



What has the SBTC done lately?

While the Small Business Technology Council works on an array of important issues, the primary legislative focus for 2017 is to get an SBIR/STTR improvement bill passed through Congress. As of September 2017, the House Small Business and Science Committees have held hearings and markups on their SBIR/STTR improvement bill, and the Senate Small Business Committee is working on including its language in the 2018 NDAA.

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

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

1/19/17 – Published comprehensive white paper on the role SBIR/STTR plays in the American economy, and proposing a series of recommendations for improving and strengthening these programs. [more](#)

3/17 – Met with the House and Senate Small Business Committees to lay the groundwork for a potential SBIR/STTR Improvement bill, designed to strengthen reporting requirements, increase use of and support for Phase III, and reauthorize certain provisions that weren't included in last year's reauthorization.

5/4/17 – SBTC Board Member Ron Schroder testified before a joint House Small Business & Science Subcommittee hearing on improving the SBIR/STTR programs. [more](#)

5/18/17 – At SBTC's urging, Sen. Shaheen of the Senate Small Business Committee and Sen. Cantwell of the Senate Committee on Energy sent a letter to the Secretary of Energy and Administrator of the SBA, forcefully requesting that the Department of Energy resume its SBIR/STTR award notifications, after the DOE announced an indefinite delay for two solicitations. One month later, the DOE agreed to resume SBIR/STTR awards, totaling over \$200 million. [more](#)

6/12/17 – Partnered with the American Conference Institute for its "Advanced Forum on DCAA/DCMA Cost, Pricing, Compliance & Audits." SBTC has played a critical role in DCAA/DCMA reform for the last 3 years, specifically in its efforts to reduce onerous and overly burdensome cost-incurred audits on small businesses. [more](#)

6/20/17 – Held annual membership meeting in the Senate Small Business Committee Hearing Room. Speakers included SBIR Program Managers from NASA, DOE, DOD, Navy and SBA. Staffers from the House and Senate Small Business Committees gave an update on legislative developments. [more](#)

7/18/17 – Endorsed and supported S. 1390, the STRONGER Patents Act of 2017, which will strengthen our nation's patent system, while making it easier and less costly for small businesses to defend and protect their intellectual property in court. [more](#)

8/17/17 – After the DOD released its Congressionally-mandated plan for restructuring its office of AT&L, SBTC met with the DOD, and the House and Senate Armed Services Committees to discuss our disappointment with the lack of clarity of small businesses' role in the restructuring plan, as well as concerns with the SBIR/STTR programs being separated from the Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP). [more](#)

Ongoing – SBTC will continue to work with House and Senate Small Business Committees to craft language for SBIR/STTR improvement bills, which should be passed by the end of the year. We hope to get language included that would make the SBIR Phase III process much easier and streamlined. We will also continue to work with DOD and the Congressional Armed Services Committees to make sure that small business isn't left behind in the AT&L restructuring effort.