



2014 FAMA/FEMSA Fall Conference

**OVERCOMING GRIDLOCK To
ADVANCE OUR AGENDA...
*TOGETHER***

GRIDLOCK IN CONGRESS



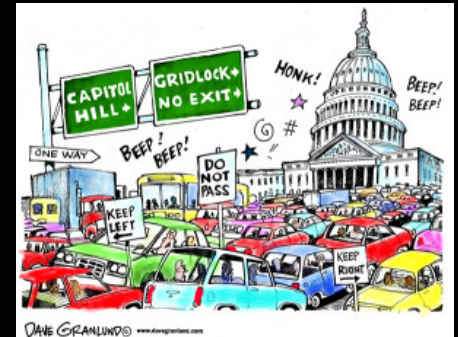
- Challenging climate on Capitol Hill making it more difficult for legislative action
- Must adapt in order to push forward our agenda.
- Maintain solid working relations with both sides of the political aisle

"Gridlock in Congress expected to worsen with midterm elections looming" *Dailey News* 1.5.14

"Could the Founding Fathers solve today's political gridlock?"

Los Angeles Times 2.21.14

"Gridlock in Congress? It's probably even worse than you think" *Washington Post* 5.29.14

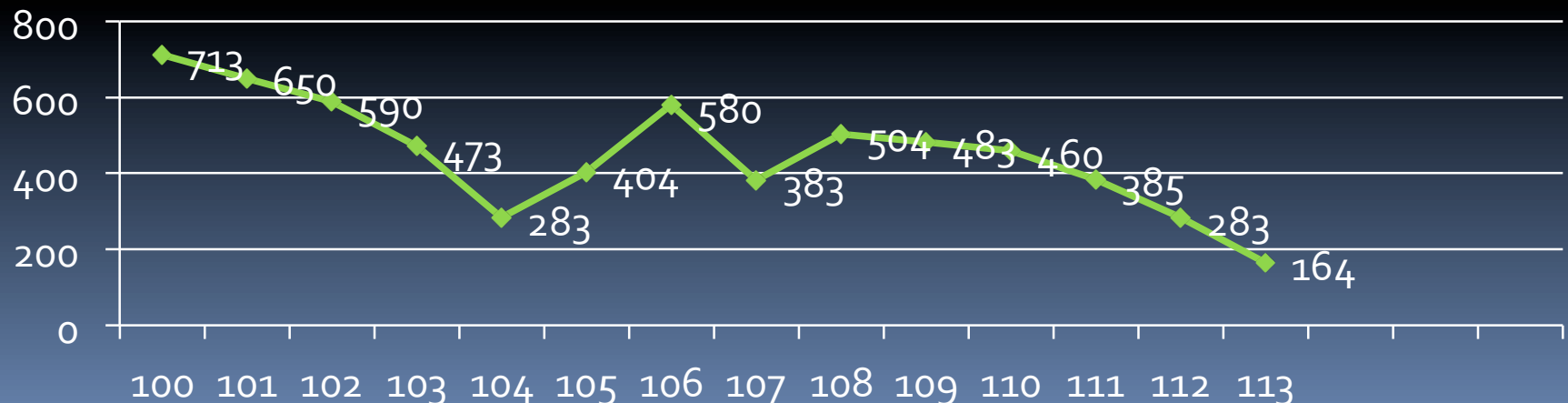


GRIDLOCK IN CONGRESS



- The 80th Congress – Truman's "Do-Nothing Congress" – enacted over 900 measures into federal law
- Times have changed...

Legislation enacted into law: 100th -- 113th Sessions



GRIDLOCK IN CONGRESS



- Congress failed to approve any of the FY 2015 appropriations legislation
- Since 1977, Congress and the White House completed work on appropriations legislation three times – 1989, 1995, and 1997
- Congress resorted to a continuing resolution – again – to avert another government shutdown. CR funds the government through December 11, 2014.

GRIDLOCK IN CONGRESS



- Programs funded under a CR
 - Temporary funding for the time period of the CR based on FY14 spending levels
 - Normally not permitted to start new projects or activities
 - Agencies directed to execute programs using the most limited funding actions in order to provide for continuing projects and activities

CONTROLLING CONGRESS

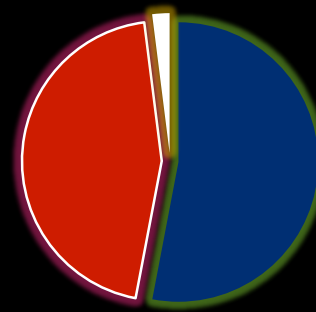


Leadership in the 113th Congress

■ Senate

- Democrats – 53
- Republicans – 45
- Independents – 2

Senate

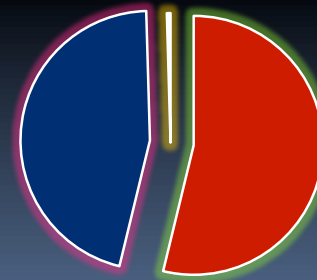


- Democrats
- Republicans
- Independents

■ House of Representatives

- Republicans – 234
- Democrats – 199
- Vacancies – 2

House



- Republicans
- Democrats
- Vacancies

CONTROLLING CONGRESS

114th CONGRESS



- Senate races
 - ▣ 33 races
 - ▣ 8 open seats
 - ▣ GOP needs six seats to claim leadership. Pundits already predicting three GOP pick-ups

- House races
 - ▣ All 435 seats
 - ▣ 28 open GOP seats
 - ▣ 19 open DEM seats

- What should we be thinking about as we look ahead?
 - ▣ Possible changes in committee leadership
 - ▣ Next class of freshmen members unfamiliar with our issues
 - ▣ Outreach on the Hill

UNFINISHED AGENDA



- FY 2015 Homeland Security Appropriations
 - AFG/SAFER
 - House Appropriations Committee approved \$680 million, split evenly between the two programs
 - Senate Appropriations Committee approved the same funding levels. Senate measure also included language to support the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend.
 - Both House and Senate measures would provide \$44 million for the United States Fire Administration.
 - Congress will most likely approve an omnibus spending measure during the lame duck session in December that will include final spending figures for these programs in FY2015

UNFINISHED AGENDA



- Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act
 - Provides tax incentives for the installation of fire sprinklers in business properties
 - Senate measure (S.1163) introduced by Carper and co-sponsored by Collins.
 - House never considered a measure.
 - First introduced following the Station Club fire in 2004. Introduced every session since.
 - Strategy – attach to tax reform legislation which never materialized.

UNFINISHED AGENDA



- Safe Building Codes Incentive Act
 - H.R. 1878 introduced by Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25).
 - S. 924 introduced by Senator Robert Menendez (NJ).
 - Creates a financial incentive for states to adopt and enforce state-wide building codes.
 - Eligible states would receive an additional 4% of funding available for post-disaster grants from FEMA.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF FIRE SERVICE COALITION DURING THE 113TH CONGRESS



- Secured a \$10 million increase in funding for FIRE/SAFER grants in the FY14 appropriations bill
- Preserved current-level funding for FIRE/SAFER in House and Senate FY15 DHS spending bills despite proposed cuts by the White House
- Removed language from the Farm bill that could have overturned fire-safe cigarette laws in all 50 states
- Resolved potential problem with the employer mandate provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that could have had a significant impact on the volunteer fire service
- Success – attributed to cooperative spirit of fire organizations, Fire Caucus leaders and other members from both sides of the political aisle

CFSI'S FUNDING SOURCES



Robert J. Barraclough Internship Program	1.7
Associates Club Program	0.9
CFSI Barbecue	0.9
Symposium/Dinner	92.0
Merchandise	0.5
Silent Auction	1.8
Donation	0.0
Special Programs	0.9
Hockey Game	1.5
<u>Federal support (FIRE Act grants)</u>	<u>0.0</u>

TOTAL

100%

WHY INDUSTRY SHOULD SUPPORT CFSI



- CFSI is the lead organization that keeps the fire service coalition – including industry – working together on the paramount issues.
- CFSI – through the collective efforts of staff and NAC members – is responsible for the establishment and continued support of the AFG/ SAFER programs.
- CFSI is the lead organization in communicating and exchanging information with the leadership of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus.
- CFSI's work benefits the health and safety of all firefighters and emergency services personnel by addressing the three crucial areas of education, mitigation and response.

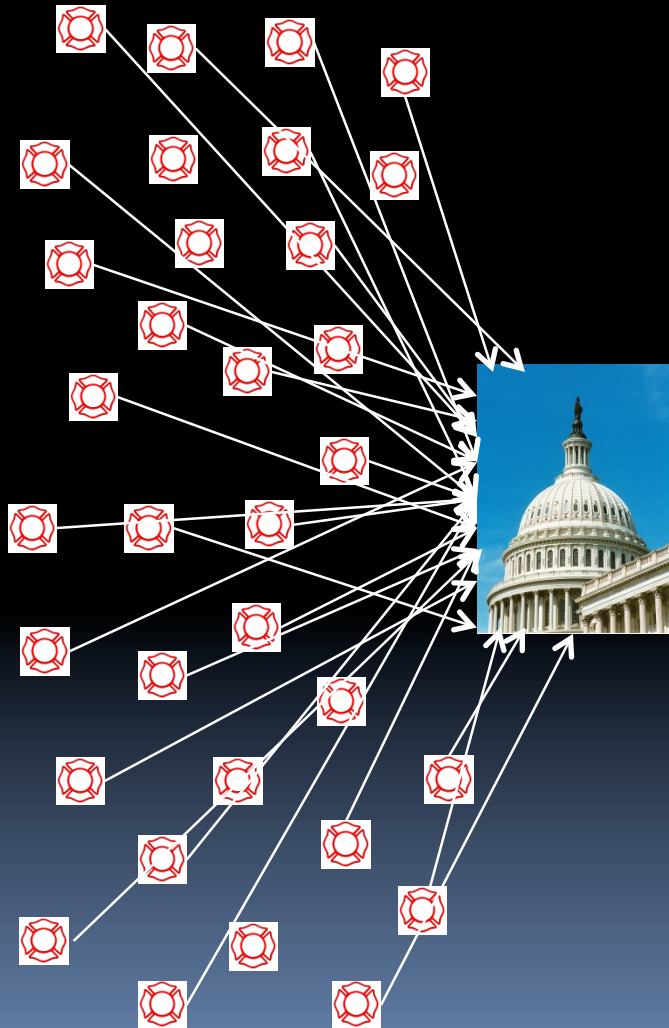


WHY INDUSTRY SHOULD SUPPORT CFSI

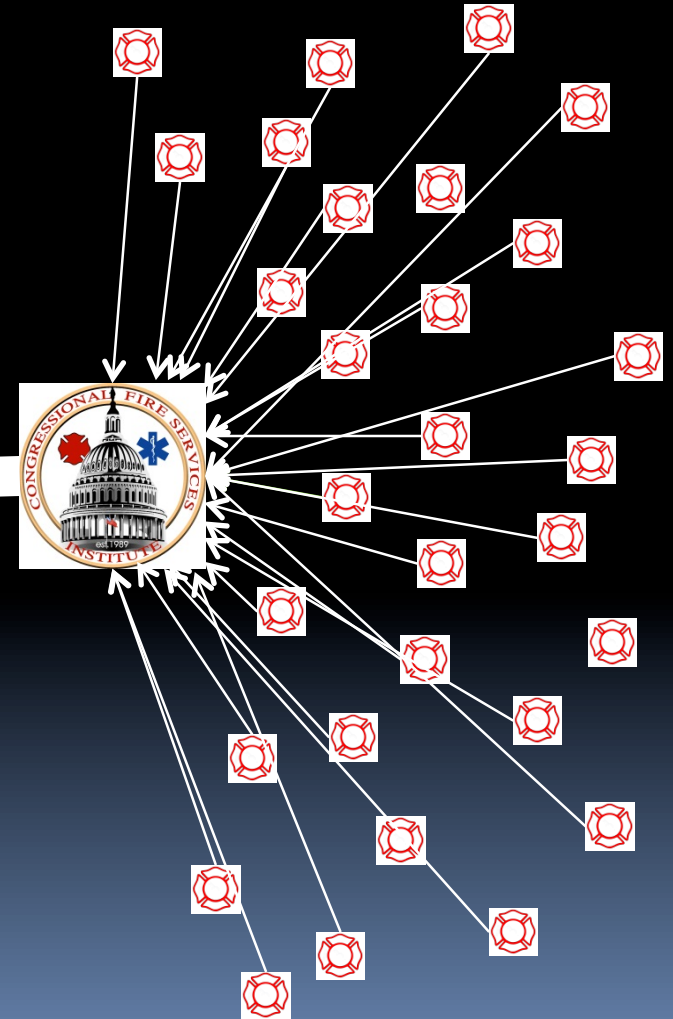
- To ensure CFSI's continuation of their mission to educate members of Congress about the needs and challenges of our nation's fire and emergency services. A mission that advocates for...
 - ▣ Continued support for the United States Fire Administration and National Fire Academy
 - ▣ Support for the Public Safety Officers Benefit Program
 - ▣ Support for legislation that advocates the installation of fire sprinklers in buildings
 - ▣ Support for legislation that encourages the adoption of state-wide building codes to reduce the destructive force of natural disasters
 - ▣ Support for the AFG and SAFER Programs that could be eliminated by 2017 unless Congress removes a sunset provision contained in the existing law

ADVOCATING FOR THE FIRE SERVICE

WITHOUT CFSI



WITH CFSI



2015 NATIONAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES SYMPOSIUM/ 27TH ANNUAL DINNER



April 15-16, 2015

"Sense of pride in being part of the fire service" – FEMSA member

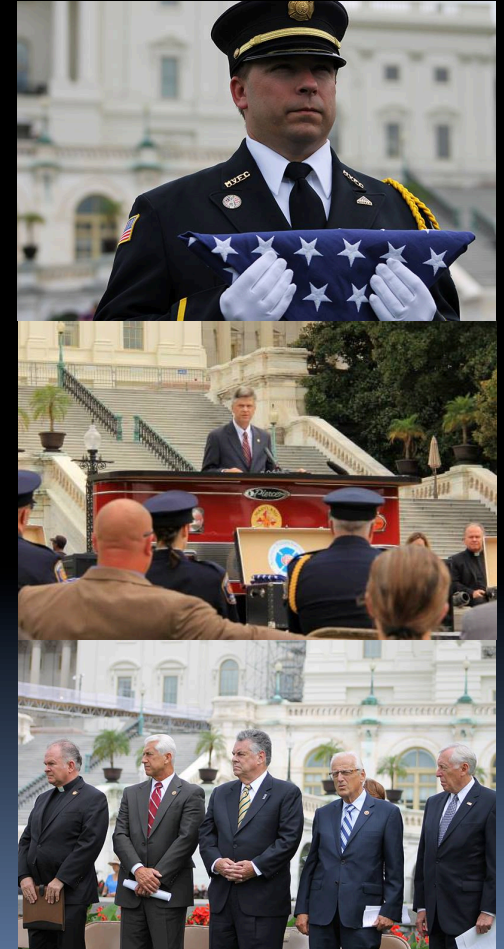
NATIONAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES SYMPOSIUM/

27TH ANNUAL NATIONAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DINNER

- Annual fundraiser for CFSI
 - As a privately-funded program, CFSI does not receive any government support
- The title change to a Symposium reflects the all-encompassing purpose of the program...***and the value in attending***
 - Education
 - Seminars programs featuring national fire and EMS leaders covering current safety issues
 - Engagement
 - Meeting with members of Congress and their professional staff, as well as federal agency officials
 - Relations
 - Build relationships with a diverse assembly of leaders representing a broad range of interests in the fire and emergency services

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERES MEMORIAL CEREMONY

- **October 12, 2014 in Emmitsburg, MD**
- **Honoring 107 fallen firefighters – 98 from 2013 and 9 from previous years**
- **US Capitol Flag Ceremony**
 - **September 10th event. Fire Caucus leaders presented 107 US flags to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.**
 - **Event organized by CFSI, NFFF and Fire Caucus leaders**



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PLEASE CONTACT US TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN
SUPPORT OUR MISSION.