



NCDAA Monthly Report

Dear Paul,

In the month of May, the Lobbyit team continued to monitor workforce development issues on the Hill and began prepping for the NCDAA conference in June.

Advocacy Updates

In May we saw several issues take shape in Congress. One being that there is a re-emergence of efforts to repeal Obamacare. Multiple conservative groups are working together to revitalize these efforts on both the legislative and legal front. However, there still is a lot of bipartisan opposition. Republican leadership is very skeptical as to the success of such efforts and whether it would be politically expedient with the upcoming midterm elections. Though it would be received well by many of the base, such a vote could place many vulnerable Republicans in difficult re-election campaigns in a tricky position.

Another is the continued work by Congress to avoid having to pass a major *omnibus* spending package later this summer. To that end they've been working steadily to get individual spending bills passed out of each of the responsible appropriations committees. Though good progress has been made it remains to be seen whether they'll have the time to complete this process. Part of the reason for this is the major

pieces of legislation that remain to be passed. The FAA needs to be reauthorized, the Farm Bill passed, and the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) voted on and passed. A lot of work has already happened on all of these bills, so their chances of passage are extremely high, if not certain. However, the FAA bill is being held up because there are efforts to attach multiple tax provisions to that bill, including making the individual tax cuts permanent. These are obviously controversial and their potential impact on deficits could be a stumbling block. WRDA was drafted very narrowly in the House to avoid controversy and was successfully passed, but the Senate version is a bit more expansive. However, all expectation is smooth passage of this bill. The Farm Bill recently failed in the House due to immigration concerns that were attached to it by a conservative block of GOP House members and the expectation is that the Senate's less controversial bill will be what ultimately becomes law. But with the clock ticking, time is running out for a bill to work its way through both chambers.

In May, we started to hear rumors and see reports that Perkins may be getting new life in the Senate. To that end, we reached out to Congress and spoke with a key Member staffer who leads on this issue. She spoke with us about the potential compromise that is being worked out in the Senate but that no one really knows what type of language will come out of these negotiations. The House has already passed a bill and had widespread approval and the question is whether if the Senate follows suit and if not, will that kill the new bill in the House? There is currently a hearing scheduled for June where we will get a chance to see the language of whatever the Senate is considering, that will provide us with a good prediction of whether the new bill has a chance of becoming law.

Post-conference, we anticipate an update on the language that is being considered and to enter the next phase of relationship building with the Department of Labor.

Until next month,

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