



THE VOICE



OVERVIEW

Despite the ongoing challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Commonwealth Strategic Partners (CSP) enjoyed an active and productive third quarter. During Q3 2021, CSP took on two new clients: the [City of Aberdeen, Maryland](#), which CSP now represents in Washington, D.C.; and the United Kingdom-based medical device manufacturer [LivaNova](#), which CSP now represents in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In July, CSP [welcomed](#) the newest member of its Washington, D.C. team: Katie Hazlett, who joined as Director, Government Affairs. Hazlett previously served as Chief of Staff to former Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) and as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Department of Energy's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. ●

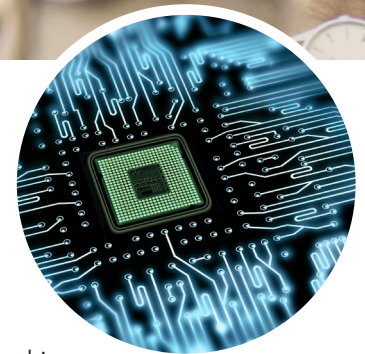
LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Second Front Systems

CSP engaged Rep. Elissa Slotkin (D-MI) regarding the Army Venture Capital Corporation, operated by CSP client [Second Front Systems](#). The goal was to seek ways to address vulnerabilities with the domestic supply chain for microelectronics for next-generation ground vehicles. Rep. Slotkin successfully offered an amendment during House Full Committee consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which directs the Secretary of the Army, in conjunction with the Army Venture Capital Corporation, to conduct an assessment and provide a strategy back to the Committee on this issue.

American Council of Engineering Companies

As part of an ongoing effort, CSP continues to work with the [American Council of Engineering Companies](#) (ACEC) on a legislative fix to bring relief to engineering firms that received loans from the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). During the pandemic, many engineering firms received PPP loans to assist meeting payroll and other expenses. Due to a Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) provision, engineering firms working for certain government agencies could be forced to give some of that assistance back. However, Reps. Anthony Brown (D-MD), John Katko (R-NY), Troy Balderson (R-OH), Rodney Davis (R-IL), and Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL) offered a [floor amendment](#) to the NDAA to provide a waiver of the FAR provision for these instances. The amendment was included in the final NDAA passed by the House. ●



FUNDRAISING

- In July, members of CSP hosted virtual and in-person fundraisers for Anthony Gonzalez (R-OH), and Madeline Dean (D-PA).
- In August, members of CSP hosted a virtual fundraiser for Rep. Dwight Evans (D-PA).
- In September, members of CSP hosted virtual and in-person fundraisers for David Valadao (R-CA), Dwight Evans (D-PA), and Madeline Dean (D-PA). ●

EVENTS



AMFA executive team, from left to right: Trevor Flint, Director of Finance; Earl Clark, Region I Director; Jay Johnson, National Secretary/Treasurer; Gene Painter, National Vice President; Bret Oestreich, National President; Scott King, Safety and Standards Director; Will Abbott, Region II Director; and Ryanne Pelletier, Director of Administration.

1 Aircraft Mechanics Convention

In July, CSP attended the [Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association \(AMFA\) National Convention](#) in Las Vegas. Although postponed as a result of COVID-19, the Convention was a success. During the Convention, CSP presented an advocacy update. Additionally, AMFA [announced](#) its new political action committee, the non-partisan AMFA PAC. The PAC was established at the recommendation of CSP.

2 City of Aberdeen

In September, CSP assisted the [City of Aberdeen](#) in hosting federal, state, and local decisionmakers at the Aberdeen Amtrak/MARC Train Station to discuss [planned upgrades](#) to the station and surrounding areas. Attendees included staff from the offices of Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) and Reps. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD) and Andy Harris (R-MD); staff from Amtrak, Maryland, and Harford County agencies; and the leadership of the U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground.



Aberdeen Mayor Patrick McGrady welcomes attendees to Aberdeen and provides an update on efforts to make the train station and surrounding areas more accessible and commuter friendly.



Sen. Rubio (left) and Rep. Rutherford discuss the HELPER Act with a group of first responders and educators.

3 Homes for Every Local Protector, Educator, and Responder (HELPER) Act

In September, CSP worked in conjunction with Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), Rep. John Rutherford (R-FL), and CSP client [Churchill Mortgage](#) to host a press conference in Jacksonville, FL for the [Homes for Every Local Protector, Educator, and Responder \(HELPER\) Act](#). Rep. Rutherford introduced the HELPER Act in May alongside Reps. Al Lawson (D-FL), John Katko (R-NY), and Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ). Sen. Rubio [plans to introduce](#) a Senate companion bill soon.

4 NTSC National CISO Policy Conference

In September, CSP and the [National Technology Security Coalition](#) (NTSC) hosted their fourth annual [NTSC National CISO Policy Conference](#) in Washington, D.C. Although scaled down as a matter of pandemic safety, the three-day event was a success, with the attendance of several government officials: Jen Easterly, Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency; Mark Montgomery, Senior Advisor to the Chairman, Cyberspace Solarium Commission; and Reps. Jim Langevin (D-RI), Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Tony Gonzales (R-TX), and Andrew Garbarino (R-NY).



Rep. Gonzales (right) discusses cybersecurity priorities with Patrick Gaul, Executive Director of the NTSC, and a group of private sector Chief Information Security Officers.

5 Pennsylvania Assisted Living Association's (PALA) 2021 Fall Conference

In September, Commonwealth Strategic Partners supported the Pennsylvania Assisted Living Association's (PALA) [2021 Fall Conference](#) in Harrisburg. The event, which corresponded with PALA's 25th Anniversary, was a great success; 149 individuals attended in-person and 85 individuals attended virtually. CSP secured the attendance of Pennsylvania House of Representatives Committee on Aging and Older Adults Chairman Gary Day as a guest speaker.

Chairman Day presented PALA's Executive Director Margie Zelenak with an official proclamation from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives acknowledging PALA's 25 years of committed advocacy on behalf of Pennsylvania's Assisted Living and Personal Care Homes. CSP also arranged for Governor Tom Wolf to provide a [videotaped message](#) to open the conference. ●



Pennsylvania State Rep. Day presents PALA Executive Director Margie Zelenak with official recognition for PALA's support for Pennsylvania's Assisted Living and Personal Care Homes.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- In October, Sens. Rubio and Jon Ossoff (D-GA) will introduce a [Senate companion](#) to the HELPER Act.
- In October, members of CSP will host an in-person fundraiser for Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA).
- In November, CSP client [Invest in the USA](#) (IIUSA) will hold its [2021 IIUSA Virtual EB-5 Industry Forum](#). The six-day conference will include educational seminars, networking opportunities, and industry updates.
- In November, [Second Front](#) will meet with legislators to further the conversation and policy developments around the domestic supply chain for microelectronics.

CSP is proud of its successful third quarter work and looks forward to finishing strong in 2021 with an equally successful fourth quarter. ●

