



What has the SBTC done lately?

While the Small Business Technology Council works on an array of important issues, the primary focus during 2016 has been the effort to reauthorize the SBIR and STTR programs before they were set to expire in 2017. We are happy to say that SBIR/STTR reauthorization language was included in the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act that passed Congress on December 8, 2016. The language calls for a simple extension of the programs for 5 years, to September 30, 2022, without any allocation increases, reports, or pilot programs included.

The next step will be to improve the program and urge Congress to increase the allocation for both SBIR/STTR. We have strong reason to believe that SBIR/STTR will be looked at again in 2017, as the 3% administrative funds provision is set to expire next year, and we will use that as an opportunity to work with Congress to find ways to improve SBIR/STTR for small businesses. [SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Passes Congress](#)

The following is a sample of actions recently taken by the Small Business Technology Council:

5/30/16 – SBTC Chair Bob Schmidt submitted an amicus brief for a case involving patent reviews currently being considered by the Supreme Court. This case involves *Inter Partes Reviews*, and could impact how effectively small businesses with patents are able to protect their intellectual property from large businesses who infringe on it. [more](#)

6/7/16 – SBTC held its annual membership meeting in Washington, DC. Our members were briefed by Senate & House Staffers on the latest updates of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization effort, and discussed proposed amendments to the Policy Directives with SBA Innovation Director John Williams. In addition, our 2nd annual “Champion of Small Business Technology Commercialization” Awards were presented to the best PEOs, COs, and PMs in the SBIR program. [more](#)

7/6/16 – SBTC submitted a comment to the SBA on its proposed amendments to the SBIR/STTR policy directives, offering a number of technical changes, but in particular asking SBA to revise its changes to data rights protections to make sure SBIR data rights are not weakened. [more](#)

9/7/16 – At SBTC’s urging, a summary of a future economic impact study of the Navy’s SBIR/STTR programs is released, showing enormous economic benefits of these programs, including \$14 billion in total sales of new products, and nearly 15,000 new full-time jobs created per year. [more](#)

9/29/16 – SBTC submitted a comment to the Department of Defense regarding their proposed amendments to the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations Supplement (DFARS), related to rights in technical data. [more](#)

10/16-11/16 – SBTC’s sole focus is on adding SBIR reauthorization to the 2017 NDAA as the clock starts ticking towards the end of the 114th Congress. Took part in multiple meetings and conference calls with House/Senate Small Business Committees, House/Senate Armed Services Committees, House Science Committee, Senate Commerce Committee, and many other individual Member offices on the Hill

12/2/16 – Met With DOE SBIR and ARPA-E Leadership to discuss cost-sharing and Phase III, and try to find ways to implement policies for these issues that would not hurt small businesses, and bring DOE small business policy in line with Congressional intent.

12/8/16 - SBIR/STTR Reauthorization passes Congress, ensuring these important small business innovation programs will continue for at least another 5 years. [more](#)