The House passed its bipartisan WRDA bill (H.R. 9497) by a 415-9 vote on September 16th, which puts water infrastructure in good shape for year-end. The NDAA has passed the House, but in the Senate it has not reached the floor. Surface transportation programs are also temporarily extended through December 11th, and another short-term extension into 2027 looks likely given the lack of Senate text.

The midterm results will set the tone for everything that comes next. If Republicans hold both chambers, leadership will have a strong incentive to wrap up appropriations and other major bills before the end of the year and carry the President's agenda into 2027. If Democrats win the House, the Senate or both, we expect a shift in the new year toward oversight and investigations, along with tougher negotiations over spending, healthcare and administration priorities, and some year-end items may be pushed into the next Congress. Either way, the lame-duck session will be a key window, and we are gearing up for a fast-paced end of the calendar year.

DOL Finalizes PBM Fee-Disclosure Rule for Self-Insured Plans

Among the most significant developments in October was the Department of Labor's final rule requiring pharmacy benefit managers to disclose their fees and compensation to the fiduciaries of self-insured group health plans. Announced on October 29th by the Employee Benefits Security Administration, the rule implements transparency provisions enacted in the 2026 Consolidated Appropriations Act, and follows the proposed rule issued earlier this year. It applies to large self-insured plans — generally those with 100 or more participants or sponsored by employers with at least 100 employees — and to PBMs and their affiliated brokers and consultants that expect at

least $1,000 in compensation. The rule takes effect in late December, with its requirements applying to plan years beginning on or after July 1, 2027.

Substantively, covered providers must furnish written disclosures of their services and expected compensation before a contract is entered into or renewed, and then report compensation actually received on a semiannual basis, or quarterly at the plan's request. Those reports must break out direct compensation from the plan and indirect compensation, including manufacturer rebates, spread pricing, pharmacy recoupments, and price-protection payments. Plans also gain the right to audit PBM disclosures, choose their own auditor, and access pharmacy and manufacturer contracts — and PBMs may not restrict those audits beyond reasonable confidentiality terms. The Department estimates the rule could save employers and employees up to $22 billion over the next decade.

For years, plan sponsors have struggled to see how much their PBM earns from rebates and spread pricing; this rule puts that information in front of them on a regular schedule and gives them the tools to verify it. That transparency also carries responsibility. Under ERISA, the disclosures exist so fiduciaries can judge whether compensation is reasonable — meaning employers will be expected to review what they receive and act on it. The rule includes an exemption that protects fiduciaries when a PBM fails to disclose, but only if the employer notifies the Department, seeks correction, and documents its decision to continue or end the arrangement.

CMS Proposes Ending Automatic Re-Enrollment for Subsidized Marketplace Enrollees

On October 23, CMS proposed a rule that would require consumers on the ACA exchanges to verify key eligibility information — including household income and citizenship status — before receiving premium tax credits, both at initial enrollment and at each annual renewal. The proposal implements a policy mandated by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and, if finalized, would take effect for the 2028 coverage year. The practical consequence is the end of automatic re-enrollment for subsidized enrollees: individuals who take the tax credit in advance, as well as those who claim it when filing their tax returns, would need to verify their information with CMS before the credit is approved and again at every renewal. Only enrollees who receive no subsidy — generally those earning more than 400% of the federal poverty level, roughly $60,000 for an individual — could continue to be re-enrolled automatically.

The proposal comes amid heightened scrutiny of marketplace fraud by both CMS and congressional Republicans, who have focused on "phantom enrollees" — individuals signed up for coverage without their knowledge by brokers seeking additional commissions. CMS recently removed roughly 760,000 people from ACA coverage on that basis, and fraud was a central argument Republicans made last year in opposing an extension of the enhanced premium tax credits. The rule would add a meaningful administrative step for the large majority of exchange enrollees who receive a subsidy, and coming on top of the expired enhanced credits and projected 15% premium increases for 2027, it is likely to further reduce marketplace enrollment — particularly among younger and healthier consumers who are least likely to complete renewal paperwork.

A smaller and potentially sicker individual-market risk pool would put further upward pressure on premiums, which raises the cost of individual coverage HRA strategies and reinforces the

relative value of traditional employer-sponsored coverage. Employers may also see more employees, spouses, and dependents moving onto group plans as marketplace coverage becomes harder to keep. On the compliance side, because the ACA's employer shared-responsibility penalties are triggered when a full-time employee receives a premium tax credit, stricter up-front verification could reduce erroneous credit determinations that lead to penalty assessments — a potential benefit for employers that already offer affordable coverage. Lobbyit will track the comment period and the rule's progress toward finalization, and flag for NEA any opportunity to weigh in on how employer-coverage information is verified.

Looking Ahead: No Surprises Act Reform Could Move in the Lame Duck

One issue with a real chance of moving before the 119th Congress adjourns is a rewrite of the No Surprises Act, the 2020 law that shields patients from surprise out-of-network bills after emergency care. The law's independent dispute resolution (IDR) process, in which an arbitrator chooses between the provider's and the plan's payment offers, has been flooded far beyond what Congress anticipated — 2.5 million claims last year, up from 1.5 million the year before — with arbitrators in some cases awarding payments well above the cost of care. A CMS rule finalized in May to streamline the process, including a five-day eligibility determination for claims, has not quieted calls for legislation. Rep. Greg Murphy (R-N.C.) said in mid-October that he expects the Ways and Means Committee to have a plan during the lame duck, which will run two weeks before Thanksgiving and roughly three weeks in December.

The competing proposals point in sharply different directions for employers. Murphy's No Surprises Act Enforcement Act (H.R. 4710), with 38 bipartisan cosponsors and a Senate companion from Sens. Roger Marshall (R-Kan.) and Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), would impose $10,000 penalties per violation on group health plans and insurers that fail to comply with the law's balance-billing requirements, and a penalty of three times the disputed amount, plus interest, on parties that fail to pay arbitration awards. It is backed by the American Medical Association and a coalition of 96 physician groups. Employers have lined up against it: nearly 60 major employers, including Delta Air Lines, Microsoft, and Dow, wrote to Ways and Means in July arguing that new penalties layered on a flawed IDR process that rewards ineligible claims "will result in more abuse of an increasingly broken system." The AFL-CIO has also opposed the Senate bill over its premium impact. At the other end, House Energy and Commerce ranking member Frank Pallone (D-N.J.) introduced the Lower Premiums, Faster Payments Act on October 9th, which would eliminate arbitration, pay providers at median in-network rates within 30 days, and impose no new plan penalties — an approach employers and insurers support and physicians oppose.

For NEA members, the outcome could flow directly into plan costs. A reform focused on screening out ineligible claims and fixing the IDR process would ease a growing cost driver, while an enforcement-first approach like H.R. 4710 would add new penalty exposure for plans without addressing the volume problem. Senate HELP Chair Bill Cassidy, who wrote the original law with Sen. Maggie Hassan and is leaving Congress at year's end, hopes to introduce a fix before he departs, and the election results will shape which approach has momentum — Pallone would likely chair Energy and Commerce under a Democratic House. This remains worth watching after the election as the lame duck agenda is determined.

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 Business Opportunities Act

No Priority No Stance

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.

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

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.

Educational Choice for Children Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

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

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.

and Technical Education Graduates Act of 2025

No Priority No Stance

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

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.

Contracting Rulemaking Act

No Priority No Stance

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

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

A Stronger Workforce for America Act of 2026

No Priority No Stance

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

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:

No Priority No Stance

- 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

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: 03/12/2025

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