

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

MEMBER/OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM ☒ Original ☐ Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for travel taken in connection with a Member or officer's official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual *Financial Disclosure Statement*. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Amerish Bera
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: Sydra Bera **OR** ☐ None
b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☒ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: June 23, 2023 Return: June 30, 2023
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** ☐ None
4. Departure City: Washington, D.C. Destination: Tel Aviv, Israel Return City: Sacramento, CA
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Israel Education Foundation Inc. (AIEF)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):
Rep. Ami Bera met with leaders from both the public and private sector, and visited sites vital to the history of Israel, to better understand the politics of Israel, which is pertinent to his role as a Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
 - a. ☒ a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
 - b. ☒ the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
 - c. ☒ page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the Member or officer; **and**
 - d. ☒ the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. ☒ I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*
b. If not, explain: _____

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

Member / Officer Signature: Ami Bera

Date: 07-18-2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

☒ **Original** ☐ **Amendment**

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated in the trip within 10 days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: American Israel Education Foundation Inc. (AIEF)

2. Travel Destination(s): Israel

3. Date of Departure: June 23, 2023 Date of Return: June 30, 2023

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Rep. Ami Bera

Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$10,558.69	\$1,797.60	\$895.19	\$2,714.51
Accompanying Family Member	\$10,558.69	\$1,797.60	\$895.19	\$2,714.51

6. ☒ All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment.
Signify statement is true by checking box.

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: 7/14/2023 | 07:48 PDT

Name: Arne Christenson Title: Managing Director

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation Inc. (AIEF)

☒ **I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.**

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

Telephone: 2026395266 Email: achristenson@aiefdn.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.



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TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. **This form and any attachments may be delivered to the Committee at 1015 Longworth or e-mailed to travel.requests@mail.house.gov.**

Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Amerish Bera

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): _____

Office Address: 172 Cannon

Telephone Number: 202-225-5716

Email Address of Contact Person: aishamae.mughal@mail.house.gov

☐ Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, *and* these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM. Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via e-mail: travel.requests@mail.house.gov.



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TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Amerish Bera
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:
American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel : Israel
4. a. Date of Departure: June 23, 2023 Date of Return: June 30, 2023
b. Yes ☐ No ☒ Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?
If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Yes ☒ No ☐ Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**
(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: Sydra Bera
(2) Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☒ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
(3) Yes ☒ No ☐ Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:
6. a. Yes ☐ No ☒ Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?
b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:
7. Yes ☒ No ☐ *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties.
Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.
Representative Bera is invited to attend this trip to learn about foreign policy in Israel, pertinent to his role as the Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific.
9. **Yes ☐ No ☒ Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member

Date 05/24/2023



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PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

2. ☒ I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Signify that the statement is true by checking box.

3. **Check only one.** I represent that:

- a. ☐ The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip: **OR**
- b. ☐ The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds: **OR**
- c. ☐ The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.
- If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors:

4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary):

Please find attached

5. Yes ☒ No ☐ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of departure: June 23, 2023 Date of return: June 30, 2023

7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C.

b. Destination(s): Israel

c. City of return: Washington, D.C.

8. **Check only one.** I represent that:

- a. ☐ The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: **OR**
- b. ☒ The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: **OR**
- c. ☐ The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following:**

- a. ☒ I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
- b. ☐ I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
- c. ☐ I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
- d. ☐ I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:



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10. ☒ Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*
11. **Check only one of the following:**
- a. ☒ I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box; OR*
- b. ☐ *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For **each** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
- AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the fundamental purpose of educating policy makers and opinion leaders about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip.
13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air ☒ Rail ☐ Bus ☒ Car ☐ Other ☒ (specify: taxis)
- b. Class of travel: Coach ☐ Business ☒ First ☐ Charter ☒ Other ☐ (specify: charter bus)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
n/a
14. ☒ I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a. ☐ The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b. ☒ The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation.
If "b" is checked:
- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided):
\$165
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:
The trip is in Israel in order to educate members about the U.S.-Israel relationship.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Orient City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$407
Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
- Hotel Name: Botanica City: Haifa Cost Per Night: \$364
Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
- Hotel Name: Herods City: Herzliya Cost Per Night: \$282
Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
17. ☒ I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*



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18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$9,971.44	\$2,274 double room	\$987
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$9,971.44	n/a	\$987

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$4,966.67	Please see addendum for breakdown
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$4,966.67	Please see addendum for breakdown

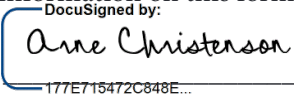
NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

19. Check only one:

- a. ☒ I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
b. ☐ Not Applicable. Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. I certify by my signature that

- a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and
c. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: 05/22/2023
Name: Arne Christenson Title: Managing Director
Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC 20001
Email: achristenson@aiefdn.org Telephone: (202) 639-5266

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the agenda, invitation list, any attachments, and any *Additional Trip Sponsor Forms* directly to the Travelers.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov | 202-225-7103
More information and forms available at ethics.house.gov

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Keelie Broom
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

June 2, 2023

The Honorable Ami Bera
U.S. House of Representatives
172 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your and your child's proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for June 23 to 30, 2023, sponsored by American Israel Education Foundation.

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$480 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$480] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

¹ Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or ohsstaff@mail.house.gov. House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Guest". The first letter "M" is large and stylized, with a loop that extends over the first few letters.

Michael Guest
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Wild". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "S" being particularly large and looping.

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:rp

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
U.S. Members of Congress
Educational Seminar in Israel
June 23, 2023 – June 30, 2023**

Itinerary

Friday, June 23, 2023

10:50 PM United #72 departs Dulles

Saturday, June 24, 2023

4:40 PM United #72 arrives at Ben-Gurion

5:40-6:40 PM Transfer to Jerusalem

6:40-8:00 PM Check in to the Orient Hotel

8:00-8:15 PM Depart for dinner

8:30-9:00 PM **Setting the Stage**
Welcome and Orientation with:
▪ Phil Friedman, General Counsel and Director of Political Operations
▪ Yossi Garr, Educational Seminar Leader

8:30-10:00 PM **Pulse of the Nation**
Dinner with Ya'akov Katz
Author and Former Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*
-at the Orient Hotel

Ya'akov Katz is the editor of *The Jerusalem Post*, Israel's most-read English news website and best-selling English newspaper. = He previously served for close to a decade as the paper's military reporter and defense analyst. He is the author of "Shadow Strike: Inside Israel's Secret Mission to Eliminate Syrian Nuclear Power" and co-author of two books: "Weapon Wizards - How Israel Became a High-Tech Military Superpower" and "Israel vs. Iran - The Shadow War." Mr. Katz will provide the delegation with a synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of Israeli voters at this particular moment in time.

10:00 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Sunday, June 25, 2023

8:00-9:00 AM Breakfast on own

9:00 AM Depart for the Old City

9:15-11:30 AM **Strategic Survey of Jerusalem: The Holy Basin**

- Temple Mount
- Western Wall
- Church of the Holy Sepulchre

Old City of Jerusalem & the Holy Basin

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and the cemetery where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East. The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

11:30 AM-12:00 PM Depart for Lunch

12:15-1:45 PM **Strategic Regional Overview**
Lunch and briefing with Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel
Former Director, Counter-Terrorism Bureau at Prime Minister's Office

In order to understand the strategic threats facing Israel, participants must understand the unique situation facing Israel at the borders with the Gaza Strip, Lebanon, and Syria, all Iranian proxies. This briefing will provide an overview of each border, as well as the malign activity from Iran contributing to unrest in the region.

1:45-3:00 PM Depart for Tel Aviv

3:00-4:00 PM **Israel's Multiple Fronts**
Meeting with the Chief of Staff, Lt. General Hertzi Halevi
-at the Ministry of Defense

The Members will meet with the new IDF Chief of General staff to gain an in-depth understanding of the multi-front security challenges that Israel faces, the importance of regional security cooperation, and the bilateral military relationship between the U.S. and Israel.

4:15-5:00 PM **U.S. Military stockpiles in Israel**
Meeting with Major General Oded Basiuk,
Head of the Operations Directorate
-at the Ministry of Defense

This meeting will include a briefing on regional threats, a survey of recent IDF operational activity, integration into CENTCOM, and a discussion on the U.S. Military stockpiles in Israel (WRSA-I). The meeting will allow the trip participants to gain a better understanding Israel's strategic security challenges and defense policy issues being discussed between US and Israeli leadership.

5:00-5:45 PM **Visit to High Command Post**
-at the Ministry of Defense

This briefing will explain the role of the command post in IDF decision-making processes, and an overview of high-level interfaces between Israeli and US military leadership. The visit will allow the participants to gain a deeper understanding of the bilateral military relationship between the two countries.

5:45-6:15 PM Depart for Rothschild Blvd.

6:15-7:15 PM **Independence Trail: Origins of the First Modern Hebrew City**

This brief walking survey will explore the landmark locations and institutions established in the first modern Hebrew city, which reflect the values upon which the State of Israel was founded. These include the principles of freedom, justice, and equal social and political rights; as well as freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture. These values are the basis of the relationship between the United States and Israel.

7:15-7:30 PM Depart for dinner

7:30-9:30 PM **Israeli Innovation and Resilience**
Dinner with:
▪ Daniel Barel, CEO, SoftWheel
▪ Prof. Yoel Har Even, Director of the International Division and
Resource Development, Sheba Hospital
▪ Boaz Hochstein, Operations and Marketing Manager,
Makers for Heroes

Israeli Innovation and Resilience

This evening will be a dinner discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad. The delegation will be meeting the founder of SoftWheel, and Israeli mobility start-up; the Director of Sheba Global which operates the Sheba field hospital, most recently in Ukraine; and the operations manager of Restart, a non-profit organization helping wounded soldiers from the Israel Defense Forces

(IDF) to restart their life journey after physical and/or emotional trauma resulting from their mandatory service or reserve duty.

9:30-10:30 PM Return to Jerusalem

10:30 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Monday, June 26, 2023

7:00-8:00 AM Breakfast on own

8:00-8:30 AM Depart for Yad V'ashem

8:30-10:15 AM **The Significance of the Holocaust in Israeli Society**
Visit to Yad Vashem: The World Holocaust Remembrance Center

One cannot understand Israel's worldview without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the delegation through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

10:30-10:45 AM Depart for Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery

10:45-11:45 AM **Paying Tribute to Israel's Fallen Heroes**
Visit to Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery

A critical piece of understanding Israeli society and culture, is the role of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), mandatory army service, and veterans. Mount Herzl is the site of Israel's national cemetery, named after Theodor Herzl, the founder of modern political Zionism. Israel's leaders and fallen soldiers are buried there. Every plot section in Mount Herzl has a broad plaza for memorial services. Most state memorial ceremonies for those killed in war are conducted in the National Military and Police cemetery. This visit will highlight the way Israel remembers its fallen and relates to the role of the military in as part of the fabric of the Jewish State.

11:45 AM-12:00 PM Depart for the Prime Minister Office

12:00-12:45 PM Security check at the Prime Minister's Office

12:45-1:30 PM **A View from the Prime Minister's Office**
Meeting with the Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu
-at the Prime Minister's Office

It is customary for members of Congress to meet with Israel's Prime Minister, to hear the official perspective of the State of Israel on issues impacting the U.S.-Israel relationship. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is the Chairman of the Likud party. He previously served as Israel's Prime Minister for 12 years, ending in June 2021. He is Israel's longest serving Prime Minister.

1:30-1:45 PM Depart for Lunch

1:45-3:15 PM **The U.S. – Israel Relationship**
Lunch briefing with the Honorable Thomas Nides
U.S. Ambassador to Israel
-at Modern

Ambassador Thomas Nides was confirmed as the U.S. Ambassador to Israel on November 3, 2021 and was most recently the Managing Director and Vice Chairman of Morgan Stanley. A distinguished public servant as well as a business leader, Nides was the U.S. State Department's Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources from 2010 – 2013. During this lunch briefing, Ambassador Nides will share the U.S. perspective on issues facing the region, including regional threats, and potential for Arab-Israeli cooperation.

3:15-4:30 PM Depart for Ramallah

4:45-5:45 PM **A View from the Palestinian Authority**
Meeting with the Honorable Mahmoud Abbas
President, Palestinian Authority
-at the President's Office

During each seminar, we invite a representative of the Palestinian Authority to address the group. Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas will present the current state of Palestinian Authority Affairs, including the Palestinian perspective on the issues of the day, as well as relations with Israel and prospects for peace.

5:45-7:00 PM Depart for Jerusalem

7:00-7:45 PM **Confronting Israel Security Challenges**
Meeting with the Defense Minister Yoav Galant
-at Hotel

The Honorable Yoav Galant currently serves as the Minister of Defense. Galant began his political career in the Kulana party in 2015, which later merged with the Likud party in 2019. He served in the Israel Defense Forces for more than three decades, reaching the rank of Major-General – his

last IDF post was that of Head of the Southern Command. During this meeting, Galant will discuss the current security challenges faced by Israel on the southern and northern borders, and throughout the Middle East.

7:45-8:00 PM Depart for Dinner

8:00-9:30 PM **The Abraham Accords: A Changing Middle East**
Dinner with His Excellency Mohamed Al Khaja
United Arab Emirates Ambassador to Israel
-at Touro

Since Israel's founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict, and a comprehensive regional peace. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and several Arab states, including – most recently - the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan – under the Abraham Accords. This session will explore the Abraham Accords, and prospects for regional peace following these historic agreements.

9:00 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

7:30-8:45 AM Breakfast on own

8:45-9:45 AM Depart for Palmachim Base

9:45-11:15 AM **Israel's Defensive Abilities: Arrow and UAVs**
Briefing with
-at Palmachim Base

The visit to see the Arrow will include a briefing about Israel's missile defense systems, observation of the C2 Command and Control room, and a view of the interceptor launchers. The visit will allow the participants to gain a firsthand understanding of U.S.-Israel Missile Defense cooperation, one of the pillars of the bilateral defense relationship for over two decades.

The visit to the drone squadron will include a presentation of the Israel Air Force's UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) capabilities, examples of the squadron's operational activities, discussion of the impact of UAV's on the modern battlefield, and view of the aircraft. The visit will allow participants to gain a better understanding of one of the domains of warfare impacting both Israel and US on the modern battlefield, as well as the growing US-Israel cooperation in the field of Counter-UAS underneath DoD's IWTSD (Irregular Warfare Technical Support Directorate).

11:45 AM-12:15 PM Depart for Black Arrow overlook

12:15-12:45 PM **Gaza Border Briefing**
-at Black Arrow overlook

Participants will visit the border between Israel and the Gaza Strip, and learn about the unique challenges faced by this area. Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. More recently, Hamas has built dozens of terror tunnels to attack Israeli civilians. This briefing will enable the group to better understand the reality of living kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza.

12:45-1:00 PM Depart for Sderot

1:00-1:30 PM **Lunch**
-Hummus Shel Techina

1:30-2:45 PM **Israel: A Nation of Resilience**
Visit to Animal Resilience Center and Conversation with

- Ayelet Shmuel, Director, Sderot International Resilience Center
- Yael Donana, Resident of Kibbutz Nir Yitchak
- Alon Davidi, Mayor of Sderot

-at Sderot Animal Resilience Center

Residents of the Gaza Envelope are consistently exposed to significant trauma due to rocket fire from the Gaza strip. Israel has developed a variety of tools to help young people deal with PTSD, including resiliency centers. The visit to this center will focus on creative solutions available for residents today. In addition, the Mayor will provide an overview of governing a city in this unique situation. The resiliency tools developed in Israel have potential to help other populations, including in the United States.

2:45-3:00 PM Depart for Ibim

3:00-3:30 PM **The Iron Dome**
Briefing with Major Av Klein
-Ibim

More than a decade ago, Israel developed Iron Dome to protect its citizens from persistent and increasingly dangerous rockets fired by Iranian-backed terrorists. Since being deployed, Iron Dome has intercepted more than 90 percent of the rockets it has targeted—preventing war, saving countless lives, and reducing physical and psychological damage. Leaders in Congress have recognized the importance of Israel's missile defense system and have allocated more than \$1.6

billion for this technology. Participants will have the opportunity to visit an Iron Dome site and speak with the soldiers responsible for its operation.

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| 3:30-5:00 PM | Depart for Jerusalem |
| 5:00-6:30 PM | Break |
| 6:30-8:00 PM | Israel in the International Community
Meeting with Dr. Tal Becker
Senior Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
-at the Orient Hotel |

Since Israel's founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Dr. Tal Becker is a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team. In this position, he is on the front lines of many of Israel's most pressing diplomatic, legal and policy challenges. He is a veteran negotiator, and key behind the scenes representative, for Israel in a wide variety of contexts. During this session, he will address the prospects for peace in the current political climate. He will also discuss the complex challenges that have prevented a final status agreement thus far.

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| 7:45-9:00 PM | Dinner
-at Lechem Bashar |
| 9:00-9:30 PM | Depart for City of David |
| 9:30-10:30 PM | Night Survey of City of David |

Jerusalem's City of David, more than any other site, represents the complexity of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The City of David is the site most archeologists agree to be the ancient city of Jerusalem that later became the capital of the united Israelite tribes under King David. This area is one of the most intensively excavated sides in the wider region. To Jewish Israelis, the site represents the beginning of their physical and emotional attachment to Jerusalem that has continued for over three thousand years. At the same time, much of the site is located in the predominantly Arab neighborhood of Silwan. The residents of Silwan, and the Palestinian Authority leadership are opposed to the archeological efforts being carried out in the City of David. In several instances, homes in Silwan were purchased and then destroyed to open up more areas for excavations. Palestinian leadership has denied the existence of any Jewish connection to Jerusalem.

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| 10:30 PM | Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem |
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Wednesday, June 28, 2023

7:30-8:30 AM	Breakfast on own -at the Orient Hotel
8:30-9:00 AM	Depart for Knesset
9:00-9:30 AM	Security check at the Knesset
9:45-10:30 AM	A View from the Knesset Meeting with The Honorable Amir Ohana Speaker of the Knesset -at the Knesset

The Honorable Amir Ohana is an Israeli lawyer, former Shin Bet official and politician who has served as the Speaker of the Knesset since 2022, and as a member of the Knesset for Likud. He previously held the posts of Minister of Justice and Minister of Public Security. He was the first openly gay right-wing member of the Knesset and the first openly gay man from Likud to serve in the Knesset. Ohana is a veteran of the acclaimed Israeli Shin Bet security agency, and an attorney. He achieved the rank of major in the IDF and continues to serve in reserve duty.

10:30-11:15 AM	A View from the Opposition Meeting with The Honorable Yair Lapid Head of the Opposition -at the Knesset
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It is customary for member delegations to meet with the leader of the opposition party, to get a comprehensive view of the Knesset. Yair Lapid is an Israeli politician and former journalist who is the Chairman of the centrist Yesh Atid party, and Leader of the Opposition since January 2023. Previously he served as the 14th prime minister of Israel, the alternate prime minister of Israel and minister of Foreign Affairs from 2021 to 2022.

11:15 AM-1:15 PM	Depart for Haifa
1:15-2:15 PM	Lunch in Haifa
2:45-5:45 PM	The Navel Front <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Briefing at the Naval Base▪ Devora vessel to visit Gas Rig -at Haifa Navy Base

During this briefing at the Naval Base in Haifa, members will board an Israeli “Devora” Naval patrol vessel and visit an offshore gas rig. The visit will allow the participants to gain a firsthand understanding of Israel’s naval challenges, the transformative impact of Israel’s natural gas

holdings in the Eastern Mediterranean, and the importance of maritime security in the region as a shared US and Israeli interest.

5:30-6:00 PM	Depart for Hotel
6:00-6:30 PM	Check in to Botanica Hotel, Haifa
7:30-9:15 PM	Northern Border Concerns: Hezbollah Next Door Strategic Briefing on the Lebanon and Syria Dinner with Col. (Res) Miri Eisin Associate International Institute for Counterterrorism IDC Herzliya -at the hotel

Col. (Res.) Miri Eisin is an Israeli security expert, speaking on regional geo-politics and security related issues in the media worldwide. Col. Eisin served in the Israeli intelligence community and retired from active duty at the rank of full colonel in 2004. Over her twenty-year career in the military, she served as the deputy head of the combat intelligence corps, the personal assistant to the Director of Military intelligence and as the intelligence officer in combat units and research departments. During this dinner she will discuss the threats facing Israel by Hezbollah-controlled Lebanon on the Northern border.

9:15 PM	Overnight at Botanica Hotel, Haifa
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Thursday, June 29, 2023

7:00-7:45 AM	Breakfast on own -at the hotel
8:00-8:30 AM	Depart for Rafael David Institute
8:30-10:00 AM	U. S – Israel Defense Cooperation Briefing with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Gidi Weiss, Vice President for International Business Development▪ Ari Sacher, Air Superiority Systems Division -at Rafael Advanced Defense Systems

During this session, Mr. Weiss and Mr. Sacher will explain the U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation that has led to the country's multi-tiered missile defense system. Gideon (Gidi) Weiss is Vice President for International Business Development at Rafael's Air & C4ISR Systems Division. He is responsible for leading, directing and coordinating marketing, business development and sales activities across Rafael's international markets. Ari Sacher is a Rocket Scientist, and has worked in the design and development of missiles for over twenty years. He has briefed hundreds of US Congressmen on Israeli Missile Defense, and speaks regularly for the Israeli Foreign Ministry. Ari is highly regarded speaker, enabling even the layman to understand the "rocket science".

10:00-11:00 AM Depart for Shomera

11:00 AM-12:00 PM **Hezbollah Terror Tunnel: Anti-Tunnel Technology**
Briefing with Lt. Col. Shai Sisso
Integrated Systems Branch Commander for Directorate of Defense,
Research, and Development (DDR&D), Ministry of Defense
-at Shomera

12:00-1:00 PM **Visit Hezbollah Terror Tunnel**
-at Zarit

Virtually all southern Lebanon is a maze of underground bunkers, rocket-launching sites, and interconnected tunnels built by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah terrorist organization. Hezbollah is the most powerful terrorist organization in the world, stronger than most national armies. They receive around \$700 million annually from Iran, along with advanced weapons, training, and political support. During this visit, the delegation will have the opportunity to go into a Hezbollah tunnel discovered by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), to see firsthand the threat this terrorist army poses to Israel and the region. Hezbollah has created a network of tunnels hundreds of kilometers long to enable terrorists to stage an infiltration attack on military and civilian targets in northern Israel. The IDF conducted Operation Northern Shield between December 2018 and January 2019, to locate and destroy the tunnels. In January 2020, the IDF began installing a series of underground sensors along the northern border to detect any new subterranean tunnels being dug into Israeli territory from Lebanon. Participants will hear from an IDF officer who will guide them through the opening of the tunnel, and share the anti-tunneling technology Israel is using to detect new tunnels.

1:00-2:00 PM Depart for lunch

2:00-2:45 PM Lunch
-at Hummus Eliyahu, Yokneam

2:45-3:45 PM Depart to Gililot

3:45 PM Security check at Mossad Headquarters

4:15-5:15 PM **Intelligence Briefing**
Meeting with David Barnea, Director, Mossad
-Mossad Headquarters, Gililot

The Members will meet with a senior analyst for Mossad, Israel's Intelligence Agency. This discussion will include the state of intelligence cooperation between the U.S. and Israel, updates on the Iranian nuclear threat, and potential for broadening and deepening Arab-Israeli cooperation through the Abraham Accords.

5:15-5:45 PM	Depart for Herod's Hotel, Herzliya
5:45-6:30 PM	Dayrooms & Prepare for flight -at Herod's Hotel, Herzliya
6:45-8:15 PM	Reflections on the Week Closing dinner -at Bistro 56

The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to the environmental and geographical wonders of the Negev desert and the Dead Sea. We will process the range of topics explored, including the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, prospects for Arab-Israeli peace, the experience of minorities in Israel, as well as greater existential threats throughout the region. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their takeaways, and ask any lingering questions that weren't covered during the week.

8:15-9:00 PM	Depart for airport
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Friday, June 30, 2023

12:20 AM	United #73 departs Ben-Gurion
5:25 AM	United #73 arrives Dulles

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Members of Congress
June 23-30, 2023

Addendum

4. List of Invitees

As members of the House of Representatives, these invitees are consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran's affairs. These issues—along with issues more broadly related to the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel—will be explored during the AIEF Israel Seminar, which is focused on educating members of Congress on events throughout the region by providing on-the-ground context.

1. The Honorable Jimmy Panetta (D-CA)
2. The Honorable Doug Lamborn (R-CO)
3. The Honorable Jim Baird (R-IN)
4. The Honorable Ami Bera (D-CA)
5. The Honorable Jake Ellzey (R-TX)
6. The Honorable Jared Golden (D-ME)
7. The Honorable Barry Moore (R-AL)

18. Breakdown of other expenses

Other Cost	Cost per person
Security	\$1,533.33
Speaker Fees	\$1,000.00
Room Rentals	\$666.67
Hotels for contract staff	\$466.67
Meals for contract staff and guests	\$400.00
Tour Guide	\$300.00
West Bank Security	\$233.33
Transportation for contract staff and guests	\$133.33
Airport Assistance	\$80.00
Entrance Fees	\$60.00
Photography	\$46.67
Misc.	\$33.33
Tips	\$13.33
Total =	\$4,966.67

MEMBER OF CONGRESS OFFICIAL BUSINESS EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT FORM

U.S. House of Representatives

Members of Congress must submit this form to the Office of Financial Counseling to receive reimbursement, up to the [GSA rate](#), for meals & incidentals (M&I) and lodging expenses incurred in the prior month while on "official business" in Washington, D.C.

Member Name: REP. AMI BERA

Amount Requested: \$2,067.48

State/District: CA-06 ORG Code: _____

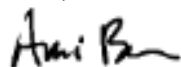
Office Telephone Number: 202-225-5716

Note: In-Session MEMBER EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT: MONTHLY WORKSHEET Days in Red Font UP TO THE WASHINGTON DC GSA RATE OF \$79/DAY FOR MEALS & INCIDENTALS (M&I)										
CALENDAR DAY	TYPE - SELECT ONE)	ADD LODGING	M&I EXPENSE	LODGING EXPENSE	CALENDAR DAY	TYPE - SELECT ONE)	ADD LODGING	M&I EXPENSE	LODGING EXPENSE	
01/01/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			01/17/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
01/02/2023	TRAVEL IN DAY <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	01/18/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
01/03/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	01/19/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
01/04/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	01/20/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
01/05/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	01/21/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
01/06/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	01/22/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
01/07/2023	TRAVEL OUT DAY <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			01/23/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
01/08/2023	TRAVEL IN DAY <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	01/24/2023	TRAVEL IN DAY <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	
01/09/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	01/25/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$37.60	
01/10/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	01/26/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$37.60	
01/11/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$188.00	01/27/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$37.60	
01/12/2023	TRAVEL OUT DAY <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			01/28/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
01/13/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			01/29/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			
01/14/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			01/30/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$37.60	
01/15/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			01/31/2023	IN SESSION <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$37.08	
01/16/2023	Select....	<input type="checkbox"/>			Total Reimbursements				0	\$2,067.48

Per IRS guidance, these reimbursements are considered taxable and applicable taxes will be withheld from the next applicable monthly pay cycle.

"Other Official Business" Expense Reimbursement Comments:

I **hereby confirm** that I incurred the above unreimbursed official travel-related expenses while traveling to, or in, Washington, D.C., for days the House was in session and/or days I participated in official committee business meetings or hearings. I acknowledge and am aware that making false, fictitious, or fraudulent certification may render the maker subject to criminal prosecution under Title 18, U.S.C. 1001.



Member of Congress Signature

06/15/2023

Date (MM/DD/YEAR)

United States House of Representatives
MEMBERS' EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Initiating Office
Reference Number

Org Code

Office Name REP. REP. AMI BERA

CA-06

Payment for Member

Payee Information

Payment Information

Member Payroll Number

Invoice Number

Member Name REP. AMI BERA

Invoice Date

Payment Grand Total \$2,067.48

Product or Service Information

BOC Category	BOC	BOC Sub- Code	Expense Description	Amount	Date(s) of Service(s)	
					Begin Service Date	End Service Date
21	2109		Member DC - Meals & Incidentals	0	01/01/2023	01/31/2023
21	2107		Member DC - Lodging	\$2,067.48	01/01/2023	01/31/2023

Comments Members' MRA ORG - Member Expense Reimbursement

I certify (1) that the above articles have been received in good condition and are of the quality and in the quantity above specified, or the services were performed as stated; (2) that they are in accordance with the orders therefore; (3) that the prices charged are just, reasonable, and in accordance with agreement; (4) that they are for use in my office in the discharge of my duties; and (5) that these are true copies and will be the only submission for payment; (6) this voucher was prepared in accordance with the Voucher Documentation Standards.

Voucher Preparer Signature (If Applicable)

Date

Member of Congress Signature

6/15/23

Date

Certifies (6) above only

Voucher Preparer Name (If Applicable)

Eff. 02/28/2023