

# What to Expect from the New Administration and Congress

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LEGISLATIVE, REGULATORY, AND POLITICAL UPDATE

*CRAIG BRIGHTUP*

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Craig Brightup is CEO of The Brightup Group LLC, a government relations firm founded in 2009. Previously, he was NRCA's VP of Government Relations opening its Capitol Hill office in 1990, and before that headed congressional affairs for the Federal Trade Commission by appointment of President Ronald Reagan. In 2000, he was named to Fortune Small Business magazine's POWER 30 list of "influential insiders" in our Nation's Capital. From 2020-2021, he served as President of the Washington Industrial Roundtable, and in 2023 he was named Executive Director of the business-supported Jobs and Careers Coalition.

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# SPFA Antitrust Policy

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*"Our policy is to comply with all federal, state and local laws, including the antitrust laws. It is expected that all company member representatives involved in SPFA activities and SPFA staff will be sensitive to the unique legal issues involving trade associations and, accordingly, will take all measures necessary to comply with U.S. antitrust laws and similar foreign competition laws."*

*It is a per se violation of the federal antitrust laws for competitors to agree on prices, limitation of supplies, allocation of customers or territory, or boycotts. "Per se" means that no legal defense can be used to mitigate this automatic violation.*

*Even an agreement by competitors that is for the good of society and our industry may be a violation of the antitrust laws if it could affect competition.*

*If a topic of antitrust concern is raised at any time during a meeting, note your objection for the record. If the topic continues to be discussed, you should leave the room immediately and contact SPFA's general counsel and your company's attorney for further guidance.*

*Ensure that every SPFA meeting, where members are present, has an agenda, the agenda is followed, and minutes are kept by SPFA staff of the proceedings.*

*Understanding and acting on the requirements of U.S. and foreign antitrust and competition laws sometimes can be difficult. If you have a question about the propriety of activities or discussions in SPFA, you are encouraged immediately to contact your company's legal counsel and SPFA management.*

# Spanish Translation Disclaimer

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*This presentation will include subtitles generated automatically based on the speaker's voice using automated translation software.*

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# White House & 119<sup>th</sup> Congress

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## White House

- Republican

## U.S. House of Representatives

- 220 Republicans – 215 Democrats

## U.S. Senate

- 53 Republicans – 47 Democrats

# Executive Orders & Actions

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## President Trump can issue Executive Orders

- Rescind EOs from prior administration
- Use EOs to implement new policy mandates

## Trump/OMB can order a “regulatory freeze”

- Moratorium on regs not yet published in Federal Register
- Stop defending regulations in court

## Trump/Congress can repeal regs via Congressional Review Act

- An estimated 56 major rules are subject to CRA in the new Congress

## Trump can impose certain tariffs

- Sec. 301 tariffs on Chinese products

# Reconciliation

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## Reconciliation was created in the Budget Act of 1974

- Helps Congress make spending/revenue changes to meet budget
- Privileges status avoids Senate filibuster needing 60 votes to pass

## Process begins with Congress passing budget resolution

- Concurrent budget has reconciliation instructions to committees
- Direct committees to change laws to meet spending/revenue levels

## Byrd rule limits what can be in reconciliation bill

- Prohibits inclusion of “extraneous” measures with no budgetary effect

# One Big Beautiful Bill

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## Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017

- 199A deduction for pass-throughs
- 168(k) bonus depreciation
- Individual tax rates

Energy

Defense

Border Security/Immigration



# Immigration & Workforce Policies

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## Immigration Policy

- Borders closed and wall restarted
- Deportations starting with those with criminal records
- More ICE worksite raids and I-9 Audits
- “Shock & Awe” in Blue states/cities to get Democrats to the table (DACA, etc.)

## Workforce Development Policy

- Abolish Dept. of Education
- Scrutiny of colleges and their endowments
- More emphasis on skills-based education

# Regulatory Reform

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Dept. of Government Efficiency (DOGE)

Agency Budget Cuts

Russell Vought at OMB

Lori Chevez-DeRemer at DOL

# Questions?

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See you on the trade show floor!