

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.

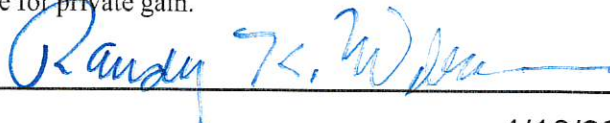
NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Randy Weber
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: Brenda Weber *OR* None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 3/28/2024 Return: 4/5/2024
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ *OR* None
4. Departure City: WashingtonDC Destination: TelAviv Return City: Houston
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: US Israel Education Association
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary): See Attached

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: _____



Date: 4/16/2024

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: U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA)

2. Travel Destination(s): Israel

3. Date of Departure: March 28, 2024 Date of Return: April 5, 2024

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Rep. Randy Weber and Brenda Weber

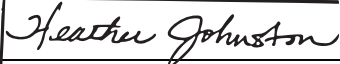
Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if **all** information is **identical** for each person listed.

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	\$16,890.75	\$1,865.00	\$1,385.00	\$4,885.40
Accompanying Family Member	\$16,890.75	\$1,865.00	\$1,385.00	\$4,885.40

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: April 15, 2024

Name: Heather Johnston Title: Founder & CEO

Organization: U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA)

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

Address: 402 Office Park Drive, Suite 215, Birmingham, AL 35223

Telephone: 205-907-2756 Email: heather@usieducation.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.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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.

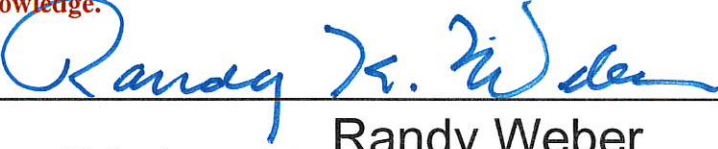
This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

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: Randy Weber

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): Randy Weber

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

Office Address: 107 Cannon HOB Washington, DC 20515

Telephone Number: (202) 225-2831

Email Address of Contact Person: kendall.ivy@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 email: travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Randy Weber
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA)
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Israel
4. a. Date of Departure: March 28th Date of Return: April 5th
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: Brenda Weber
 - (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, invitation, 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.**
The activities on the itinerary relate to my duties because it will allow me the opportunity to meet with Israeli officials and tour facilities in Israel relevant to my committee appointments as well as the concerns of my constituents.
9. **Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in 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: 2-28-2024

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA)

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, services, or in-kind assistance 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 see attached list and reason for invite.

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

6. Date of Departure: March 28, 2024 Date of Return: April 5, 2024

7. a. City of departure: Houston, TX

b. Destination(s): Israel

c. City of return: Houston, TX

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. _____

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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:
USIEA leads advanced educational trips for members of Congress to provide a fact-finding mission relevant to the committee agendas that each are associated with concerning the U.S.-Israel relationship.

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: _____)
 - b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: _____)
 - c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
Business class is selected for the international flights due to the length of flights, and the tour begins immediately upon arrival in Israel.

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 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): \$185.57
 - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: The fact finding mission to Israel will evaluate proposed and applied peace initiatives and their affects on the people groups in th

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: The David Citadel City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$690.00
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Selected for high level of security, availability, and central location

Hotel Name: The Scots Hotel City: Tiberius Cost Per Night: \$645.00
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Selected for high level of security, availability, and central location

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
 Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

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.*

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	\$16,890.75	\$2,025.00	\$1,295.00
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$16,890.75	\$2,025.00	\$1,295.00


	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	\$4,891.00	Security, entrance fees, meeting rooms, portorage, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$4,891.00	Security, entrance fees, meeting rooms, portorage, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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: 2/20/24
 Name: Heather Johnston Title: Founder & CEO
 Organization: U.S. Israel Education Association
 Address: 402 Office Park Drive, Suite 215, Birmingham, AL 35223
 Email: heather@usieducation.org Telephone: 205-907-2756

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

March 26, 2024

The Honorable Randy Weber, Sr.
U.S. House of Representatives
107 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 spouse's proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for March 28 to April 5, 2024, sponsored by U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA).

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,



Michael Guest
Chairman



Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:amr

Congressman Weber had the privilege of traveling with this delegation to Israel. He took several meetings relevant to his committee assignments and policy interests including meetings with the Minister of Defense Gallant, Minister of Strategic Affairs Dermer, and TIDF Intelligence Officer Illan Shulman. Congressman Weber will take the information and lessons he learned in Israel and implement it in his policies and ideas as they pertain to the United States and their management of middle east policy.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

MEMBER/OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

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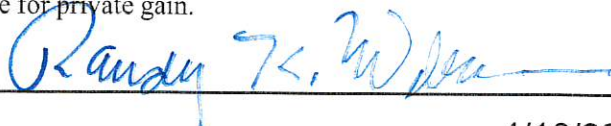
NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Randy Weber
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: Brenda Weber **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 3/28/2024 Return: 4/5/2024
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: WashingtonDC Destination: TelAviv Return City: Houston
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: US Israel Education Association
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary): See Attached

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: _____



Date: 4/16/2024

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: U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA)

2. Travel Destination(s): Israel

3. Date of Departure: March 28, 2024 Date of Return: April 5, 2024

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Rep. Randy Weber and Brenda Weber

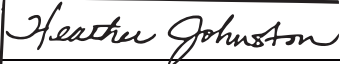
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5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$16,890.75	\$1,865.00	\$1,385.00	\$4,885.40
Accompanying Family Member	\$16,890.75	\$1,865.00	\$1,385.00	\$4,885.40

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: April 15, 2024

Name: Heather Johnston Title: Founder & CEO

Organization: U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA)

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

Address: 402 Office Park Drive, Suite 215, Birmingham, AL 35223

Telephone: 205-907-2756 Email: heather@usieducation.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.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

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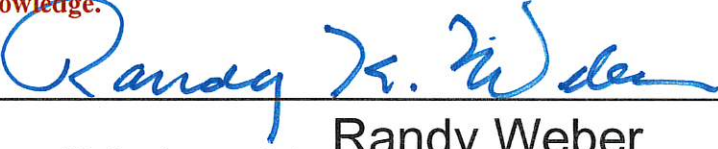
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Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences.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

Name of Traveler: Randy Weber

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): Randy Weber

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

Office Address: 107 Cannon HOB Washington, DC 20515

Telephone Number: (202) 225-2831

Email Address of Contact Person: kendall.ivy@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.

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COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Randy Weber
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA)
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Israel
4. a. Date of Departure: March 28th Date of Return: April 5th
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: Brenda Weber
 - (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, invitation, 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.**
The activities on the itinerary relate to my duties because it will allow me the opportunity to meet with Israeli officials and tour facilities in Israel relevant to my committee appointments as well as the concerns of my constituents.
9. **Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in 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: 2-28-2024

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:
U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA)
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, services, or in-kind assistance 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 see attached list and reason for invite.
5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: March 28, 2024 Date of Return: April 5, 2024
7. a. City of departure: Houston, TX
b. Destination(s): Israel
c. City of return: Houston, TX
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. _____

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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:
USIEA leads advanced educational trips for members of Congress to provide a fact-finding mission relevant to the committee agendas that each are associated with concerning the U.S.-Israel relationship.

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: _____)
 - b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: _____)
 - c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
Business class is selected for the international flights due to the length of flights, and the tour begins immediately upon arrival in Israel.

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 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): \$185.57
 - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: The fact finding mission to Israel will evaluate proposed and applied peace initiatives and their affects on the people groups in th

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: The David Citadel City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$690.00
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Selected for high level of security, availability, and central location

Hotel Name: The Scots Hotel City: Tiberius Cost Per Night: \$645.00
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Selected for high level of security, availability, and central location

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
 Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

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.*

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	\$16,890.75	\$2,025.00	\$1,295.00
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$16,890.75	\$2,025.00	\$1,295.00


	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	\$4,891.00	Security, entrance fees, meeting rooms, portorage, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$4,891.00	Security, entrance fees, meeting rooms, portorage, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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: 2/20/24
 Name: Heather Johnston Title: Founder & CEO
 Organization: U.S. Israel Education Association
 Address: 402 Office Park Drive, Suite 215, Birmingham, AL 35223
 Email: heather@usieducation.org Telephone: 205-907-2756

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

March 26, 2024

The Honorable Randy Weber, Sr.
U.S. House of Representatives
107 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 spouse's proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for March 28 to April 5, 2024, sponsored by U.S. Israel Education Association (USIEA).

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 loops around the start of the name.

Michael Guest
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Wild". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "S" and "W" being prominent.

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:amr



U.S. ISRAEL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Congressional Tour Israel Itinerary

UPDATED: 4/10/24

***Thursday, March 28 – Friday, April 5
2024***

** all times are local **

() denotes education hours

Departure – Thursday, March 28, 2024: Travel

Rep. Griffith Flights

6:00 AM EST Roanoke – Atlanta (DL1352)

9:31 AM EST Atlanta – JFK (DL2380)

Rep. Weber Flights

6:08 AM EST DCA – JFK (DL5755)

Rep. Williams Flights

6:08 AM EST DCA – JFK (DL5755)

Davis Michols Flights

6:08 AM EST DCA – JFK (DL5755)

1:30 PM EST Group Flight Depart JFK – TLV (DL7447)

Day 1 – Friday, March 29, 2024: Tel Aviv / Jerusalem (4 hrs.)

6:50 AM Arrive at TLV (DL7447)

8:45 AM-9:30 AM Transfer to the Ministry of Defense

9:45 AM-10:45 AM Briefing with Israel's Minister of Defense (1)

Speaker: Yoav Gallant, Minister of Defense

Topic: *Understanding the Current Dynamics of Middle East Security*

Description: A briefing on recent developments inside Israel's defense on all military fronts.

10:45 AM-11:30 AM Depart for Welcome Lunch

11:30 AM-12:30 PM Welcome & Orientation – David Citadel Hotel, Private Room (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association

Description: Explanation of the background and importance of the trip, specifically as it relates to each member's committee assignments, and overview to prepare for the important upcoming meetings.

12:30 PM-2:00 PM Depart for Jerusalem

2:00 PM-2:30PM Check into Hotel

2:30 PM-3:00 PM Depart for Mt. of Olives

3:00 PM-4:00 PM Mt. of Olives – Overlook of Jerusalem (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association

Topic: *Peace between West and East Jerusalem*

Description: A detailed understanding of the neighborhoods located inside of East Jerusalem, understanding the division between East and West Jerusalem, and the road to peace.

4:00 PM-4:30 PM Depart for the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

4:30 PM -5:30 PM Church of the Holy Sepulchre (1)

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide

Topic: *Disputes Among Christian Denominations*

5:30 PM-6:00 PM Depart for Hotel

6:00 PM-7:00 PM Shabbat Dinner at Hotel

Overnight- David Citadel Hotel

Day 2 – Saturday, March 30, 2024: The South of Israel (8 hrs.)

7:30 AM-9:30 AM Breakfast – The David Citadel Hotel, Private Room (2)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Overview and Timeline of Israel's History*
Description: Presentation on history of Israel to set the foundation of the trip and give an understanding of the past cultures, religions, and history, as well as the role the U.S. plays today inside the nation.

Speaker: Jonathan Conricus
Topic: *Israel's Military Operations*
Description: A private briefing on Israel's military operations in Gaza since October 7th and future plans to prosecute the war. What does Israel need from the U.S. government? How can Israel provide transparency to U.S. lawmakers in this process?

9:30 AM-12:00 PM Depart for the South (1.5)

Speaker: Chris Mitchell
Topic: *October 7th, 2023*
Description: Presentation on the timeline of events leading up to October 7th and what transpired on that day. Providing context for the rest of the day's briefings as the delegation travels south toward the Gaza border.

12:00 PM-2:00 PM Lunch at Moshav Dekel (2)

Speaker: Displaced Residents of Moshav Dekel
Topic: *Rebuilding the South*
Description: Stories from the displaced residents in a southern Israeli community that was on the second line of defense on October 7th. What will it take to rebuild the communities in the south? What does the United States need to know about the current security status for these communities?

Speaker: Lt. Col. Eran Massas (Res.)
Topic: *Testimony from October 7th*
Description: A firsthand account from an IDF responder on October 7th. The atrocities he witnessed as he encountered terrorists and victims.

2:00 PM-2:30 PM Depart for Nir Oz

2:30 PM-4:00 PM Tour Kibbutz Nir Oz (1.5)

Speaker: Professor Yonatan Dekel Chen
Topic: *The First Line of Defense*
Description: A detailed briefing on Hamas' infiltration of Israeli communities on the frontline of the Gaza border on October 7th.

4:00-4:15 PM Depart for Nova Festival Site

4:15 PM-5:15 PM Nova Festival Site (1)

Speaker: Nova Survivor

Topic: *Survivor Stories*

Description: Firsthand accounts from those that survived the brutality of the October 7th attacks and what occurred specifically at the Nova Festival site. Unique insight into what it was like to be there on that day.

5:15 PM-6:30 PM Depart for Dinner in Ein Karem

6:30 PM-8:00 PM Dinner in Ein Karem – No Speaker

8:00 PM-8:30 PM Depart for The David Citadel Hotel

Overnight- David Citadel Hotel

Day 3 – Sunday, March 31, 2024: Jerusalem (6 hrs.)

6:45 AM-7:00 AM Depart for the Garden Tomb

7:00 AM-8:00 AM Easter Service at the Garden Tomb

8:00 AM-8:30 AM Depart for The King David Hotel

8:30 AM-10:00 AM Easter Breakfast – The King David Hotel, Private Room

10:00 AM-10:30 AM Depart for the City of David

10:30 AM-12:30 PM City of David Walking Tour – Jerusalem’s Newest Archaeological Site (2)

Speaker: Ze'ev Orenstein, Director of International Affairs, City of David Foundation
Topic: *The Founding of Ancient Jerusalem & The Restoration of Modern Jerusalem*
Description: A description of the neighborhoods and boundaries today and the strategic locations of landmarks inside each neighborhood. Discussion of military strategy including the many tunnels still located under the modern city and understanding who controls each section.

12:30 PM-2:00 PM Lunch – City of David (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Jerusalem, also known as the City of David*
Description: Presentation of history from the original location of the city of Jerusalem and understanding the layout of the modern city today. Discussion of urban development issues and understanding economic consequences of the modern layout inside today’s communities.

2:00 PM-2:30 PM Depart for Davidson Center

2:30 PM-3:30 PM Davidson Center (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Discovering Ancient Jerusalem & Its Significance Today*
Description: Educational tour of recent developments in the archaeological center and how each period has affected the nation’s disputes still going on today. Also provides a strategic view of the Dome of the Rock with an overview of the violence and conflict erupting there today.

3:30 PM-5:00 PM Walk to the Western Wall – History & Overview (1)

Speaker: Chief Rabbi Shmuel Rabinovitch, Chief Rabbi of the Western Wall
Topic: *Historical Perspectives & Modern Controversies*
Description: An understanding of the connection to Temple Mount, entry restrictions from the western side, and what lies behind the Wall today. Discuss the impact of

these restrictions, land disputes, and strategic consequences behind each military defending their locations.

5:00 PM-5:30 PM Guided Walking Tour to Dinner Through Old City (.5)

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide

Topic: *Understanding the Many Religious Sides of Jerusalem*

Description: Presentation on the intersection of three major world religions in Jerusalem and how this not only affects the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but is also a special point of interest for the rest of the world. Understanding the different arguments for land rights in Jerusalem based on religion.

5:30 PM-7:00 PM Dinner Debrief of Day – Mamila Restaurant (.5)

7:00 PM-7:15 PM Depart for The David Citadel Hotel

Overnight- David Citadel Hotel

Day 4 – Monday, April 1, 2024: Jerusalem (8 hrs.)

8:00 AM-9:00 AM Breakfast Briefing, The David Citadel Hotel – China Threat (1)

Speaker: Assaf Orion & Ariel Sobelman, INSS
Topic: *The China Threat*
Description: A background briefing on China as a national security threat to both the U.S. and Israel. Ways for both countries to reduce their dependence on China and look to each other and other allies to collaborate.

9:00 AM-10:00 AM Private Briefing on Artificial Intelligence, The David Citadel Hotel (1)

Speaker: Dror Bin, Chief Scientist, Israel Innovation Authority
Topic: *Israeli AI Prowess*
Description: A briefing on the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) and Israel's leading work in the field. How can the U.S. tap into Israel's AI ecosystem and create healthy regulations without stifling innovation? How can AI transform the life sciences, health tech sector?

10:00 AM-11:30 AM Private Briefing on Israeli Life Sciences Industry (1.5)

Speaker: CEOs of Health Tech Startups from Our Crowd & IATI
Topic: *Israel as a Staging Ground for U.S. Friendshoring*
Description: An interactive briefing on the desire coming out of the Israeli health industry to have access to an FDA bureau in Israel. This would in turn benefit the U.S. by expediting Israeli items to the U.S. market and therefore diversifying and fortifying American supply chains.

11:30 AM-12:00 PM Depart for Lunch – Morning Debrief (.5)

Speaker: Ari Sacher, Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Overview for the Morning*
Description: An overview of the morning meetings focused on the Chinese threat, AI emergence in Israel, and the opportunity for the U.S. to friendshore its critical pharmaceutical supply lines to Israel and the Abraham Accords nations. How do these three topics work together and how Israel and the U.S. can collaborate in the life sciences space?

12:00 PM-1:00 PM Lunch at the Israel Museum – Prep for Minister Meeting (.5)

1:00 PM-2:00 PM Depart for Prime Minister's Office - Security Brief & Check-In (.5)

2:00 PM-3:45 PM Private Meeting with the Minister of Strategic Affairs (1.5)

Speaker: Ron Dermer, Minister of Strategic Affairs
Topic: *Israel & the World*

Description: Briefing on Israel's relationship with the U.S. in light of the larger, global geopolitical factors. A time for the members to ask pertinent questions of the Minister on internal affairs, status in the region, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and major points of interest in the U.S.-Israel relationship.

3:45 PM-4:00 PM Depart for the David Citadel Hotel

4:00 PM-4:45 PM Change Clothes

4:45 PM-5:00 PM Walk to the Notre Dame

5:00 PM-7:00 PM Dinner Briefing at the Notre Dame (1.5)

Speaker: Bassam Eid, Palestinian Media Personality

Topic: *Reforming the Palestinian Education System*

Description: A deeper briefing on the corruption of Palestinian aid entities and how new funding mechanisms can be created. How can the U.S. help reform the Palestinian education system to stop inciting terror and violence against Israel? Pathways to build future peace.

7:00 PM-7:15 PM Walk to The David Citadel Hotel

Overnight - The David Citadel Hotel

Day 5 – Tuesday, April 2, 2024: Jerusalem / Samaria / Galilee (7.5 hrs.)

8:00 AM-9:00 AM Baggage Pick Up / Check Out / Breakfast on Own

9:00 AM-9:30 AM Depart for the Knesset

9:30 AM-10:00 AM Private Meeting with Speaker of the Knesset Amir Ohana (.5)

10:00 AM-11:00 AM Abraham Accords Commemoration – Knesset (1)

Topic: *Commemorating the Signing of the Abraham Accords*

Description: An event hosted by the Abraham Accords Caucus in the Knesset with dignitaries representing each of the Abraham Accords nations. An update on the progress of the Accords since their signing, and the future of the Accords under the shadow of October 7th.

11:00 AM-12:30 PM Depart for Ariel – Regional Hub, Samaria (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association

Topic: *Survey of Demographic Realities, Samaria (Inside the Green Line)*

Description: An understanding of BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions), the divided land, and co-existence inside the green line.

12:30 PM-2:00 PM Lunch – Ron Nachman Pioneer Museum at the National Leadership Center (1.5)

Speaker: Avi Zimmerman, Co-Founder of the Judea & Samaria Chamber of Commerce

Topic: *Mutual Investment: Israelis & Palestinians in Joint Business*

Description: A briefing on Palestinians and Israelis working side by side in joint economics in the West Bank as a path toward peaceful coexistence. Insight into the challenges of the joint business vision in a post-October 7th world and how this affects existing U.S. legislation.

Speaker: Yair Chetboun, Mayor of Ariel

Topic: *Briefing on Ariel as the Capital & Regional Hub of Samaria*

Description: A history of the modern city of Ariel and its role as the capital of Samaria.

2:00 PM-2:30 PM Tour the National Leadership Center (0.5)

Speaker: Eran Glazer, Executive Director, Israel's National Leadership Center

Topic: *A New Generation of Leaders for Israel: Arabs & Jews Training Together*

Description: The role of the National Leadership Center and their key relationship with the Ministry of Education, the IDF, and the Arabs. A hands-on look at a unique program developing Israel's future leaders and rehabilitation efforts post-October 7th.

2:30 PM-3:30 PM Guided Bus Tour of Ariel (1)

Speaker: Avi Zimmerman, Co-Founder of the Judea & Samaria Chamber of Commerce
Topic: *Jewish Communities in the West Bank*
Description: A guided tour of the city of Ariel as a standard for Jewish communities inside of the West Bank. How do these communities operate and what are their security challenges in contrast to communities in internationally recognized Israel?

3:30 PM-4:00 PM Depart for Shiloh (.5)

Speaker: Ari Sacher, Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Binational Foundations*
Description: Discuss the collaborative research success occurring at Ariel University and briefing on ways the U.S. government can work with Israelis under the BIRD, BARD, and BSF foundations, specifically geared toward life sciences.

4:00 PM-5:30 PM Ancient Shiloh Archaeological Site (1.5)

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide
Topic: *Guided walking tour through ancient ruins of Shiloh*
Description: A look at the city of Shiloh and its recent historical findings through excavation. A look back over history in this region and why the years of hostility remains today. Can lessons be learned and changes be implemented with the involvement of U.S. leaders?

5:30 PM-6:00 PM Depart for Dinner

6:00 PM-7:30 PM Dinner at G'Vaot Winery

7:30 PM-9:00 PM Depart for The Scots Hotel

9:00 PM Check into The Scots Hotel

Overnight - The Scots Hotel

Day 6 – Wednesday, April 3, 2024: Galilee (6.5 hrs.)

8:00 AM-9:00 AM Breakfast on Own – The Scots Hotel

9:00 AM-10:30 AM Presentation on the Galilee Region – The Scots Hotel, Private Room (1.5)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *The History of the Galilee*
Description: Teaching on the historical, political, and spiritual background of the unique Galilee region and its importance in modern context.

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Bus Tour Around Galilee Region (1.5)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *The Galilee Region in Contrast to the West Bank*
Discussion: Discussion on the difference between traveling and life in Israel proper from the situation inside of the West Bank. A look at how Israeli life differs significantly depending on geographic location.

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide
Topic: *Briefing on Agriculture in the North*
Description: Briefing on Israel's agricultural challenges that created agricultural breakthroughs, and how the nation has created a "startup" culture around agriculture technology.

12:30 PM-1:00 PM Depart for Lunch

1:00PM-2:30 PM Lunch at Magdalena (1.5)

Speaker: Avicahi Stern, Mayor of Kiryat Shmona
Topic: *Northern Communities Post-October 7th*
Description: Lunch briefing with Mayor from leading northern community. An assessment of life in the north in a post-October 7th world, with insight into the future of the thousands of displaced Israelis. How will they be impacted by the protracted conflict with Hezbollah?

2:30 PM-3:00 PM Depart for Sea of Galilee

3:00 PM-6:30 PM Explore the Sea of Galilee – Bus Tour & Boat Ride (2)

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide
Topic: *The Sea of Galilee*
Description: The bus will begin at the lunch restaurant near Capernaum and travel south to Tiberius. The members will receive a briefing on the ancient history of these towns and their current importance in the context of the conflict in the north of Israel with Hezbollah. Then the members will embark on a boat in Tiberius and ride the boat back to the hotel. They will be briefed on the importance of this

ancient seaport and understand the history and the unique cross over of religions between the Jewish and Christian holy sites. How religion in the Galilee plays a different role in Israeli society, versus Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The bus and the boat provide the best vantage points of the Sea of Galilee and the geography and topography along the shoreline.

6:30 PM-7:00 PM Depart for Hotel

7:00 PM Group Dinner – The Scots Hotel

Overnight - The Scots Hotel

Day 7 – Thursday, April 4, 2024: Galilee Region / Tel Aviv (8 hrs.)

7:30 AM-8:30 AM Baggage Pick Up / Check out / Breakfast on Own

8:30 AM-10:00 AM Morning Business Meeting (1.5)

Speaker: Joan Leslie McGill, Chief of Staff, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Debrief of the Congressional Tour with a Look to the Future*
Description: Discussion on major points of education on the tour, how these points specifically pertain to the members' role in the U.S. government, and how this information will impact the future of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

10:00 AM-11:15 AM Depart for Mt. Bental Overlook (1)

Speaker: Ari Sacher, Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Looking to the North: Israel's Northern Fronts*
Description: Presentation connecting Israel's two northern fronts from Syria to Lebanon – how they are similar and how they differ, providing unique challenges and military readiness opportunities.

11:15 AM-12:15 PM Briefing at Mt. Bental Overlook (1)

Speaker: Ilan Shulman, IDF Intelligence Officer
Topic: *Israel's Syrian Border*
Description: Presentation on the security situation at Israel's Syrian border, including the implications of a Russian presence and how that affects current geopolitical dynamics.

12:15 PM-1:45 PM Depart for Kfar Vradim for ALMA Briefing – Picnic Lunch on Bus

1:45 PM-3:15 PM Kfar Vradim - The Lebanese Front (1.5)

Speaker: Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi, CEO & Founder, ALMA
Topic: *The Hezbollah Threat & Israel's Lebanese Front*
Description: Briefing on the current state of Lebanese affairs and how this affects Israel and the world at large. What is the US government's role in these situations?
Discussion of the northern border as a strategic security front.

3:15 PM-4:15 PM Depart for Mt. Carmel

4:15 PM-5:15 PM Mt. Carmel (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Strategic Vantage Point & Final Overlook of the Northern Region*
Discussion: Presentation on the historical viewpoints on this location and how it serves as another strategic security point for Israel in its northern regional dynamics.

- 5:15 PM-6:30 PM Depart for Caesarea
- 6:30 PM-7:00 PM Ancient Archeological Park Caesarea, Walking Tour (0.5)
- Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide
 Topic: *Ancient Caesarea & Israel's Sea Border*
 Description: Presentation on the history of ancient Caesarea and the importance of Israel's ports and waterfront for trade and security.
- 7:00 PM-9:00 PM Farewell Dinner - Crusaders Restaurant, Private Room (1.5)
- Topic: *Members Debrief*
 Description: Final discussion and overview of trip. Members highlight major focus points for U.S. government interests and actionable outcomes moving forward.
- 9:00 PM-10:00 PM Depart for Tel Aviv, Ben Gurion Airport
- 10:00 PM Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport, Flight Check-In

Arrive Home – Friday, April 5, 2024: Travel

1:00 AM IST Group Flight Depart TLV – JFK (DL7424)

7:30 AM EST Group Flight Arrives at JFK

Rep. Griffith Flights

12:59 PM EST JFK – Atlanta (DL2169)

4:33 PM EST Atlanta – Roanoke (DL5247)

Rep. Weber Flights

8:15 AM CST JFK – Atlanta (DL2227)

1:25 PM CST Atlanta – Houston (DL1572)

Rep. Williams Flights

1:54 PM EST JFK – Syracuse (DL5283)

Davis Michols Flights

9:55 AM EST JFK - DCA (DL5739)



U.S. ISRAEL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

**USIEA Congressional tour
March 28-April 5, 2024
Confirmed Members**

Representative Morgan Griffith (R-VA)

House Energy and Commerce Committee (Chairman of Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee)

*House Administration Committee
2010*

Representative Randy Weber (R-TX)

*House Science, Space, & Technology Committee
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2013*

Representative Michael Cloud (R-TX)

*House Appropriations Committee
2018*

Representative Brandon Williams (R-NY)

*House Science, Space, and Technology Committee (Chairman of Energy Subcommittee)
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
House Education Committee
2022*

Congressional Staff:

Mr. Davis Michols, *Legislative Director to Congressman Morgan Griffith (R-VA)*

Congressman Weber had the privilege of traveling with this delegation to Israel. He took several meetings relevant to his committee assignments and policy interests including meetings with the Minister of Defense Gallant, Minister of Strategic Affairs Dermer, and TIDF Intelligence Officer Illan Shulman. Congressman Weber will take the information and lessons he learned in Israel and implement it in his policies and ideas as they pertain to the United States and their management of middle east policy.



U.S. ISRAEL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Congressional Tour Israel Itinerary

UPDATED: 4/10/24

***Thursday, March 28 – Friday, April 5
2024***

** all times are local **

() denotes education hours

Departure – Thursday, March 28, 2024: Travel

Rep. Griffith Flights

6:00 AM EST Roanoke – Atlanta (DL1352)

9:31 AM EST Atlanta – JFK (DL2380)

Rep. Weber Flights

6:08 AM EST DCA – JFK (DL5755)

Rep. Williams Flights

6:08 AM EST DCA – JFK (DL5755)

Davis Michols Flights

6:08 AM EST DCA – JFK (DL5755)

1:30 PM EST Group Flight Depart JFK – TLV (DL7447)

Day 1 – Friday, March 29, 2024: Tel Aviv / Jerusalem (4 hrs.)

6:50 AM Arrive at TLV (DL7447)

8:45 AM-9:30 AM Transfer to the Ministry of Defense

9:45 AM-10:45 AM Briefing with Israel's Minister of Defense (1)

Speaker: Yoav Gallant, Minister of Defense

Topic: *Understanding the Current Dynamics of Middle East Security*

Description: A briefing on recent developments inside Israel's defense on all military fronts.

10:45 AM-11:30 AM Depart for Welcome Lunch

11:30 AM-12:30 PM Welcome & Orientation – David Citadel Hotel, Private Room (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association

Description: Explanation of the background and importance of the trip, specifically as it relates to each member's committee assignments, and overview to prepare for the important upcoming meetings.

12:30 PM-2:00 PM Depart for Jerusalem

2:00 PM-2:30PM Check into Hotel

2:30 PM-3:00 PM Depart for Mt. of Olives

3:00 PM-4:00 PM Mt. of Olives – Overlook of Jerusalem (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association

Topic: *Peace between West and East Jerusalem*

Description: A detailed understanding of the neighborhoods located inside of East Jerusalem, understanding the division between East and West Jerusalem, and the road to peace.

4:00 PM-4:30 PM Depart for the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

4:30 PM -5:30 PM Church of the Holy Sepulchre (1)

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide

Topic: *Disputes Among Christian Denominations*

5:30 PM-6:00 PM Depart for Hotel

6:00 PM-7:00 PM Shabbat Dinner at Hotel

Overnight- David Citadel Hotel

Day 2 – Saturday, March 30, 2024: The South of Israel (8 hrs.)

7:30 AM-9:30 AM Breakfast – The David Citadel Hotel, Private Room (2)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Overview and Timeline of Israel's History*
Description: Presentation on history of Israel to set the foundation of the trip and give an understanding of the past cultures, religions, and history, as well as the role the U.S. plays today inside the nation.

Speaker: Jonathan Conricus
Topic: *Israel's Military Operations*
Description: A private briefing on Israel's military operations in Gaza since October 7th and future plans to prosecute the war. What does Israel need from the U.S. government? How can Israel provide transparency to U.S. lawmakers in this process?

9:30 AM-12:00 PM Depart for the South (1.5)

Speaker: Chris Mitchell
Topic: *October 7th, 2023*
Description: Presentation on the timeline of events leading up to October 7th and what transpired on that day. Providing context for the rest of the day's briefings as the delegation travels south toward the Gaza border.

12:00 PM-2:00 PM Lunch at Moshav Dekel (2)

Speaker: Displaced Residents of Moshav Dekel
Topic: *Rebuilding the South*
Description: Stories from the displaced residents in a southern Israeli community that was on the second line of defense on October 7th. What will it take to rebuild the communities in the south? What does the United States need to know about the current security status for these communities?

Speaker: Lt. Col. Eran Massas (Res.)
Topic: *Testimony from October 7th*
Description: A firsthand account from an IDF responder on October 7th. The atrocities he witnessed as he encountered terrorists and victims.

2:00 PM-2:30 PM Depart for Nir Oz

2:30 PM-4:00 PM Tour Kibbutz Nir Oz (1.5)

Speaker: Professor Yonatan Dekel Chen
Topic: *The First Line of Defense*
Description: A detailed briefing on Hamas' infiltration of Israeli communities on the frontline of the Gaza border on October 7th.

4:00-4:15 PM Depart for Nova Festival Site

4:15 PM-5:15 PM Nova Festival Site (1)

Speaker: Nova Survivor

Topic: *Survivor Stories*

Description: Firsthand accounts from those that survived the brutality of the October 7th attacks and what occurred specifically at the Nova Festival site. Unique insight into what it was like to be there on that day.

5:15 PM-6:30 PM Depart for Dinner in Ein Karem

6:30 PM-8:00 PM Dinner in Ein Karem – No Speaker

8:00 PM-8:30 PM Depart for The David Citadel Hotel

Overnight- David Citadel Hotel

Day 3 – Sunday, March 31, 2024: Jerusalem (6 hrs.)

6:45 AM-7:00 AM Depart for the Garden Tomb

7:00 AM-8:00 AM Easter Service at the Garden Tomb

8:00 AM-8:30 AM Depart for The King David Hotel

8:30 AM-10:00 AM Easter Breakfast – The King David Hotel, Private Room

10:00 AM-10:30 AM Depart for the City of David

10:30 AM-12:30 PM City of David Walking Tour – Jerusalem’s Newest Archaeological Site (2)

Speaker: Ze'ev Orenstein, Director of International Affairs, City of David Foundation
Topic: *The Founding of Ancient Jerusalem & The Restoration of Modern Jerusalem*
Description: A description of the neighborhoods and boundaries today and the strategic locations of landmarks inside each neighborhood. Discussion of military strategy including the many tunnels still located under the modern city and understanding who controls each section.

12:30 PM-2:00 PM Lunch – City of David (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Jerusalem, also known as the City of David*
Description: Presentation of history from the original location of the city of Jerusalem and understanding the layout of the modern city today. Discussion of urban development issues and understanding economic consequences of the modern layout inside today’s communities.

2:00 PM-2:30 PM Depart for Davidson Center

2:30 PM-3:30 PM Davidson Center (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Discovering Ancient Jerusalem & Its Significance Today*
Description: Educational tour of recent developments in the archaeological center and how each period has affected the nation’s disputes still going on today. Also provides a strategic view of the Dome of the Rock with an overview of the violence and conflict erupting there today.

3:30 PM-5:00 PM Walk to the Western Wall – History & Overview (1)

Speaker: Chief Rabbi Shmuel Rabinovitch, Chief Rabbi of the Western Wall
Topic: *Historical Perspectives & Modern Controversies*
Description: An understanding of the connection to Temple Mount, entry restrictions from the western side, and what lies behind the Wall today. Discuss the impact of

these restrictions, land disputes, and strategic consequences behind each military defending their locations.

5:00 PM-5:30 PM Guided Walking Tour to Dinner Through Old City (.5)

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide

Topic: *Understanding the Many Religious Sides of Jerusalem*

Description: Presentation on the intersection of three major world religions in Jerusalem and how this not only affects the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but is also a special point of interest for the rest of the world. Understanding the different arguments for land rights in Jerusalem based on religion.

5:30 PM-7:00 PM Dinner Debrief of Day – Mamila Restaurant (.5)

7:00 PM-7:15 PM Depart for The David Citadel Hotel

Overnight- David Citadel Hotel

Day 4 – Monday, April 1, 2024: Jerusalem (8 hrs.)

8:00 AM-9:00 AM Breakfast Briefing, The David Citadel Hotel – China Threat (1)

Speaker: Assaf Orion & Ariel Sobelman, INSS

Topic: *The China Threat*

Description: A background briefing on China as a national security threat to both the U.S. and Israel. Ways for both countries to reduce their dependence on China and look to each other and other allies to collaborate.

9:00 AM-10:00 AM Private Briefing on Artificial Intelligence, The David Citadel Hotel (1)

Speaker: Dror Bin, Chief Scientist, Israel Innovation Authority

Topic: *Israeli AI Prowess*

Description: A briefing on the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) and Israel's leading work in the field. How can the U.S. tap into Israel's AI ecosystem and create healthy regulations without stifling innovation? How can AI transform the life sciences, health tech sector?

10:00 AM-11:30 AM Private Briefing on Israeli Life Sciences Industry (1.5)

Speaker: CEOs of Health Tech Startups from Our Crowd & IATI

Topic: *Israel as a Staging Ground for U.S. Friendshoring*

Description: An interactive briefing on the desire coming out of the Israeli health industry to have access to an FDA bureau in Israel. This would in turn benefit the U.S. by expediting Israeli items to the U.S. market and therefore diversifying and fortifying American supply chains.

11:30 AM-12:00 PM Depart for Lunch – Morning Debrief (.5)

Speaker: Ari Sacher, Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Israel Education Association

Topic: *Overview for the Morning*

Description: An overview of the morning meetings focused on the Chinese threat, AI emergence in Israel, and the opportunity for the U.S. to friendshore its critical pharmaceutical supply lines to Israel and the Abraham Accords nations. How do these three topics work together and how Israel and the U.S. can collaborate in the life sciences space?

12:00 PM-1:00 PM Lunch at the Israel Museum – Prep for Minister Meeting (.5)

1:00 PM-2:00 PM Depart for Prime Minister's Office - Security Brief & Check-In (.5)

2:00 PM-3:45 PM Private Meeting with the Minister of Strategic Affairs (1.5)

Speaker: Ron Dermer, Minister of Strategic Affairs

Topic: *Israel & the World*

Description: Briefing on Israel's relationship with the U.S. in light of the larger, global geopolitical factors. A time for the members to ask pertinent questions of the Minister on internal affairs, status in the region, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and major points of interest in the U.S.-Israel relationship.

3:45 PM-4:00 PM Depart for the David Citadel Hotel

4:00 PM-4:45 PM Change Clothes

4:45 PM-5:00 PM Walk to the Notre Dame

5:00 PM-7:00 PM Dinner Briefing at the Notre Dame (1.5)

Speaker: Bassam Eid, Palestinian Media Personality

Topic: *Reforming the Palestinian Education System*

Description: A deeper briefing on the corruption of Palestinian aid entities and how new funding mechanisms can be created. How can the U.S. help reform the Palestinian education system to stop inciting terror and violence against Israel? Pathways to build future peace.

7:00 PM-7:15 PM Walk to The David Citadel Hotel

Overnight - The David Citadel Hotel

Day 5 – Tuesday, April 2, 2024: Jerusalem / Samaria / Galilee (7.5 hrs.)

8:00 AM-9:00 AM Baggage Pick Up / Check Out / Breakfast on Own

9:00 AM-9:30 AM Depart for the Knesset

9:30 AM-10:00 AM Private Meeting with Speaker of the Knesset Amir Ohana (.5)

10:00 AM-11:00 AM Abraham Accords Commemoration – Knesset (1)

Topic: *Commemorating the Signing of the Abraham Accords*

Description: An event hosted by the Abraham Accords Caucus in the Knesset with dignitaries representing each of the Abraham Accords nations. An update on the progress of the Accords since their signing, and the future of the Accords under the shadow of October 7th.

11:00 AM-12:30 PM Depart for Ariel – Regional Hub, Samaria (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association

Topic: *Survey of Demographic Realities, Samaria (Inside the Green Line)*

Description: An understanding of BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions), the divided land, and co-existence inside the green line.

12:30 PM-2:00 PM Lunch – Ron Nachman Pioneer Museum at the National Leadership Center (1.5)

Speaker: Avi Zimmerman, Co-Founder of the Judea & Samaria Chamber of Commerce

Topic: *Mutual Investment: Israelis & Palestinians in Joint Business*

Description: A briefing on Palestinians and Israelis working side by side in joint economics in the West Bank as a path toward peaceful coexistence. Insight into the challenges of the joint business vision in a post-October 7th world and how this affects existing U.S. legislation.

Speaker: Yair Chetboun, Mayor of Ariel

Topic: *Briefing on Ariel as the Capital & Regional Hub of Samaria*

Description: A history of the modern city of Ariel and its role as the capital of Samaria.

2:00 PM-2:30 PM Tour the National Leadership Center (0.5)

Speaker: Eran Glazer, Executive Director, Israel's National Leadership Center

Topic: *A New Generation of Leaders for Israel: Arabs & Jews Training Together*

Description: The role of the National Leadership Center and their key relationship with the Ministry of Education, the IDF, and the Arabs. A hands-on look at a unique program developing Israel's future leaders and rehabilitation efforts post-October 7th.

2:30 PM-3:30 PM Guided Bus Tour of Ariel (1)

Speaker: Avi Zimmerman, Co-Founder of the Judea & Samaria Chamber of Commerce
Topic: *Jewish Communities in the West Bank*
Description: A guided tour of the city of Ariel as a standard for Jewish communities inside of the West Bank. How do these communities operate and what are their security challenges in contrast to communities in internationally recognized Israel?

3:30 PM-4:00 PM Depart for Shiloh (.5)

Speaker: Ari Sacher, Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Binational Foundations*
Description: Discuss the collaborative research success occurring at Ariel University and briefing on ways the U.S. government can work with Israelis under the BIRD, BARD, and BSF foundations, specifically geared toward life sciences.

4:00 PM-5:30 PM Ancient Shiloh Archaeological Site (1.5)

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide
Topic: *Guided walking tour through ancient ruins of Shiloh*
Description: A look at the city of Shiloh and its recent historical findings through excavation. A look back over history in this region and why the years of hostility remains today. Can lessons be learned and changes be implemented with the involvement of U.S. leaders?

5:30 PM-6:00 PM Depart for Dinner

6:00 PM-7:30 PM Dinner at G'Vaot Winery

7:30 PM-9:00 PM Depart for The Scots Hotel

9:00 PM Check into The Scots Hotel

Overnight - The Scots Hotel

Day 6 – Wednesday, April 3, 2024: Galilee (6.5 hrs.)

8:00 AM-9:00 AM Breakfast on Own – The Scots Hotel

9:00 AM-10:30 AM Presentation on the Galilee Region – The Scots Hotel, Private Room (1.5)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *The History of the Galilee*
Description: Teaching on the historical, political, and spiritual background of the unique Galilee region and its importance in modern context.

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Bus Tour Around Galilee Region (1.5)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *The Galilee Region in Contrast to the West Bank*
Discussion: Discussion on the difference between traveling and life in Israel proper from the situation inside of the West Bank. A look at how Israeli life differs significantly depending on geographic location.

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide
Topic: *Briefing on Agriculture in the North*
Description: Briefing on Israel's agricultural challenges that created agricultural breakthroughs, and how the nation has created a "startup" culture around agriculture technology.

12:30 PM-1:00 PM Depart for Lunch

1:00PM-2:30 PM Lunch at Magdalena (1.5)

Speaker: Avicahi Stern, Mayor of Kiryat Shmona
Topic: *Northern Communities Post-October 7th*
Description: Lunch briefing with Mayor from leading northern community. An assessment of life in the north in a post-October 7th world, with insight into the future of the thousands of displaced Israelis. How will they be impacted by the protracted conflict with Hezbollah?

2:30 PM-3:00 PM Depart for Sea of Galilee

3:00 PM-6:30 PM Explore the Sea of Galilee – Bus Tour & Boat Ride (2)

Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide
Topic: *The Sea of Galilee*
Description: The bus will begin at the lunch restaurant near Capernaum and travel south to Tiberius. The members will receive a briefing on the ancient history of these towns and their current importance in the context of the conflict in the north of Israel with Hezbollah. Then the members will embark on a boat in Tiberius and ride the boat back to the hotel. They will be briefed on the importance of this

ancient seaport and understand the history and the unique cross over of religions between the Jewish and Christian holy sites. How religion in the Galilee plays a different role in Israeli society, versus Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The bus and the boat provide the best vantage points of the Sea of Galilee and the geography and topography along the shoreline.

6:30 PM-7:00 PM Depart for Hotel

7:00 PM Group Dinner – The Scots Hotel

Overnight - The Scots Hotel

Day 7 – Thursday, April 4, 2024: Galilee Region / Tel Aviv (8 hrs.)

7:30 AM-8:30 AM Baggage Pick Up / Check out / Breakfast on Own

8:30 AM-10:00 AM Morning Business Meeting (1.5)

Speaker: Joan Leslie McGill, Chief of Staff, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Debrief of the Congressional Tour with a Look to the Future*
Description: Discussion on major points of education on the tour, how these points specifically pertain to the members' role in the U.S. government, and how this information will impact the future of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

10:00 AM-11:15 AM Depart for Mt. Bental Overlook (1)

Speaker: Ari Sacher, Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Looking to the North: Israel's Northern Fronts*
Description: Presentation connecting Israel's two northern fronts from Syria to Lebanon – how they are similar and how they differ, providing unique challenges and military readiness opportunities.

11:15 AM-12:15 PM Briefing at Mt. Bental Overlook (1)

Speaker: Ilan Shulman, IDF Intelligence Officer
Topic: *Israel's Syrian Border*
Description: Presentation on the security situation at Israel's Syrian border, including the implications of a Russian presence and how that affects current geopolitical dynamics.

12:15 PM-1:45 PM Depart for Kfar Vradim for ALMA Briefing – Picnic Lunch on Bus

1:45 PM-3:15 PM Kfar Vradim - The Lebanese Front (1.5)

Speaker: Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi, CEO & Founder, ALMA
Topic: *The Hezbollah Threat & Israel's Lebanese Front*
Description: Briefing on the current state of Lebanese affairs and how this affects Israel and the world at large. What is the US government's role in these situations?
Discussion of the northern border as a strategic security front.

3:15 PM-4:15 PM Depart for Mt. Carmel

4:15 PM-5:15 PM Mt. Carmel (1)

Speaker: Heather Johnston, Executive Director, U.S. Israel Education Association
Topic: *Strategic Vantage Point & Final Overlook of the Northern Region*
Discussion: Presentation on the historical viewpoints on this location and how it serves as another strategic security point for Israel in its northern regional dynamics.

- 5:15 PM-6:30 PM Depart for Caesarea
- 6:30 PM-7:00 PM Ancient Archeological Park Caesarea, Walking Tour (0.5)
- Speaker: Roni Stern, Professional Guide
 Topic: *Ancient Caesarea & Israel's Sea Border*
 Description: Presentation on the history of ancient Caesarea and the importance of Israel's ports and waterfront for trade and security.
- 7:00 PM-9:00 PM Farewell Dinner - Crusaders Restaurant, Private Room (1.5)
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