



2022
Top-Performing
Lobbying Firm

Bloomberg
Government

OVERVIEW

While Congress grappled with debt ceiling negotiations, [Commonwealth Strategic Partners](#) (CSP) experienced a very productive second quarter of 2023. Our team, clientele, and list of accolades grew even as we secured several major legislative successes for our clients. In April, CSP welcomed [Jane Clements](#), former CEO of nonprofit Feeding Pennsylvania, as our new Vice President, State Government Affairs. Jane will lead CSP's growing Harrisburg operation. Additionally, in June, CSP was again named a [Top-Performing Lobbying Firm](#) by *Bloomberg Government*. CSP first received the recognition [last year](#) for our work in 2021.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY



Feeding Pennsylvania's Interim CEO and Board Members from around the state join Representative Emily Kinhead, Co-Chair of the Legislative Hunger Caucus (center)

Feeding Pennsylvania

In June, CSP and [Feeding Pennsylvania's](#) board members visited the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg to meet with members of the General Assembly. They discussed critical budget increases needed for the State Food Purchase Program and Agricultural Surplus System to support the nearly 2 million food insecure individuals who rely on food banks to make ends meet. Feeding PA and their member food banks met with Representative Emily Kinhead, who co-chairs the Pennsylvania Legislative Hunger Caucus, to discuss hunger in Pennsylvania and find ways for the food banks to work more closely with the caucus to raise awareness about the issue of hunger and the important role the state budget plays in addressing food security.

Granite Construction

CSP worked with client [Granite Construction](#) to submit a proposal to the Department of Energy for Inflation Reduction Act funding to update asphalt plants with more energy efficient technology. The proposal includes 24 plants across 8 states. CSP secured 22 letters of support from members of Congress in support of Granite's application.

CSP also worked on a defense contracting issue for Granite and obtained legislative language both in the House Veterans Affairs and Military Construction Appropriations bill led by Chairman John Carter (R-TX), and the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) via an amendment by Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA).



Granite Construction Vice President Gary Johnson with Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA). Granite Construction is headquartered in Rep. Lofgren's district.

Invest in the USA

In April, CSP hosted a lobby day for client [Invest in the USA](#) (IIUSA) in D.C. IIUSA policy council members, alongside CSP, met with fourteen congressional offices. During the meetings, IIUSA and CSP discussed the benefits that EB-5 Regional Centers provide to members of Congress' states and districts, including the creation of 820,000 jobs and \$42 billion in investments nationwide.

In May, CSP's George McElwee and Katie Hazlett attended IIUSA's [2023 IIUSA EB-5 Industry Forum](#) in San Diego. During the event, George sat on an advocacy update panel and Katie moderated.

Ophelia Health

In June, CSP facilitated a meeting between [Ophelia's](#) leadership team and the PA Department of Human Services' Medical Assistance Office. During the meeting, Ophelia shared their innovative approach to addressing opioid addiction through telemedicine and discussed opportunities for their platform to become part of Pennsylvania's strategy for addressing the opioid epidemic.



Ophelia's team, including Co-Founder and CEO, Zack Gray, at the PA Department of Human Services

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

In April, CSP and client [People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals](#) (PETA) worked with Reps. Troy Nehls (R-TX) and Don Davis (D-NC) to send [a letter](#) to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The letter asks about NIH's funding of animal experimentation in Colombia conducted by researchers under investigation by the Colombian government for animal cruelty.

POWER Engineers

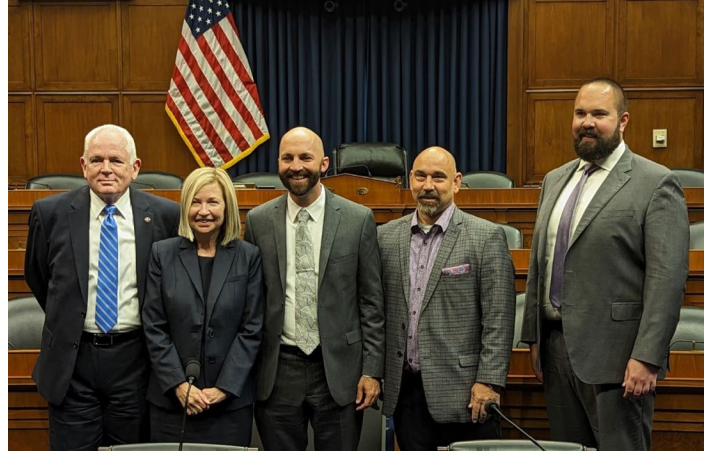
In April, CSP facilitated meetings with 10 Congressional offices for [POWER Engineers](#). The meetings focused on POWER's presence in each district or state and the company's expertise in issues regarding energy. An outcome of the successful Hill Day was POWER providing feedback to Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-CO) on his proposed legislation, the BIG WIRES Act.



National Technology Security Coalition

In April and June, CSP hosted client [National Technology Security Coalition](#) (NTSC) in D.C. for congressional meetings. The meetings focused on members of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, which had jurisdiction over consumer data privacy, one of NTSC's major policy priorities.

Additionally, in April, CSP and NTSC hosted a staff briefing for the House Energy and Commerce Committee Republicans. Four NTSC board members explained the cybersecurity challenges they face in the private sector, particularly on the topic of consumer privacy, and took questions from the staffers.



NTSC Executive Director Patrick Gaul (left) alongside NTSC board members in the House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing room.

Volvo Group

In April, CSP client [Volvo Group](#) convened in D.C. for in-person meetings with members of Congress and their staff. CSP's Wesley Trimble led the [Volvo Construction Equipment](#) team in meetings with Sen. John Fetterman (D-PA), Reps. John Joyce (R-PA) and Scott Perry (R-PA), and staff from the offices of Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA) and Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA).

In May, Volvo Group reconvened in at the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg with CSP's Jane Clements for meetings with several members of the General Assembly and Governor Shapiro's staff to discuss their state policy priorities as well as their commitment to investing in the technology required for the transition to zero-emission vehicles.



Rep. Perry (striped tie) with employees from Volvo Construction Equipment.

Ravn

CSP client [Ravn](#) is currently working on a secure software messaging platform to improve communications on the battlefield. To further Ravn's efforts, CSP secured a National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) amendment led by Rep. Morgan Luttrell (R-TX) to require the U.S. Special Operations Command to brief the House Committee on Armed Services on the Hyper-Enabled Awareness program, which is critical to Ravn's success.

Salute Home Loans

In May, CSP and client [Salute Home Loans](#) secured the reintroduction of the Homes for Every Local Protector, Educator, and Responder (HELPER) Act. The bill was reintroduced in the Senate as [S.1514](#) by Sens. Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Jon Ossoff (D-GA), who championed the bill in the Senate last Congress. CSP also worked with Senate Banking Committee Chair Sherrod Brown (D-OH), whose committee holds jurisdiction over the HELPER Act, to refine the bill and include him as an original cosponsor. The bill was simultaneously reintroduced in the House as [H.R.3170](#) by Reps. John Rutherford (R-FL) and Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ), the bill's original House champions last Congress.

Upon reintroducing the HELPER Act, CSP began conducting outreach to associations, unions, and state and local elected officials to endorse the bill, securing over 125 endorsements from across the country by the end of the quarter. ●



FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

- In April, George McElwee, Katie Hazlett, Wesley Trimble, and Mackenzie Campbell joined IIUSA in hosting a fundraiser for Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA). Additionally, Keith Pemrick attended a fundraiser for Rep. Mike Collins (R-GA) and Katie Hazlett attended a fundraiser for Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID).
- In May, CSP client [Second Front Systems](#) hosted their [Offset Symposium](#) in Washington, D.C. The annual event promotes engagement between the venture-backed ecosystem, the defense base, academia, and national security mission users to accelerate the development and scaling of new technologies for national security. Keith Pemrick and Katie Hazlett attended.
- Also in May, Katie Hazlett attended a fundraiser for Rep. David Valadao (R-CA).
- In June, Keith Pemrick hosted and George McElwee attended a fundraiser for Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA). George also attended a fundraiser for Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA). Katie Hazlett attended a Republican Governance Group PAC trip and a fundraiser for Rep. Marilyn Strickland (D-WA).
- Also in June, Keith Pemrick and Wesley Trimble attended [a reception](#) on behalf of client [American Association of Suicidology](#). The reception celebrated the one-year anniversary of the [988 suicide prevention hotline](#) becoming available nationwide. The following day, Wesley attended a lunch briefing on the 988 hotline's successes and challenges. ●



UPCOMING EVENTS

- In July, NTSC and CSP will hold its [6th Annual National CISO Policy Conference](#) in D.C. The event will include a conversation with Jen Easterly, Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.
- Also in July, IIUSA and CSP will hold another lobby day in D.C. CSP and IIUSA policy council members will conduct in-person meetings with members of Congress and their staff to educate them on IIUSA policy priorities and the EB-5 Regional Center program. The event will be the third of four planned fly-ins this year. ●



NEW CLIENTS

- In May, CSP began representing [Feeding Pennsylvania](#) in Harrisburg, PA. CSP represents Feeding PA on matters related to Pennsylvania food bank funding and the federal Farm Bill.
- In May, CSP began representing [Ophelia](#) in Harrisburg, PA. CSP represents Ophelia on matters related to addiction treatment services funding, specifically related to telemedicine. ●

