"Usually, December is a very slow month on all fronts, but this year it has been incredibly busy," said Steve Elmendorf, a lobbyist and one-time senior adviser to former House Democratic leader Richard Gephardt (Mo.).

"Anytime government gets more active and more involved in your business, you'll look for more help in Washington," he said. "When Democrats control both chambers of Congress and the White House, there's no question that government will be more active."

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