September 27, 2023

Advocacy at AMPP

AMPP passionately champions policies and initiatives that drive materials protection and performance progress for our members and industry. This encompasses shaping government regulations, industry standards, and public perception in corrosion control, coatings, and related areas.

We fervently advocate for professionals and organizations in this field, cultivating an environment conducive to research, innovation, and industry advancement.

As such, we are dedicated to communicating our activities and issues related to you so you are informed and prepared to make sound decisions as an advocate of the materials protection and performance community.

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Government Shutdown Update

As the September 30th deadline approaches, the federal government faces the possibility of a shutdown if Congress does not reach an appropriations deal. While the House and Senate actively work to avert this situation, time is running out. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) is finally pushing to secure House Republicans’ support for a continuing resolution (CR) to keep the government operational. However, some House conservatives insist that all 12 appropriations bills be presented on the floor by the deadline, along with an additional $60 billion in cuts. Even if Speaker McCarthy concedes to these demands, it remains uncertain whether he has the necessary votes within his conference to pass a CR. This has created uncertainty in the House, with no clear indication of what can be accomplished before the September 30th deadline.

In contrast, Senate leaders have agreed on a CR through November 17th. This package includes funding for Ukraine’s military aid and natural disaster assistance. The Senate has proceeded with its original plan despite earlier discussions about excluding these provisions. Additionally, the chamber successfully advanced a procedural vote on Tuesday night, passing in a 77-19 vote. This means that the Senate legislation is slated for passage by the end of the week, placing pressure on the House to vote on the package to avert a shutdown post-September 30th. Following the vote, the White House has expressed support for the Senate package and urged both chambers to avoid a government shutdown, intensifying the pressure on the House to solidify a strategy to prevent a shutdown.
Shutdown Breakdown

A government shutdown occurs when Congress fails to pass appropriations legislation to fund federal agencies. While Congress is expected to pass 12 spending bills annually, this has not been the typical practice for some time. Instead, Congress often seeks to pass a temporary extension known as a continuing resolution, allowing the government to continue operating. When Congress fails to pass full or temporary funding legislation, federal agencies must halt all non-essential work, and employees will not receive paychecks if the shutdown persists.

Approximately 4 million military and civilian federal government workers, unable to work or receive pay, would be impacted by this shutdown. Given that federal offices are located in all 50 states, the entire country would somewhat feel the effects. This could range from federal offices facing closures or reduced hours to potential interruptions in government services. Businesses closely tied to the federal government, including federal contractors, may also experience the shutdown's impact.

Keep current on federal initiatives related to our industry at Government Affairs - AMPP or contact Ryan Cunius in Government Affairs.