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# The Canvass K Street: March 2026 Edition

Key findings from the Punchbowl News-LSG survey of K Street leaders on the true issues driving Washington

Presented by Punchbowl News & LSG

# Methodology



## Public Opinion Survey

- N= 187 respondents
- Survey of senior K Street leaders from across the corporate, lobbying, trade association, non-profit, and think tank industries
- Conducted online by LSG March 2-20, 2026

# Summary of Key Findings

- 1 Nearly all K Street leaders (93%) believe it is **UNLIKELY** that Senate Republicans will eliminate the filibuster in 2026.
- 2 A majority of K Street leaders (68%) believe President Trump's State of the Union address was **INEFFECTIVE**.
- 3 Most K Street leaders (71%) believe it is **LIKELY** that military actions in Iran will lead to prolonged or further conflict in the Middle East, and most (70%) believe it will **HARM** Republicans in the midterms.
- 4 The vast majority (88%) believe the Trump administration's approach to immigration enforcement and deployment of ICE/CBP will **HARM** Republicans in the midterm elections.
- 5 Nearly all K Street leaders (91%) believe Democrats will **WIN** control of the House in the midterms, and most (56%) believe the GOP will **LOSE** its House majority before the new Congress is sworn in.



# Legislative Issues

# Nearly all K Street leaders believe it is UNLIKELY that Senate Republicans will eliminate the filibuster in 2026

How likely or unlikely do you believe it is that Senate Republicans will eliminate the filibuster in 2026?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
LIKELY (NET)	7%	6%	9%
I DON'T KNOW	0%	0%	0%
<b>UNLIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>91%</b>

COLUMN KEY:

TOTAL: n= 187 K Street leaders

DEM: n= 86 Democratic K Street leaders

GOP: n= 94 Republican K Street leaders



# Nearly HALF believe Congress will pass the Farm bill and kids online protection legislation

How likely or unlikely is it that Congress will pass legislation addressing each of the following in 2026? (LIKELY)

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Farm bill</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>51%</b>
<b>Kids online protection</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>52%</b>
Energy permitting	40%	34%	45%
Export controls on AI chips	29%	26%	32%
Crypto market structure	26%	26%	27%
Medicaid fraud	16%	12%	20%
ACA enhanced premium tax credits	14%	7%	21%



# Most believe it is UNLIKELY that Congress will pass stricter regulation on nonprofit groups, prediction markets, and immigration

How likely or unlikely is it that Congress will pass legislation addressing each of the following in 2026? (LIKELY)

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
AI standards	10%	5%	15%
Border security	9%	5%	13%
Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) America Act	8%	6%	11%
<b>Stricter regulations and oversight on nonprofit groups involved in political activity</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Mobile gambling and prediction markets</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Immigration policy</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2%</b>



# Most K Street leaders believe regulation of artificial intelligence should be handled primarily by CONGRESS at the federal level

Which comes closest to your view regarding regulation of artificial intelligence?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Regulation should primarily be handled at the federal level by Congress</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>79%</b>
Regulation should be shared equally between federal and state authorities	26%	36%	19%
Regulation should primarily be handled by the states	1%	2%	0%
It should not be regulated	2%	1%	2%



# The majority of K Street leaders believe regulation of prediction markets should be handled by the CFTC at the FEDERAL level

Which comes closest to your view regarding regulation of prediction markets?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Regulation should primarily be handled at the federal level by the CFTC</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>60%</b>
Regulation should be shared equally between federal and state authorities	27%	30%	26%
Regulation should primarily be handled by the states	9%	9%	9%
It should not be regulated	4%	2%	6%



# The vast majority believe the Supreme Court's decision to strike down tariffs will either have a POSITIVE or NO IMPACT impact on the economy this year

Will the Supreme Court's decision to strike down President Trump's tariffs have a positive or negative impact on the economy this year?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>POSITIVE (NET)</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>44%</b>
<b>NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>NEGATIVE (NET)</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>10%</b>





# President Trump's Second Term

# A majority of K Street leaders believe President Trump's State of the Union address was **INEFFECTIVE**

Do you believe President Donald Trump's State of the Union address was effective or ineffective in building confidence in his agenda with voters? (EFFECTIVE)



	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
EFFECTIVE (NET)	31%	5%	<b>54%</b>
DON'T KNOW	1%	1%	1%
<b>INEFFECTIVE (NET)</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>94%</b>	45%

## SOTU proposals that will most HELP Republicans: Trump accounts, ratepayer protection pledge, MFN drug pricing, reforming insurer payments, and TrumpRx.gov

During his State of the Union address, President Trump outlined several proposals. How much do you believe each proposal help or harm Republicans ahead of the November 2026 midterm elections? (HELP)

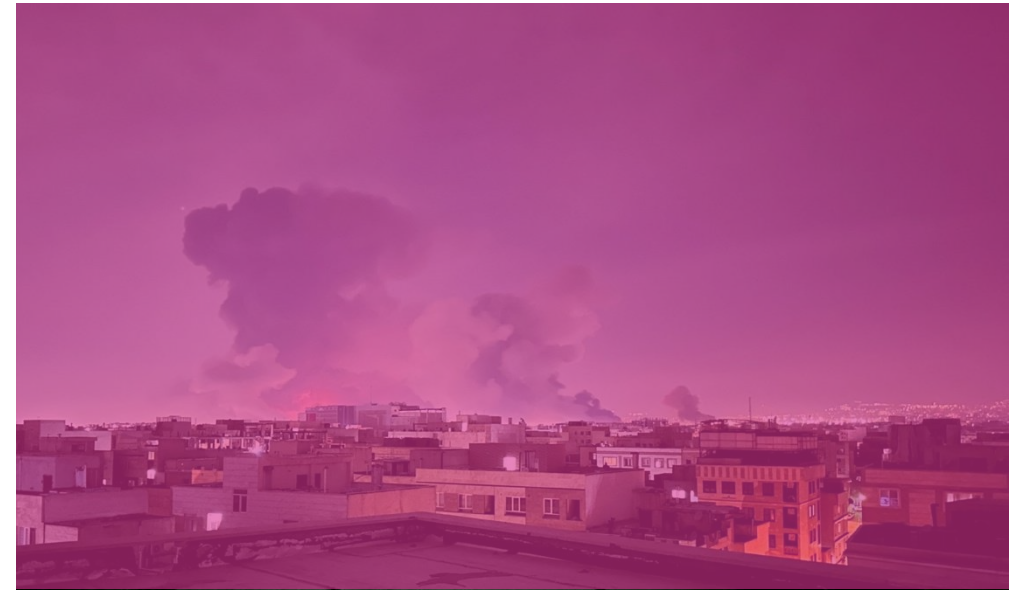
	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Trump accounts for children born between 2025 and 2028</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Ratepayer protection pledge for data center development</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>Most Favored Nation prescription drug pricing</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>62%</b>
<b>Reforming payments to health insurance companies</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>63%</b>
<b>TrumpRx prescription drug discount website</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>56%</b>
Preventing private entities from purchasing residential homes	48%	44%	<b>51%</b>
Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) America Act	37%	19%	<b>55%</b>
Fraud crackdown led by JD Vance	34%	20%	48%
Deploying the National Guard to reduce crime in cities	27%	9%	45%



# Most K Street leaders believe it is **LIKELY** that U.S. military actions in Iran will lead to prolonged or further conflict in the Middle East

How likely or unlikely is it that U.S. military actions in Iran will lead to a prolonged war in Iran or drag the U.S. into further military conflicts in the Middle East?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>LIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>49%</b>
I DON'T KNOW	3%	1%	5%
<b>UNLIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>46%</b>



# The majority believe it is **LIKELY** the Trump administration will take similar actions like those in Venezuela, toward the leaders of Cuba

How likely or unlikely do you believe it is that the Trump Administration will take similar actions like those in Venezuela toward the leaders of the following countries? (LIKELY)

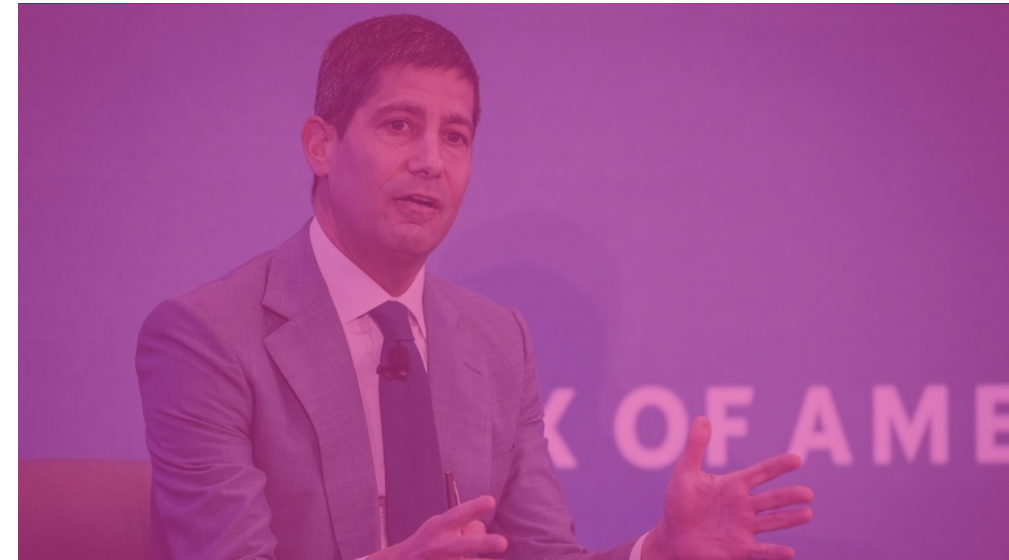


	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Cuba</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>60%</b>
Mexico	2%	2%	2%

# The vast majority believe it is **LIKELY** that Trump's nominee, Kevin Warsh, will be confirmed by the Senate

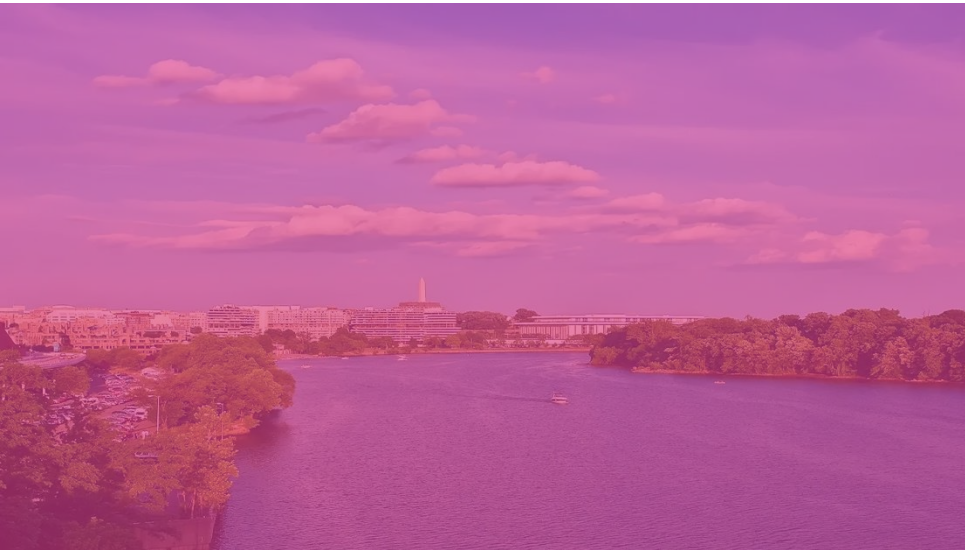
How likely or unlikely do you believe it is that President Trump's nominee for Chair of the Federal Reserve, Kevin Warsh, will be confirmed by the Senate?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>LIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>84%</b>
I DON'T KNOW	8%	13%	3%
<b>UNLIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>13%</b>



# The majority believe it is **UNLIKELY** that the federal government will take greater control over DC in response to the Potomac River sewage spill

How likely or unlikely is it that Congress or the administration will take greater control over the District of Columbia in response to the sewage spill into the Potomac River?



	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
LIKELY (NET)	27%	21%	33%
I DON'T KNOW	7%	9%	5%
<b>UNLIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>62%</b>



# Around The Hill



# Most K Street leaders believe the GOP will LOSE its House majority BEFORE the new Congress is sworn in

How likely or unlikely is it that the GOP will lose its House majority before the new Congress is sworn in January 2027?



	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>LIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>60%</b>
I DON'T KNOW	2%	1%	2%
<b>UNLIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>38%</b>

# Most believe John Thune is the MOST effective congressional leader over Mike Johnson and Hakeem Jeffries

Who do you believe is the MOST effective congressional leader?



	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>John Thune</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>62%</b>
Mike Johnson	23%	9%	36%
Hakeem Jeffries	12%	23%	1%
Chuck Schumer	2%	3%	1%

# Most K Street leaders believe California Governor Gavin Newsom is most likely to emerge as the leader of the Democratic Party

Who do you believe is MOST likely to emerge as the leader of the Democratic Party during the second Trump administration? (COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)



	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Gavin Newsom</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>74%</b>
Josh Shapiro	32%	30%	32%
Hakeem Jeffries	30%	27%	33%
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	30%	15%	44%
Mark Kelly	28%	34%	21%
JB Pritzker	18%	23%	13%
Zohran Mamdani	16%	9%	22%
Wes Moore	14%	16%	14%
Andy Beshear	13%	15%	12%
Ruben Gallego	11%	19%	3%

## Klobuchar, Booker, Warren, Buttigieg, and Harris are viewed as LEAST likely to emerge as leader of the Democratic Party

Who do you believe is MOST likely to emerge as the leader of the Democratic Party during the second Trump administration? (COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
Gretchen Whitmer	9%	9%	9%
Chris Murphy	7%	10%	5%
<b>Kamala Harris</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Pete Buttigieg</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Elizabeth Warren</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Cory Booker</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Amy Klobuchar</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>0%</b>
Other	0%	0%	0%



# K Street leaders now believe Marco Rubio has been MOST successful in increasing his prominence among Trump’s base followed by JD Vance

In your opinion, which of the following Republicans has been MOST successful in increasing their prominence among Trump’s base following 2025? (COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Marco Rubio</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>JD Vance</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>74%</b>
Pete Hegseth	29%	36%	21%
Scott Bessent	22%	9%	35%
Mike Johnson	21%	17%	26%
Donald Trump Jr.	16%	19%	13%
Kristi Noem	11%	16%	7%
Pam Bondi	11%	16%	4%
Ted Cruz	11%	10%	11%
John Thune	11%	7%	14%



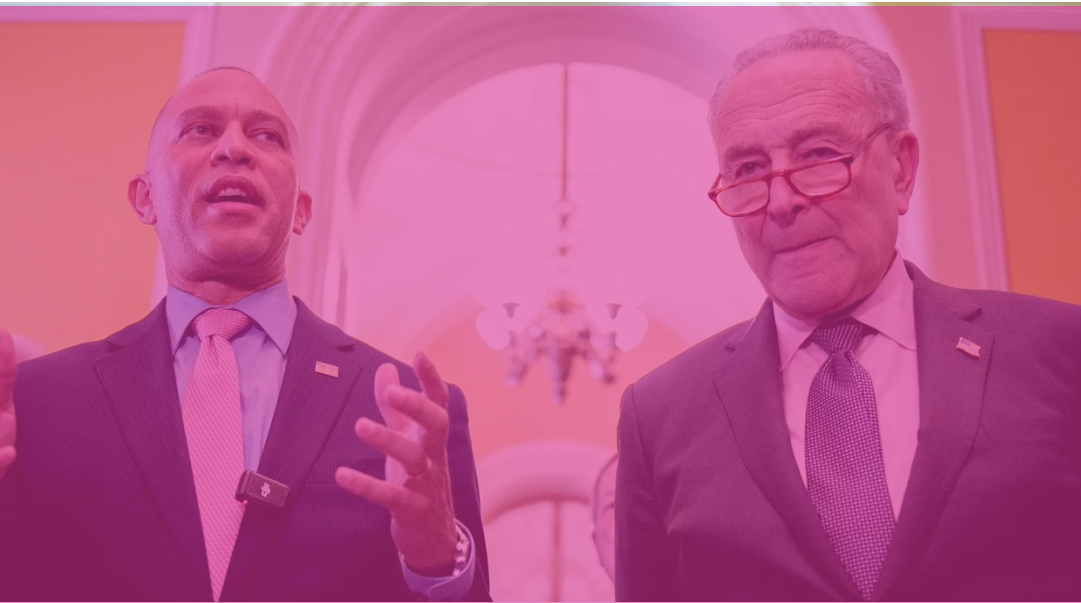


# 2026 Elections



# K Street leaders – including most GOP leaders – believe the DEMOCRATIC Party is in a stronger position ahead of the midterm elections

Which party do you believe is in a stronger position entering the campaign season ahead of the November 2026 midterm elections?

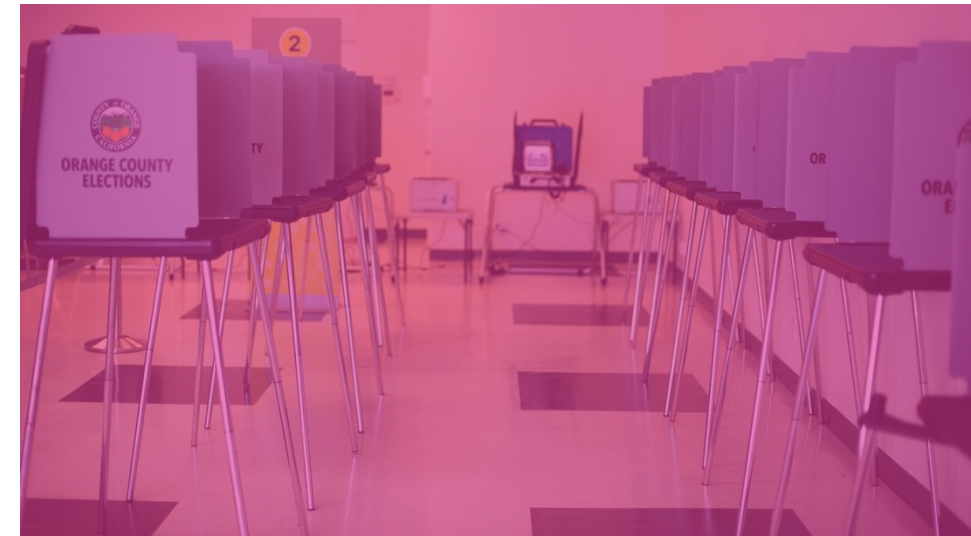


	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>The Democratic Party</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>79%</b>
The Republican Party	11%	0%	21%

# The MOST important issues to likely voters ahead of midterm elections: inflation/rising cost of living and the economy

What issues do you believe will be MOST important to Americans as they consider who to vote for in the November 2026 midterm elections?(COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Inflation and rising cost of living</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>77%</b>
<b>The economy</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>82%</b>
Health care	34%	41%	28%
Immigration	25%	24%	26%
National security/foreign policy	20%	16%	22%
Tariff and trade policies	12%	7%	17%
Crime and public safety	12%	9%	15%
Voting rights/protecting democracy	9%	14%	5%
Energy	9%	7%	11%



# LESS important issues: abortion, financial regulation, infrastructure, judges, environment, education, gun policy, and social justice

What issues do you believe will be MOST important to Americans as they consider who to vote for in the November 2026 midterm elections?(COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)

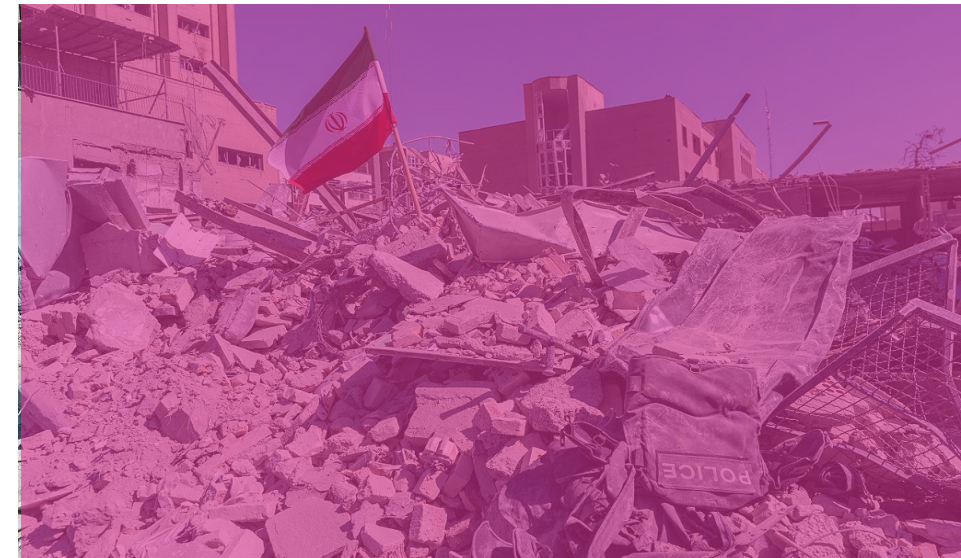


	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
Income and wealth inequality	6%	3%	7%
Taxes	4%	2%	6%
Artificial Intelligence/data centers	4%	5%	3%
<b>Social justice</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Gun policy</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>The environment</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Judges and the judiciary</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Financial regulation</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Abortion</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>

# The majority believe U.S. military action in Iran will HARM Republicans in the midterm elections.

Do you believe that U.S. military action in Iran will help or harm Republicans in the November 2026 midterm elections?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
HELP (NET)	13%	0%	26%
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	18%	10%	25%
<b>HARM (NET)</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>49%</b>



# The vast majority believe the Trump administration's approach to immigration enforcement will HARM Republicans

How much do you believe the Trump administration's approach to immigration enforcement and deployment of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will help or harm Republicans in the November 2026 midterm elections?



	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
HELP (NET)	9%	1%	17%
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	3%	1%	5%
<b>HARM (NET)</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>78%</b>

# The vast majority believe the launch of TrumpRx will have NO IMPACT on the November 2026 midterm elections

How much of an impact do you believe the launch of TrumpRx will have on the November 2026 midterm elections?



	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
IMPACT (NET)	10%	6%	14%
I DON'T KNOW	2%	1%	3%
<b>NO IMPACT (NET)</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>83%</b>

# Half of K Street leaders believe concerns about generative AI misuse will be **IMPORTANT** to voters in the November 2026 midterm elections

How important or unimportant do you believe concerns about generative AI misuse will be to voters in the November 2026 midterm elections?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>IMPORTANT (NET)</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>58%</b>	43%
I DON'T KNOW	3%	2%	4%
<b>UNIMPORTANT (NET)</b>	<b>47%</b>	40%	<b>53%</b>



# Most believe Sens. Cassidy and Cornyn are **LIKELY** to either lose re-election or retire

How likely or unlikely do you believe it is that each of the following lawmakers will either retire or lose re-election? (LIKELY)

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Bill Cassidy</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>John Cornyn</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>53%</b>
Susan Collins	45%	<b>69%</b>	23%
Chuck Schumer	31%	27%	36%
Jon Ossoff	21%	9%	34%



# The majority of K Street leaders believe Graham Platner will win the Senate Democratic primary in Maine over Janet Mills

Who do you believe will win the Senate Democratic primary in Maine?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Graham Platner</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>52%</b>
Janet Mills	45%	47%	46%
Other	1%	0%	2%



# The vast majority believe Democrats will WIN control of the House in the 2026 midterms, while the GOP will hold control of the Senate

Who do you believe will win control of the House in the 2026 midterms?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Democrats</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>84%</b>
Republicans	9%	1%	16%

Who do you believe will win control of the Senate in the 2026 midterms?

	TOTAL	DEM	GOP
<b>Republicans</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>88%</b>
Democrats	18%	24%	12%



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