

AIAA Cape Canaveral CVD 2015 Report

Team Florida performed well during the 2015 AIAA CVD. Overall the new format was very clean and our meetings were some of the best we'd had in years. The use of four major policy efforts versus ten streamlined our conversations. The relevant legislation document encouraged conversations that seemed less scripted but substantive versus some of the previous CVD events. Our delegation was able to be split into 2 symmetrical groups (NASA Fed, Industry, Educator/student) for a pair of simultaneous meetings. The group seemed to really enjoy themselves.

Representative Patrick Murphy

Met with Morgan Cashwell

- Patrick Murphy's office works closely with Bill Posey's office
- AIAA can serve as resource to representatives office when facing legislation pertinent to the aerospace industry but questions are typically last minute
- Rep. Murphy used to be accountant and is very familiar with tax credit system. He supports Ex-Im Bank suggestions as well as R&D tax credit
- Rep. Murphy is aware of intelligence/cybersecurity issues
- Office has been focusing on environmental concerns that exist in his district

Representative Jeff Miller

Met with Mike Rellick

- Representative is fond of small business
- Would support ITAR reform, R&D Tax Credits
- Agrees that immigration should be reformed so foreign-born student education investment doesn't leave the US

Representative Ron Desantis

Met with

- Rep. Desantis is onboard with supporting what needs to be done for defense of nation
- Office made aware of HR810, HR234, HR1020, and HR1030

Representative Alan Grayson

Met with Mick Nichola

- Son wants to be pilot, fond of aerospace industry
- Supports NASA (KSC launch facility) appropriations
- Rep. Grayson wanted Science and Space Subcommittee, but now on energy

Representative Bill Posey

Met with Christen Kapavik

- Asks if there are any particular modernization projects/requests
- Concerned about STEM pipeline as well
- Supported amendment that encourages women and minorities to pursue STEM careers
- Office made aware of HR810, HR234, and HR1020

Representative Alcee L. Hastings

Met with Jennifer Kaufmann

- Met with Jennifer briefly outside of office

Senator Bill Nelson

Met with Nicholas Cummings

- Senator agrees we need more high skilled workers
- Asks if there are any particular ideas to become part of immigration reform
- Restructuring of current H1B visa
- There is a need to determine what legislative changes to immigration can be pushed from a commerce committee perspective
- ITAR reform also needs to be looked at from a commerce perspective

Senator Marco Rubio

Met with Benjamin Bradley, Hampton Ray

- Not a fan of continuing resolution
- Senator Rubio supports immigration reform for high skilled workers but legislation is often mixed with other highly polarizing political issues (has co-sponsored an immigration bill)
- Looking for tax plan/reform

Representative Ander Crenshaw

Met with Cate Sadler

- Supports funding to NASA and DoD
- Rep. Crenshaw is already on bill that supports funding to DoD and NASA
- Supports immigration reform for high skilled workers but admits it is tricky because of political playing field that exists when it comes to immigration reform
- Supportive of STEM and EX-IM Bank
- Office made aware of HR234

Representative Thomas Rooney

Met with Andrew Callahan

- Rooney is part of appropriations
- Asked what upgrades are suggested for new systems for NASA & DoD
- Asked if there are any appropriations that we have specifically
- Questions about specific appropriations need to be passed on to AIAA Headquarters
- Interested in cybersecurity issues
- Office made aware of HR234

Representative Mario Diaz-Balart

Met with Chris Sweet and Miguel Mendoza

- Supports immigration reform across the board
- Office suggest rallying together support of other congress members (A&D education needed) within Florida
- Advocates informing people in districts about issues of immigration