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TechServe Alliance Lobbies for changes to the Computer Professional Exemption

TechServe Alliance Government Affairs staff met last week with majority and minority Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension (HELP) Committee staff as part of the FLSA coalition. The purpose of these meetings was to present a proposal for targeted changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and look for avenues to see some or all of these changes passed into law. The coalition is being led by IBM government affairs staff.

Top on the list of proposed changes is to modernize the 20-year old, overly narrow Computer Professional Exemption. The proposed draft amendments to the FLSA include an expanded list of occupations and duties that would add clarity and modernization to current law. Other changes that are being sought include, allowing inside sales personal to be exempt from overtime, clarifying compensable activities and the start of the workday, and creating a safe harbor for employers from liquidated damages when not notified of unauthorized overtime.

"This is a long-term effort, but one that is important to our industry," stated Mark Roberts CEO TechServe Alliance. "As an association we have been working on the issue of modernizing the Computer Professional Exemption for many years. We are pleased to join the FLSA coalition in this renewed and expanded effort and will continue to do whatever we can to bring about positive changes in our labor laws for the companies we represent."

Lobbying efforts will continue in the 112th Congress. For more information on this issue or to be added to all our Government Affairs emails, contact Jennifer Douris at douris@techservealliance.org.

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TechServe Alliance is a collaboration of IT services firms, clients, consultants and suppliers dedicated to advancing excellence and ethics within the IT services industry. Hundreds of IT staffing, IT solutions and IT consulting firms and tens of thousands of affiliated professionals, count on TechServe Alliance to keep their leadership informed, engaged and connected. TechServe Alliance serves as the voice of the industry before the policymakers and the national and trade press. By providing access to the knowledge and best practices of an entire industry and tapping the "collective scale" of hundreds of companies, TechServe Alliance supports its members in the efficient delivery of best-in-class IT services for clients and exceptional professional opportunities for every IT consultant.

