



Presenters:

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**Taking the Temperature in DC
and
Advocating Accordingly**

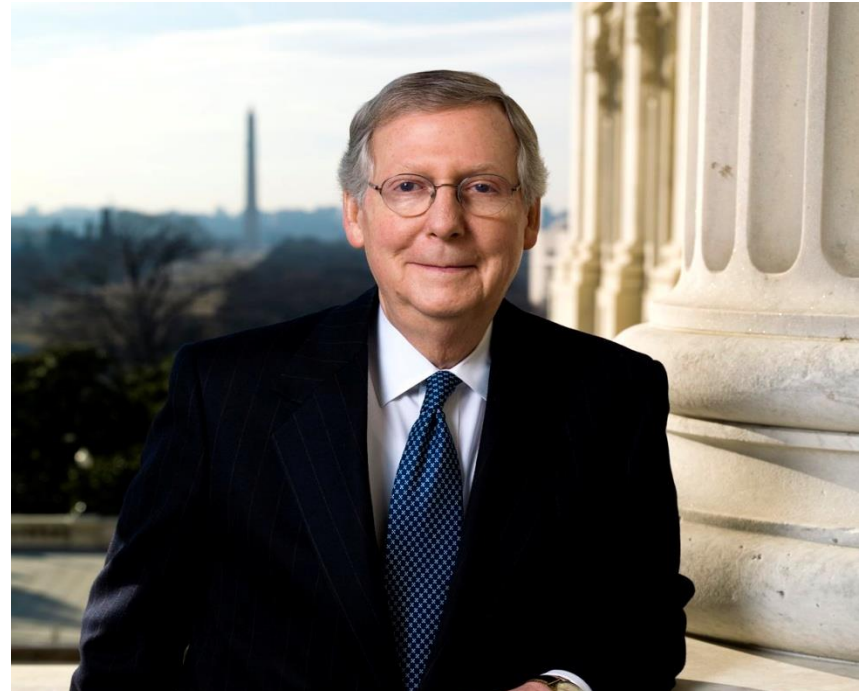
What Does Congress Look Like?

- By the Numbers
 - Senate
 - **52 Republicans**
 - 46 Democrats
 - 2 Independents
 - House
 - **237 Republicans**
 - 193 Democrats



Key Members of Congress

- Leadership
 - **Senate**
 - **Majority Leader: Mitch McConnell (R-KY)**
 - **Minority Leader: Chuck Schumer (D-NY)**
 - **House**
 - **Speaker: Paul Ryan (R-WI)**
 - **Majority Leader: Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)**
 - **Minority Leader: Nancy Pelosi (R-CA)**



Key Members of Congress

- **Senate Appropriations (LHE)**
 - **Chair: Roy Blunt(R-MO)**
 - **Ranking: Patty Murray(D-WA)**
- **Senate HELP**
 - **Chair: Lamar Alexander (R-TN)**
 - **Ranking: Patty Murray (D-WA)**
- **Senate Commerce**
 - **Chair: John Thune (R-SD)**
 - **Ranking: Bill Nelson (D-FL)**



Key Members of Congress

- **House Appropriations**
 - **Chair: Tom Cole (R-OK)**
 - **Ranking: Rose DeLauro (D-CT)**
- **House Education & the Workforce**
 - **Chair: Virginia Foxx (R-NC)**
 - **Ranking: Bobby Scott (D-VA)**
- **House Commerce**
 - **Chair: Greg Walden (R-OR)**
 - **Ranking: Frank Pallone (D-NJ)**



PRE-MEETING PLANNING

- Arm yourself with Facts and Local Stories
- Prioritize your requests
- Nominate a spokesperson; divide up the presentation
- Practice for clarity and conciseness
- Dress appropriately
- Bring business cards

MEETING TIPS

Be prepared for:

- Cooling your heels
- Hallway meetings
- Limited time to make your case
- Young staffers (THEY HAVE INFLUENCE)
- Blackberries/iPhones!
- Thanks, but no promises

MEETING TIPS

Tell Them:

- Who you represent
- Where you live
- Why you are contacting them
- What you want
 - A continued federal commitment to the E-rate and Life Programs
 - Full funding for the ESSA, Title IV Block Grant
 - Federal support for effective data use, including research, balanced by privacy protections

MEETING TIPS

When in the meeting, remember to:

- Thank the staffer for his/her time
- Try to connect –you/staffer; issue/member
- Be direct but not confrontational
- Praise the member
- Don't get sidetracked
- Turn-off your phone
- Leave business card and encourage them to contact you as a resource
- Know when it is time to go

AFTER THE MEETING

Always follow-up

- Thank You E-mail
- Regular updates about your state and district's work
- Invitations to Visit (particularly with press)

Goal

- Become their resource, advisor and source of positive press

Questions?

