

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: David Valadao
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 6/29/2025 Return: 7/1/2025
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington DC Destination: Lisbon Return City: Washington DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Fundação Luso-Americana Para o Desenvolvimento - FLAD
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary): Participated in a variety of panels and conversations surrounding the bicameral relations between Portugal and the U.S. Agenda 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 participated on all activities except anything beyond the morning of July 1st as votes on the House Floor were unexpectedly schedule and I had to change my return to Washington DC a day early.

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: 7/15/2025

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: Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento - FLAD

2. Travel Destination(s): Lisbon, Portugal

3. Date of Departure: 6/29/25 Date of Return: 7/1/25

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Rep. David Valadao

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	4100 USD	600USD	150	
Accompanying Family Member				

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: 7/9/25

Name: Miguel Vieira da Costa Vaz Title: Director

Organization: Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento - FLAD

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

Address: Rua do Sacramento à Lapa, 21 - 1240-090 Lisbon, Portugal

Telephone: + 351 21 393 5800 Email: miguel.vaz@flad.pt

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: David Valadao

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: 2465 Rayburn House Office Building

Telephone Number: (202) 225-4695

Email Address of Contact Person: paula.restrepo@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: David Valadao
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Lisbon, Portugal
4. a. Date of Departure: 06/28/2025 Date of Return: 07/02/2025
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: _____
 - (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.**
Participation in the IX Luso-American Legislators Dialogue is for the purpose of building and strengthening U.S.-Portuguese relations through direct engagement with key government leaders, fostering this bilateral partnership, and support our shared interests in economic growth, democratic values, and transatlantic cooperation.

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: 5/27/2025

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:

Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento - FLAD

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): _____

See Addendum

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

6. Date of Departure: 06/28/25 Date of Return: 07/02/25

7. a. City of departure: Washington DC

b. Destination(s): Lisbon, Portugal

c. City of return: Fresno

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:

See Addendum

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: _____

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): _____

2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____

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

Hotel Name: Hotel Epic Sana Lisboa City: Lisbon Cost Per Night: 300

Reason(s) for Selecting: Special Corporate rate for FLAD

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

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	3477 USD	900 USD	200 USD
For each Accompanying Family Member			


	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		
For each Accompanying Family Member		

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: 05/26/25
 Name: Miguel Vieira da Costa Vaz Title: Director
 Organization: Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento - FLAD
 Address: Rua do Sacramento à Lapa, 21 - 1240-090 Lisbon - Portugal
 Email: miguel.vaz@flad.pt Telephone: + 351 21 3939 5800

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

ADDENDUM TO QUESTION 4 ON PAGE 1:

Reps. Jim Costa and David Valadao were invited by the Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento (Luso-American Development Foundation) to participate in the IX Luso-American Legislators' Dialogue to be held in Lisbon, on June 30 July 1, in our headquarters. They were invited for being of Portuguese heritage. Reps. No members of their staff were invited.

The main purpose of the Dialogue is to bring together elected officials from the U.S., who are of Portuguese ancestry.

ADDENDUM TO QUESTION 12 ON PAGE 2:

Since 2015, the Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD) has organized the annual Luso-American Legislators' Dialogue, with the participation of American elected officials who are of Portuguese heritage.

The main purpose of the Dialogue is to bring together elected officials from the U.S., who are of Portuguese ancestry, with their counterparts at the national level in Portugal, contributing to the strengthening of the bonds that exist between Portugal and the United States. This will give all participants an opportunity to discuss the challenges and the prospects that unite both countries. These Dialogues also aim at creating ties between US Legislators of Portuguese heritage, allowing the formation of a network that will foster these goals.

FLAD will cover transportation, meals, and accommodation expenses.

This year will be the IX Luso-American Legislators' Dialogue to be held in Lisbon, on June 30 July 1, in FLAD's headquarters.

LIST OF THE DELEGATION

MASSACHUSETTS

State Senators

Liz Miranda (D)
Marc Pacheco (D)
Jake Oliveira (D)
Dylan Fernandes (D)

State Representatives

David Vieira (R)
Alan Silvia (D)
Christopher Hendricks (D)
Antonio Cabral (D)
Tommy Vitolo (D)
Erika Uytterhoeven (D)

CALIFORNIA

US House

Jim Costa (D)
David Valadao (R)

HAWAII

State Senators

Dona Mercado Kim (D)
Samantha DeCorte (R)

State Representative

Julie Reyes Oda (R)

NEW YORK

State Senator

Jack Martins (R)

RHODE ISLAND

State Senators

Jessica de la Cruz (R)
Gordon Rogers (R)
Alana DiMario (D)
Pamela J Lauria (R)

State Representatives

Cherie Cruz (D)
Deborah Fellela Bento (D)
Joseph Solomon Jr. (D)

Executive Council

The Honorable
Jim Costa
United States Congressman
Washington DC
USA

April 9, 2025

Dear Congressman Costa,

Dear Jim,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the IX Luso-American Legislators' Dialogue, to be held in Lisbon, on June 30th and July 1st, 2025.

This initiative is a well-established practice of our institution since 2015. This year, FLAD will once again bring together in Lisbon US legislators of Portuguese descent to meet with leading politicians in Portugal, as well as key Portuguese personalities from the private sector.

In the year that FLAD celebrates its 40th anniversary, this is an opportunity for the participants to create a network to pursue mutual interests, share policy-making experiences with our Portuguese guests, discuss opportunities to strengthen the bonds between our countries, and identify challenges affecting the Portuguese American community.

FLAD will cover your travel (round trip in economy class) and accommodation expenses (up to four nights in a hotel in Lisbon).

Your contribution to this event is highly important and I hope that you favorably consider your attendance.

I look forward to hearing from you and to welcoming you to FLAD.

Yours sincerely,

truly yours,



Nuno Morais Sarmiento

President of the Executive Council

A-20254231

Executive Council

The Honorable
David Valadao
United States Congressman
Washington DC
USA

April 9, 2025

Dear Congressman Valadao,



I am pleased to invite you to participate in the IX Luso-American Legislators' Dialogue, to be held in Lisbon, on June 30th and July 1st, 2025.

This initiative is a well-established practice of our institution since 2015. This year, FLAD will once again bring together in Lisbon US legislators of Portuguese descent to meet with leading politicians in Portugal, as well as key Portuguese personalities from the private sector.

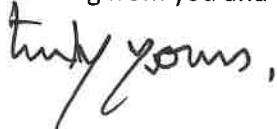
In the year that FLAD celebrates its 40th anniversary, this is an opportunity for the participants to create a network to pursue mutual interests, share policy-making experiences with our Portuguese guests, discuss opportunities to strengthen the bonds between our countries, and identify challenges affecting the Portuguese American community.

FLAD will cover your travel (round trip in economy class) and accommodation expenses (up to four nights in a hotel in Lisbon).

Your contribution to this event is highly important and I hope that you favorably consider your attendance.

I look forward to hearing from you and to welcoming you to FLAD.

Yours sincerely,



Nuno Morais Sarmento



President of the Executive Council

A-20254231

IX LUSO-AMERICAN LEGISLATORS' DIALOGUE

(Draft-subject to changes)

Due to early elections one week ago, most of names are yet to be confirmed

PROGRAM | June 30 – July 1, 2025

Saturday, June 28

10:25pm Departure:
Flight United 942 – Washington DC – Lisboa

Sunday, June 29

10:35 am Arrival to Lisboa
11:35 am Check-in at the Hotel Turim Boulevard

Monday, June 30

10:00am – 11:30am Briefing about FLAD and the program at the hotel
(In this briefing the staff of FLAD will explain to the delegation the goals of FLAD and about all the sessions of this year's program and its add-values)

12:00pm Transfer to FLAD

12:20pm Arrival to FLAD

12:30pm – 02:15pm Working Lunch at FLAD
The lunch will include a presentation of each of the legislators' (around 5 minutes each) – ancestry and topics they like to address.

- 02:15pm – 02:30pm **Welcome remarks**
- Nuno Morais Sarmiento, President of FLAD
- Francisco Duarte Lopes, Ambassador of Portugal to the USA
- Representative of the US Embassy to Portugal
- (The President of FLAD, the Portuguese and the representative of the American Embassy will greet the members of the delegation and will speak about the importance of the relationship between Portugal the USA)
- 02:30pm – 04:00pm Session: **Luís Montenegro**, Prime Minister (tbc)
- Portugal Today
- (The new Portuguese Prime Minister will speak about the new government of Portugal)
- 4:00pm Coffee Break
- 04:20pm – 05:45pm 5:30pm – 6:45pm – Panel: Portugal Green and Sustainable
- Speakers: Representatives from EDP, APA, and climate-tech startups
- (This debate focuses on the challenges and opportunities of the ecological transition in Portugal, highlighting technological innovation and the role of private sector. It will also address sustainable mobility, green policies, and international cooperation).
- 5:45pm – 07:00pm **Economy and innovation: the opportunities for the next generation**
- Speakers: to be confirmed
- The “Economy and Innovation” panel will explore opportunities for economic cooperation with a focus on innovation, youth, and sustainable investment. It will bring together leading entrepreneurs and investors of the new generation to share experiences and growth strategies.
- 07.10pm Departure to the restaurant

07.30pm **Working Dinner at Farta Brutos Restaurant**
(Sharing perspectives from each member of the delegation and dialogue on the Portuguese American communities' challenges)

09:30pm **End of dinner – transfer to the hotel**

Tuesday, July 1

09.15am Transfer do Bairro do Zambujal

10:00am – 12:00pm **Visit to Bairro do Zambujal – Project Zambujal 360**
(This project is an example of urban transformation, social innovation and community engagement in a distressed neighbourhood aligned with the Sustainable Development goals)

01:00pm Departure do Hotel da Lapa (walking distance – just 5 minutes)

01:10pm **Working lunch** - Hotel da Lapa
(This will be the continuation of the working dinner but this time how can the US Legislators of Portuguese descent can create a network among them)

02:45pm End of lunch – walking back to FLAD (just 5 minutes)

2:30pm – 04:00pm Session: Alda Botelho, ICS and Lara Tavares, ISCSP
Presentation of the study of the Portuguese American communities
(A study on the demographic and socioeconomic profile of the Portuguese community and the community of Americans of Portuguese descent in the United States)

- 04:00-5:30pm Session: **Paulo Rangel**, Minister of Foreign Affairs (tbc)
The role of Portugal in the European Union
(The Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Deputy Prime Minister will speak the engagement of Portugal and Europe in the war of Ukraine)
- 5.30pm Coffee-Break
- 06:00pm – 7:30pm Session: **Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa**, President of the Portuguese Republic (tbc)
Portugal and the USA
(The Head of the State of Portugal will give a presentation about the bilateral relations between Portugal and the US and the role that the US Legislators of Portuguese can have in this matter)
- 07:30pm-08:00pm **Cocktail**
(For this cocktail we are inviting all the speakers of the Legislators' Dialogue, so that the delegates can ask more questions)
- 08:00pm-10:30pm **Closing Dinner** (at FLAD)
The delegation will have the opportunity to have a networking dinner with relevant stakeholders.

Wednesday, July 2

Jim costa:

- 10:15am Departure to the airport
- 12:20pm Departure to Washington - DC United 943
- 03:40pm Arrival to Washington DC
- 05:45pm Departure to Los Angeles - UA 2276

08:19pm	Arrival to Los Angeles
09:16pm	Departure to Fresno - UA 5329
10:30pm	Arrival to Fresno

David Valadao:

08:00am	Departure to the airport
10:25pm	Departure to Newark - UA 65
01:00pm	Arrival to Newark
03:25pm	Departure to Denver - UA 2852
05:53pm	Arrival to Denver
07:20pm	Departure to Fresno - UA 756
08:48pm	Arrival to Fresno

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Ranking Member

John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Ashley Hinson, Iowa
Nathaniel Moran, Texas

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas
Suhas Subramanyam, Virginia



ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Jordan Downs
Chief of Staff to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
<https://Ethics.House.gov>

June 25, 2025

The Honorable David G. Valadao
U.S. House of Representatives
2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Portugal,¹ scheduled for June 28 to August 2, 2025, sponsored by Luso-American Development 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,



Michael Guest
Chairman



Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:rp