

## **Congress Passes Bill to Avert Government Shutdown**

At the end of December, Congress passed a short-term continuing resolution to fund the federal government at existing levels through March 14, 2025. The bill also included funding for disaster relief and agricultural aid to farmers. The new Congress in 2025 will now be tasked with passing a long-term government funding bill by the March 14 deadline. NDA will be working with Congress and the new presidential administration to secure NDA's legislative priorities in any long-term government funding bill.

## **IRS Increases Standard Mileage Rate for Businesses in 2025**

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced that the optional [standard mileage rate](#) for automobiles driven for business will increase by 3 cents in 2025, while the mileage rates for vehicles used for other purposes will remain unchanged from 2024. The rates apply to fully-electric and hybrid automobiles, as well as gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles.

Optional standard mileage rates are used to calculate the deductible costs of operating vehicles for business, charitable and medical purposes, as well as for active-duty members of the Armed Forces who are moving. Beginning Jan. 1, 2025, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car, van, pickup or panel truck will be:

- 70 cents per mile driven for business use, up 3 cents from 2024.
- 21 cents per mile driven for medical purposes, the same as in 2024.
- 21 cents per mile driven for moving purposes for qualified active-duty members of the Armed Forces, unchanged from last year.
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations, equal to the rate in 2024.

## **DOT Announces \$332 Million in Infrastructure Grants to Modernize Airports**

This week, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) announced more than \$332 million for 171 grants across 32 states to modernize airports through the Airport Infrastructure Grants (AIG) program in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The AIG funds can be used for airport planning, development, sustainability, terminal expansions, baggage system upgrades, runway safety enhancements, and noise compatibility projects. [More information about the projects can be found here.](#)

## **Tentative Agreement Reached to Avert Dockworker Strike**

On Wednesday, the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) and United States Maritime Alliance (USMX) reached a tentative agreement on a new six-year contract to avert a dockworker strike on East Coast and Gulf Coast ports that would have disrupted supply chains and the movement of goods in the U.S.