THE CANVASS

The Canvass: Inauguration Special Edition

Key findings from the 2025 Inauguration Rapid Poll of Capitol Hill senior staffers and K Street leaders

Presented by Punchbowl News & LSG

Methodology

Public Opinion Survey

- N=264 senior leaders on Capitol Hill and K Street

- **The Canvass Capitol Hill**: Survey of Capitol Hill chiefs of staff, legislative directors, communications directors, press secretaries, and staff directors

- **The Canvass K Street**: Survey of senior K Street leaders from across the corporate, lobbying, trade association, non-profit, and think tank industries

- Conducted online by LSG January 6-12, 2025

Summary of Key Findings

1 Most K Street leaders believe Donald Trump will be **EFFECTIVE** in his second term as president, and most also believe the incoming Congress will be **MORE** productive than its predecessor.

2 Canvass respondents believe the top priorities for the 119th Congress will be **taxes** & **immigration**, aligning with their view that Trump's focus will be on **immigration**, **trade/tariff policies**, and **taxes**.

3 Most Canvass respondents believe Donald Trump's mass deportation plans will **HARM** the economy and that Trump will try to **OVERTURN** the TikTok ban set to go into effect on January 19.

4 Most report their clients/bosses are **CONCERNED** about Trump's plan to impose new tariffs and believe the **technology/electronics, agriculture, & automotive** industries will be impacted most.

5 The only Trump appointee that a majority of Canvass respondents believe will **NOT** be confirmed is **Tulsi Gabbard** as Director of National Intelligence.

K Street Election Review

Democratic K Street leaders blame losses on focusing on issues that didn't matter, Joe Biden, & an ineffective media strategy

Who or what do you blame most for key losses in Democratic races? (K STREET ONLY) (COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)

	DEM K STREET
The party focusing on issues that didn't matter	**84%**
Joe Biden	**69%**
An ineffective media strategy	**40%**
Donald Trump	34%
Weak Democratic voter turnout	33%
Kamala Harris	20%
Selection of Tim Walz as VP nominee	5%
Strong/effective Republican candidates	5%
Weak/extreme Democratic congressional candidates	3%
Democratic-aligned SuperPACs	2%
The DCCC and/or DSCC	1%
I don't know	1%

GOP K Street leaders believe they won because the party focused on issues that mattered, Joe Biden's presidency, and Donald Trump

Who or what do you credit most for winning key Republican races? (K STREET ONLY) (COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)

	GOP K STREET
Party focusing on issues most important to voters	**71%**
Joe Biden's presidency	**66%**
Donald Trump	**54%**
Weak/extreme Democratic candidates	45%
Strong Republican voter turnout	20%
An effective media strategy by Republicans	19%
Strong/effective Republican candidates	10%
Republican-aligned SuperPACs	5%
The NRCC and/or NRSC	2%
I don't know	1%

K Street leaders are SPLIT by party on whether President-elect Donald Trump has a strong mandate to govern

Based on his victory, do you believe that President-elect Donald Trump has a strong mandate to govern? (K STREET ONLY)

	K STREET	DEM	GOP
YES	49%	29%	**71%**
NO	48%	**70%**	25%
I DON'T KNOW	3%	1%	4%

Most K Street leaders believe Trump will be EFFECTIVE in his second term as president of the United States

How effective or ineffective do you believe Donald Trump will be in his second term as president of the United States? (K STREET ONLY)

	K STREET	DEM	GOP
EFFECTIVE (NET)	**62%**	44%	**81%**
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	7%	9%	3%
INEFFECTIVE (NET)	31%	47%	16%

Most Dem. K Street leaders see their party as DIVIDED, while the majority of GOP K Street leaders believe theirs is UNITED

How united or divided do you believe the Democratic Party is? (K STREET ONLY)

DEMOCRATIC PARTY	DEM
UNITED (NET)	40%
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	9%
DIVIDED (NET)	**51%**

How united or divided do you believe the Republican Party is? (K STREET ONLY)

REPUBLICAN PARTY	GOP
UNITED (NET)	**55%**
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	1%
DIVIDED (NET)	43%

Most K Street leaders believe the incoming Congress will be MORE productive than the last one

Do you believe the incoming Congress will be more or less productive than the last one? (K STREET ONLY)

	K STREET	DEM	GOP
MORE PRODUCTIVE (NET)	**61%**	**47%**	**73%**
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	17%	19%	15%
LESS PRODUCTIVE (NET)	22%	33%	11%

2025 Inauguration Preview

According to Canvass respondents, the top priorities for the 119th Congress to address will be TAXES and IMMIGRATION

What do you believe will be the TOP priorities for the 119th Congress to address? (COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)

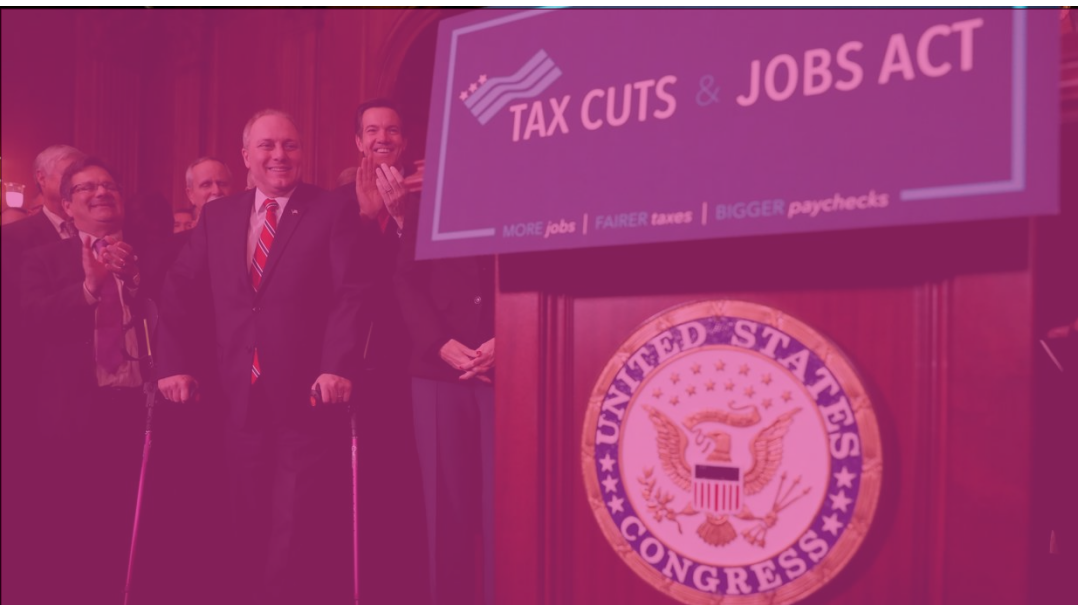|	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
Taxes	**84%**	**76%**	**87%**	**84%**	**83%**
Immigration	**82%**	**82%**	**82%**	**79%**	**84%**
Trade and tariff policies	25%	17%	28%	28%	22%
The economy	24%	28%	22%	19%	30%
Energy	23%	22%	23%	20%	25%
Downsizing government	18%	20%	17%	17%	17%
Inflation and rising cost of living	17%	23%	14%	18%	18%
National security/foreign policy	9%	8%	9%	8%	10%
Judges and the judiciary	5%	7%	4%	6%	3%

Canvass respondents believe Trump's TOP priorities will be immigration, trade and tariff policies, and taxes

What do you believe will be the TOP priorities for President-elect Trump to address in the first 100 days of his administration? (COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
Immigration	**88%**	**90%**	**88%**	**87%**	**90%**
Trade and tariff policies	**59%**	**50%**	**63%**	**65%**	**53%**
Taxes	**50%**	**47%**	**52%**	**57%**	**43%**
Energy	24%	22%	24%	22%	26%
The economy	22%	29%	19%	15%	28%
Downsizing government	22%	21%	22%	24%	20%
National security/foreign policy	16%	18%	15%	10%	23%
Inflation and rising cost of living	10%	12%	9%	10%	11%
Crime and public safety	5%	6%	4%	5%	4%

Most believe it is LIKELY Congress will enact legislation to address expiring TCJA tax cuts before the end of the year

Many of the provisions in President-elect Trump's 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will expire at the end of 2025. How likely or unlikely do you believe it is that the next Congress will enact legislation to address these expiring tax cuts before Dec. 31, 2025?

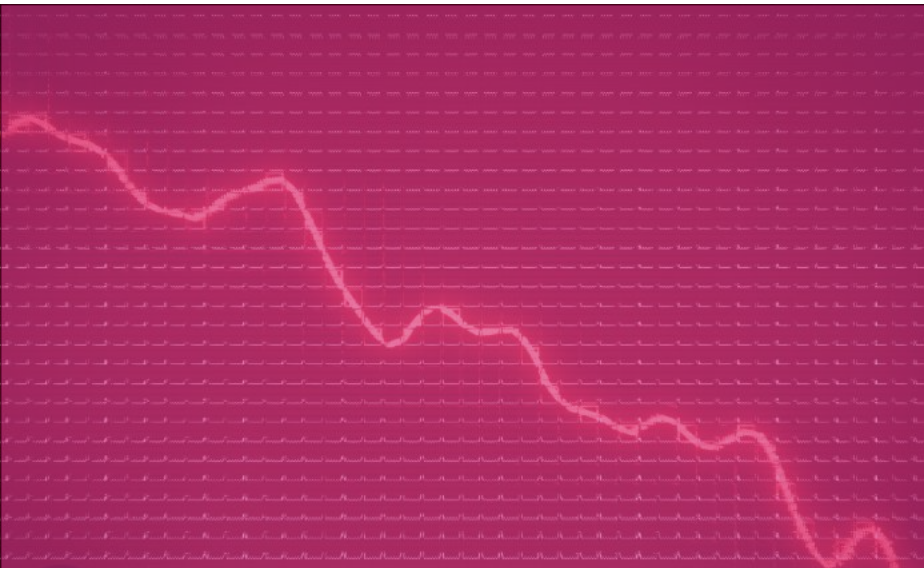|	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET
LIKELY (NET)	**93%**	**91%**	**94%**
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	2%	1%	2%
UNLIKELY (NET)	5%	8%	4%

A majority believe Congress will KEEP the current corporate tax rate of 21%

If Congress is able to enact legislation addressing expiring provisions from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which is the MOST likely outcome for the corporate income tax rate?

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET
It will keep the current corporate tax rate of 21%	**61%**	**56%**	**64%**
It will lower the corporate tax rate below 21%	27%	36%	22%
It will raise the corporate tax rate above 21%	6%	5%	7%
I don't know	6%	4%	7%

Most believe Trump's mass deportation plans will HARM the economy, including a plurality of Republicans

Do you believe Donald Trump's mass deportation plans will help or harm the economy?

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
HELP (NET)	13%	16%	12%	1%	26%
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	17%	21%	16%	3%	33%
HARM (NET)	**70%**	**64%**	**72%**	**97%**	**42%**

Most believe it is LIKELY Trump will try to overturn the TikTok ban set to go into effect on January 19

How likely or unlikely do you believe it is that Donald Trump will try to overturn the TikTok ban?

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
LIKELY (NET)	**73%**	**76%**	**71%**	**79%**	**67%**
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	14%	14%	14%	10%	16%
UNLIKELY (NET)	13%	10%	15%	12%	16%

The only Trump appointee that a majority of Canvass respondents believe will NOT be confirmed is Tulsi Gabbard

Which of the following Trump appointees do you believe will NOT be confirmed by the Senate? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
Tulsi Gabbard as Director of National Intelligence	**62%**	**55%**	**65%**	**78%**	**46%**
Pete Hegseth as Secretary of Defense	34%	31%	35%	40%	25%
Kash Patel as FBI Director	33%	28%	36%	40%	26%
RFK Jr. as Secretary of HHS	25%	20%	28%	31%	20%
Mehmet Oz as Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	5%	9%	3%	6%	5%
Lori Chavez-Deremer as Labor Secretary	5%	7%	4%	3%	7%
Kristi Noem as Secretary of Homeland Security	2%	0%	3%	2%	2%
Pam Bondi as Attorney General	1%	2%	0%	1%	2%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
They will all be confirmed	26%	26%	26%	13%	38%

Canvass respondents are SPLIT on which foreign policy challenge will be most difficult for Trump to address

Which of the following foreign policy challenges do you believe will be MOST difficult for the Trump administration to address?

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
China's influence and Taiwan	**36%**	**24%**	**41%**	**31%**	**41%**
Conflicts in the Middle East	**28%**	**30%**	**27%**	**35%**	**19%**
The war in Ukraine	**24%**	**31%**	**21%**	**22%**	**26%**
Tensions with the EU	6%	9%	5%	8%	5%
None of the above	2%	1%	3%	1%	4%
I don't know	4%	5%	4%	4%	5%

Most report their clients/bosses are CONCERNED about Trump's plan to impose new tariffs, including a plurality of Republicans

How concerned or unconcerned are the clients or industries you represent, work with, or conduct research for about the incoming Trump administration's plan to impose a host of new tariffs? (K STREET ONLY)

	K STREET	DEM	GOP
CONCERNED (NET)	**81%**	**78%**	**82%**
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	9%	9%	9%
UNCONCERNED (NET)	10%	13%	8%

How concerned or unconcerned is the member of Congress you work for about the incoming Trump administration's plan to impose a host of new tariffs? (CAPITOL HILL ONLY)

	CAP HILL	DEM	GOP
CONCERNED (NET)	**67%**	**93%**	**41%**
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	18%	2%	35%
UNCONCERNED (NET)	15%	4%	25%

Canvass respondents believe Trump's tariffs will impact the technology, agriculture, and automotive industries MOST

Which of the following industries do you expect to be impacted MOST by Trump's proposed tariffs? (COMBINED CHOICE – TOP THREE)

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
Technology/Electronics	**48%**	**47%**	**49%**	**46%**	**51%**
Agriculture	**45%**	**52%**	**42%**	**43%**	**48%**
Automotive	**42%**	**37%**	**44%**	**42%**	**39%**
Retail	34%	32%	34%	**41%**	29%
Steel and Aluminum	26%	26%	26%	16%	34%
Consumer Packaged Goods	26%	29%	24%	28%	25%
Construction	18%	22%	17%	23%	14%
Mining and Raw Materials	16%	15%	17%	17%	15%
Pharmaceuticals	14%	11%	15%	12%	17%
Energy	11%	10%	11%	15%	7%

Most Canvass respondents do NOT believe DOGE will have a positive effect on how the federal government functions

Do you believe the proposed Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) will have a positive or negative effect on how the federal government functions?

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
POSITIVE (NET)	27%	24%	28%	5%	49%
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	**36%**	**40%**	**35%**	**36%**	36%
NEGATIVE (NET)	**37%**	**36%**	**38%**	**59%**	15%

Canvass respondents are SPLIT on whether the economy will improve or worsen in 2025 – driven by party

Do you believe the economy will improve, worsen, or stay the same in 2025?

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
IMPROVE (NET)	41%	**46%**	39%	23%	**61%**
STAY THE SAME/NEITHER	21%	16%	23%	20%	20%
WORSEN (NET)	38%	38%	38%	**57%**	19%

Most Canvass respondents believe John Thune will be EFFECTIVE as Senate Majority Leader

How effective or ineffective do you believe John Thune will be as Senate Majority Leader?

	TOTAL	CAP HILL	K STREET
EFFECTIVE (NET)	**87%**	**88%**	**86%**
NEITHER/I DON'T KNOW	7%	5%	7%
INEFFECTIVE (NET)	7%	6%	7%

Most likely to emerge as leader of the Democratic Party: Hakeem Jeffries and Josh Shapiro

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	CAP HILL	K STREET	DEM	GOP
Hakeem Jeffries	**55%**	**55%**	**56%**	**58%**	**53%**
Josh Shapiro	**51%**	**58%**	**47%**	**44%**	**57%**
Gavin Newsom	40%	40%	41%	40%	41%
Wes Moore	29%	33%	27%	31%	28%
Gretchen Whitmer	29%	21%	33%	35%	22%
Pete Buttigieg	22%	21%	23%	33%	12%
Andy Beshear	15%	11%	16%	11%	20%
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	11%	12%	11%	15%	7%
Roy Cooper	8%	8%	8%	7%	9%
Other	6%	6%	6%	7%	6%

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