



MEMORANDUM

To: City of Dillingham
From: The Reserve Component (TRC)
Date: January 1, 2026
Subject: Federal Government Relations Monthly Report – December 2025

Washington, D.C. Overview – December 2025

This month, Congress has been navigating three major deadlines: the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and the expiration of Obamacare subsidies on December 31st, and the federal appropriations deadline on January 30th. In early December, the House and Senate Armed Services Committees [released](#) the final text of the NDAA. The legislation authorizes \$900.6 billion for defense spending and includes a 3.8% pay raise for military service members. On December 10, the House [voted](#) to advance the legislation, 312-112. On December 17th, the Senate [passed](#) the legislation in a 77-20 vote, and on December 18th, President Donald J. Trump signed the NDAA into law.

On December 11th, the Senate rejected two dueling health care plans. The Democratic proposal to extend the enhanced tax credits for three years fell [short](#) of the 60-vote threshold to proceed with consideration of the package, 51-48. Four Republicans voted in favor of the Democratic plan: Sens. Susan Collins (R-ME), Josh Hawley (R-MO), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), and Dan Sullivan (R-AK). The Republican [proposal](#), which would have expanded health savings accounts as an alternative to the expiring subsidies, also failed to advance, 51-48. The vote was mainly along party lines, but Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) opposed the GOP package. On December 16th, the House [approved](#) a GOP health care package that would not address expiring tax credits, in a 216-211 vote. The Senate did not take up the legislation before leaving for the holiday recess, allowing the subsidies to expire.

Government funding is set to expire on January 30th unless Congress approves the remaining nine appropriations bills by that date. If they fail to do so, the government will face a partial shutdown. Alongside the continuing resolution Congress passed last month, three full-year funding packages were approved: Military Construction-Veterans Affairs, Agriculture, and the Legislative Branch. The three full-year appropriations bills fund the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and military construction projects, as well as congressional operations through September 30th, 2026. Funding for all other agencies is set to expire on January 30th, 2026.

A summary of some of the delegations' announcements from December is below:

- On December 2nd, Sen. Murkowski [announced](#) that \$3.7 billion of the \$4.025 billion in federal funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program was disbursed to states across the country, including Alaska.
- On December 4th, Sen. Sullivan [applauded](#) the Senate's passage of [H.J.Res.131](#), which overturns a Record of Decision for the Coastal Plain oil and gas program, which restricted leasing on over 74% of the coastal plain. President Trump signed the legislation into law on December 11th.
- Additionally, on December 4th, Sen. Sullivan [applauded](#) the passage of [S.3022](#), the Save Our Seas 2.0 Marine Debris Infrastructure Programs Reauthorization Act, which would reauthorize the Environmental Protection Agency's marine debris grant programs.
- On December 9th, the House [passed H.R.5131](#), the Public Lands Military Readiness Act of 2025, legislation led by Rep. Begich, to extend military land withdrawals in Alaska, New Mexico, and California for 25 years.
- On December 10th, Sen. Murkowski announced that the Corporation for Public Broadcasting awarded \$3 million in new grants to the Koahnic Broadcast Corporation.
- Additionally, on December 10th, Rep. [Begich](#) and Sens. [Murkowski](#) and [Sullivan](#) applauded the passage of [S.356](#), the Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2025, which reauthorizes the U.S. Forest Service's Secure Rural Schools and Self-Determination Program through 2026. The legislation was signed into law by President Trump on December 18th.
- On December 16th, the Senate passed [H.R.410](#), legislation to extend the Alaska Native Vietnam Veteran Land Allotment Program for an additional five years.
- On December 16th, Sen. Murkowski [introduced](#) legislation to reinstate the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program.
- On December 16th, Rep. Begich [announced](#) that the House passed three of his bills: H.R. 2815, the Cape Fox Land Entitlement Finalization Act of 2025; H.R. 3176, reauthorizing the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System; and H.R. 3620, the Southcentral Foundation Land Transfer Act of 2025.
- On December 17th, Sen. Murkowski [highlighted](#) Alaska's wins in the National Defense Authorization Act, including the authorization of military construction projects at Eielson Air Force Base, Fort Wainwright, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Joint Integrated Test and Training Center, and Eareckson Air Station. Sen. Sullivan issued a similar release on December 18th, which you can view [here](#).
- On December 26th, President Trump signed [H.R.410](#), legislation to extend the Alaska Native Vietnam Veteran Land Allotment Program for an additional five years.