

# IEEE-USA & Public Policy

July 16, 2018

Region 3 ExCom Meeting

Lee Stogner, PMP

Region 3 Government Relations Representative

Russell Harrison

Director of Government Relations, IEEE-USA

# The Political Picture

- Washington is a bit turbulent
- The White House is slightly more turbulent
- Everyone is getting ready for the 2018 Mid-Terms
- The President is already running for re-election in 2020
- Everyone is mad at everyone
- But, quietly, when the press isn't paying attention, things can still get done. All of this does affect our jobs and the potential future of Engineering in the USA

# FY 2018 Budget Highlights

- Increase of \$219 million for NIST facilities
- Energy & Cyber infrastructure included in infrastructure spending
- \$7.5 million for broadband map
- \$1.1 billion increase in NASA
- \$301 million increase in NSF

# Trump's FY2019 Budget

- President's budget is out:
  - Similar to last year's
  - Significant cuts to many research budgets

# But .....

- Nobody cares
- Congress passed a two-year budget deal in February raising discretionary budgets
- Congress is not going to radically cut budgets in an election year
- IEEE-USA is working to make sure legislators know how damaging these cuts would be
- Preliminary FY2019 Budgets look OK

# 2018 CVD

- 60 Participants
- Over 80 meetings, one-third with Legislators
- Region 3 represented by Lee Stogner
  
- Message: Protect R&D Funding and the high-skill visa system

# NASA

- What is NASA's mission?
  - Mars?
  - Moon base?
  - Money?
- What role do private companies have in space?
- National Space Council

# Self-Driving Cars

- H.R. 3388, Self Drive Act
  - Sponsored by Rep. Latta (R-OH-5)
  - Lots of studies and committees
  - Establishes Federal Priority
  - Passed House in September
- S. 1885, the AV Start Act
  - Cosponsored by Sen. Thune (R-SD) with bipartisan support
  - Lots of studies & committees
  - Established Federal Priority
  - Passed Senate Commerce Committee



# High-Skill Immigration Reform

- DACA Discharge Petition Likely in House
  - Plus country caps?
  - Plus ... maybe a few other things
  - Little interest in Green Cards
  - No mention of H-1Bs
- No clear path to law

# Energy

- Executive order: Take steps to keep coal and nuclear plants open
- Would force utilities to buy power from specific plants for two years, to make sure the plants are viable

# What's Next?

- Educating Congress
  - AI
  - Block-Chain
  - IOT
  - The Innovation Process
- Position ourselves for 2019
- Outreach to the new folks!

# Legislation

- Patent Reform
- Small Business
- Infrastructure Investments
- Education Reform

# For more information:

- Region 3 Representative – Lee Stogner
- Policy and Advocacy <https://ieeeusa.org/advocacy/>
- Webinars <https://ieeeusa.org/events/ga-webinar-7-19-18/>
- Webinars <https://ieeeusa.org/events/webinar-07-20-18/>
- Policy Priorities <https://ieeeusa.org/advocacy/priorities/>
- Calls from IEEEUSA for support
- Insight Newsletter <https://insight.ieeeusa.org/>
- IEEEUSA Home Page <https://insight.ieeeusa.org/>
- Get on the mailing list of your Federal / State Representative

Contacts:

**Russell Harrison**

[r.t.harrison@ieee.org](mailto:r.t.harrison@ieee.org)

(202) 530-8326

**Lee Stogner**

[l.stogner@ieee.org](mailto:l.stogner@ieee.org)

(864) 360-9415