



What has the SBTC done lately?

The Small Business Technology Council advocates on a wide array of important policy issues related to high-tech, R&D focused small businesses. SBTC's principle focus in 2025 is the reauthorization of the SBIR/STTR programs, which were reauthorized previously in 2022, but for only 3 years. SBTC believes strongly that these vital small business innovation programs should be reauthorized permanently. We have also successfully worked with Congress to restore the Sec. 174 R&D Tax Deduction, which was passed in July 2025 as part of the big tax bill.

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

1/17/25 – SBTC sent a letter to Congress urging action to restore the Sec. 174 R&D Tax Deduction. Without this deduction, high-tech small businesses like those that participate in the SBIR program will face a huge tax burden that will disincentivize innovation. We have followed up on this letter with meetings with the House Ways & Means Committee and Senate Finance Committee. [more](#)

2/26/25 – SBTC Executive Director Jere Glover testified before the House Committee on Small Business to discuss the reauthorization of the SBIR/STTR programs, and offer recommendations for how to improve and strengthen these programs. [more](#)

4/25/25 – SBTC sends letter endorsing S. 1573, the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2025. This bill, introduced by Senator Ed Markey and Representative Nydia Velazquez, would double down on the successes of the SBIR/STTR program by increasing the allocation, enhance accessibility to SBIR/STTR to companies in underserved areas by strengthening the FAST program, and would make SBIR/STTR permanent, eliminating the possibility that the programs would expire. [more](#)

6/9/25 – SBTC sent a letter to Secretary of Energy Wright objecting to a new policy memo limiting indirect rates on grants to for-profit entities to 15%. This limit will make it impossible for many small businesses to accept DOE grants, as doing so would result in 30%-35% losses. We have requested meetings with the Secretary, and will continue to follow up on this in the future. [more](#)

7/3/25 – Congress passes a permanent and retroactive fix to Sec. 174 tax deduction as part of the HR 1 big tax bill. This fix provides much needed relief to high-tech small businesses, who can once again immediately deduct all R&D expenses, rather than having to amortize them over 5 years. [more](#)

9/9-9/10/25 – SBTC partnered with SMI and NEIA to host a Washington Fly-In called Defend SBIR. The event brought small businesses from across the country to Washington DC to meet with their members of Congress and staff to discuss how important SBIR/STTR are to America's innovative small businesses. The second day featured a forum with speakers from academia, policy experts, and a panel of small business owners to discuss SBIR/STTR policy, with Senator Markey serving as a keynote speaker. [more](#)

9/17/25 – SBTC joined with hundreds of small businesses and organizations in urging Congress to pass HR 5100, a simple 1-year extension of the SBIR/STTR programs. This bill, introduced by House Small Business Committee Chair Roger Williams, has broad bipartisan support, and passed the House without objections. While Senator Markey supports the bill, Senator Ernst does not, insisting instead on her own INNOVATE Act, and has blocked HR 5100 from passing the Senate [more](#)

ONGOING – The Small Business Technology Council's biggest priority in 2025 is the reauthorization of the SBIR/STTR programs, the most effective and important innovation programs in government. SBTC is advocating for permanency, as well as an increase in the total set-aside, and improvement in streamlining and simplifying the program. [more](#)