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September 3, 2025

### DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Peter Cogswell  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Authorization to renew contract for government relations services

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Seek authorization to contract with Bluestone Strategies to continue government relations consulting services for the period October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026 in an amount not to exceed \$125,000

### BACKGROUND

The Council has contracted with Chris Huckleberry of Bluestone Strategies since July 2023.

Mr. Huckleberry has provided invaluable services for the Council. In the last year he helped the Council staff organize and deliver on a successful Congressional staff tour in August, ably led the ongoing communications and strategy effort with the Congressional members and staff in the continuing effort to secure a solution to the Council's budget dilemma, continued to serve the Council well in general as the lead on ongoing contacts with Congressional members and staff, and always provides a useful government affairs perspective for the Council members and staff. Going forward, Mr. Huckleberry will continue to engage on behalf of the Council with the Congressional delegation and other policy makers.

We are asking the Council to authorize the staff to renew this contract for government relations consulting services for the period October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000 total. This is the same total contract price as last year.