

THE SOUTH CAROLINA BLUES FEDERAL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE



November 2018

2018 MID-TERM ELECTIONS

NOVEMBER 6, 2018

With Election Day approaching, we wanted to take a moment to encourage everyone to exercise your right to vote this November. Voting is one of the fundamental ways you can participate in our democracy. No matter which candidates you choose or what political party you support, the important point is to take the time to vote on Election Day.

Midterm elections this year are on Tuesday, November 6, when voters will elect candidates for 35 seats in the U.S. Senate and the entire House of Representatives, 36 state governors, and thousands of other state and local elective offices across the county.

To be eligible to vote in your local district, you'll need to be sure that you're registered in time. Voter registration deadlines vary by state but all are between October 5 and November 6. Visit our PAC website and click on "Get Out The Vote" to check your state's registration information.

When you vote, you have a voice. We encourage you to make sure it is heard.



WHAT IS THE SC BLUES FEDPAC?

The SC Blues FedPAC provides us a platform to speak to lawmakers — in a unified voice that they will hear. It gives BlueCross a stronger voice in Washington. It also gives employees a way to participate in the political process. SC Blues FedPAC contributes to candidates and elected officials who are open to our views on healthcare policy issues that are important to BlueCross, our members, and our employees. These contributions are made in accordance with election laws regardless of party affiliation. Participation in the PAC is completely voluntary and is not favored or disadvantaged in anyone's employment because of a decision to participate, the amount of participation, or a decision to not contribute at all.



UPCOMING PAC EVENTS

Please RSVP via the PAC website or by clicking on the link below.

[Lunch 'n Learn @ Florence](#)

Wednesday, November 7, 2018
Any eligible employee located in Florence may participate.

[Lunch 'n Learn @ Surfside](#)

Thursday, November 8, 2018
Any eligible employee located in Surfside may participate.

[Post Mid-Term Election Webinar](#)

Tuesday, November 13, 2018
Guest Speaker: Craig Metz
Only PAC members may participate.

Political Trivia Night

Congratulations Team House Politics!!!!

Thank you to all of the PAC members that joined our government affairs staff to watch the SC Governor's Debate and play a couple rounds of political trivia. It was a great night with delicious food and a fun atmosphere at Polliwog's.



3rd Quarter Review of Congress

What Passed?

- Congress approved a total of \$1.002 trillion of fiscal year 2019 appropriations via two minibus spending bills – over 75% of the discretionary budget – with the remaining agencies funded at current levels through December 7th.
- The senate confirmed Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court along with eight circuit court judges, and 27 district court judges.
- Congress passed a bipartisan opioid crisis response bill that contains over 70 proposals aimed at preventing and treating addiction.
- A five-year FAA authorization that also reformed TSA, FEMA disaster relief programs, and provided \$1.68 billion in disaster relief for areas impacted by Hurricane Florence was passed and signed into law.
- Congress passed a bipartisan, two-year reauthorization of water infrastructure projects to make improvements to ports, inland waterways, dams, flood protection, and drinking water systems.

What's Left?

- Funding for the agencies that Congress hasn't approved FY19 appropriations for yet, the most notable debate coming over the Dept. Homeland Security's budget for border wall construction.
- Congress has been working on a new Farm Bill for, but negotiations on a compromise between the differing House and Senate versions of the bill have stalled over the House bill's significant reforms to food stamps.
- The Senate will likely take up the confirmation of a new U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.
- The Senate hasn't indicated whether it will consider the First Step Act.
- It also isn't clear if the Senate will take the time to vote on the House-passed GOP Tax Reform 2.0 bills.

Source: <https://www.countable.us/articles/12333-congress-s-q3-review>