

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: Rep. Ron Estes
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: April 6, 2026 Return: April 11, 2026
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Wichita, KS Destination: Bellagio, Italy Return City: Wichita, KS
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Aspen Institute Congressional Program
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: Ron Estes

Date: 04-23-26

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: Aspen Institute Congressional Program

2. Travel Destination(s): Bellagio, Italy

3. Date of Departure: April 06, 2026 Date of Return: April 11, 2026

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Ron Estes

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

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

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$10,142	\$1,324	\$468	\$111
Accompanying Family Member	\$0	\$0	\$468	\$111

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: 04/13/26

Name: Charles Dent Title: Vice President - Aspen Institute

Organization: The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Congressional Program)

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

Address: 200 N St NW, Washington, DC 20037

Telephone: 202-736-5859 Email: lisa.jones@aspeninstitute.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

1. Name of Traveler: Ron Estes
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Aspen Institute Congressional Program
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Bellagio, Italy
4. a. Date of Departure: April 6, 2026 Date of Return: April 11, 2026
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.**
As a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, I am attending this CODEL to engage in discussions on U.S. AI policy.

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: Ron Estes Date: 03-05-26

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:
The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Congressional Program)
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 Appendix
5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: April 6, 2026 Date of Return: April 11, 2026
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC or member's congressional district
b. Destination(s): Bellagio, Italy
c. City of return: Washington, DC or member's congressional district
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 appendix
-

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: Boat)
 - 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): \$117 per day
 - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: Location has facility for conference use and access to international airport for participants.

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

Hotel Name: Bellagio Center City: Bellagio, Italy Cost Per Night: \$331
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Facility has required technology and meeting space. Security a key factor.

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	\$6,225	\$1,324	\$468
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$6,225	\$0	\$468


	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	\$111	Conference Meeting Room Fee
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$111	Conference Meeting Room Fee

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: February 26, 2026
 Name: Charles Dent Title: Vice President - Aspen Institute
 Organization: The Apsen Institute, Inc. (Congressional Program)
 Address: 200 N St NW, Washington, DC 20037
 Email: lisa.jones@aspeninstitute.org Telephone: 202-736-5859

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



**CONGRESSIONAL
PROGRAM**
aspen institute

AI and the Shape of Global Power

April 6 - 11 2026 | Bellagio, Italy

Name	Departs US	Arrives in Milan	Notes
Rep. Amo	April 6 departs Boston, MA at 3:38 PM	April 7 arrives at 10:45 AM	
Rep. Ansari	April 6 departs San Francisco, CA at 7:00 AM	April 7 arrives at 10:45 AM	
Rep. Bost	April 4 departs London, England at 10:10 AM	April 4 arrives at 1:15 PM	Overnights in Milan on the 4th, 5th, 6th at personal expense
Rep. Cammack	April 3 departs Jacksonville, FL at 11 AM	April 4 arrives at 10:45 AM	Overnights in Milan on the 4th, 5th, 6th at personal expense
Rep. Correa	April 6 departs Los Angeles, CA at 8:25 AM	April 7 arrives at 10:45 AM	
Rep. Estes	April 6 departs Wichita, KS at 1:31 PM	April 7 arrives at 1:20 PM	
Rep. Newhouse	April 3 departs Pasco, WA	April 4 arrives at 10:45	Overnights in Milan on the 4th, 5th, 6th at personal expense
Rep. Norcross	April 6 departs Newark, NJ at 8:30 PM	April 7 arrives at 10:45 AM	
Rep. Olberholte	April 3 departs San Diego, CA at 7:40 PM	April 4 arrives at 9:40 PM	Overnights the 4th, 5th, 6th at personal expense
Rep. Pfluger	April 5 departs San Angelo, TX at 6:33 PM	April 7 arrives at 9:05 AM	Overnights in Dallas on the 5th at personal expense
Rep. Harris	April 4 departs Washington, DC at 1:00 PM	April 5 arrives at 7:30 AM	Overnights in Milan on the 5th and 6th at personal expense

MONDAY, April 6

Participants depart the U.S.

TUESDAY, April 7:

Participants arrive in Milan, Italy throughout the day and are transported to Bellagio, Italy.

11:00-12:00 PM: Morning Briefing with Vivian Schiller

Discussion between members of Congress and Vivian Schiller regarding what to expect for the upcoming week.

1:00-2:30 PM: Working Lunch with Charlie Dent

Seating is arranged to expose participants to a diverse range of views and provide the opportunity for a meaningful exchange of ideas. Discussions will include a general overview of the AI topics for the week.

3:00-4:00 PM: Tour of the Facility with Aspen Staff

Bellagio Center is known to host notable scientists, artists, and leaders that foster innovation and tackle global challenges, including AI. The tour will show notable rooms where there has been change.

5:30 – 6:30 PM: Pre-Dinner Remarks: *AI State of the Union*

Speakers:

Vilas Dhar, *President of McGovern Foundation*

In conversation with **Vivian Schiller**, *Vice President and Executive Director, Aspen Digital*

7 – 9 PM: Working Dinner

Seating is arranged to expose participants to a diverse range of views and provide the opportunity for a meaningful exchange of ideas. Scholars and lawmakers are rotated daily. Discussions will focus on the geopolitics of AI.

Overnight at Bellagio Center

WEDNESDAY, April 8 :

7 – 8:45 AM: Breakfast

9:00-11:00 AM: Roundtable Discussion:

AI and Cybersecurity: Defending Against Next Generation Threats

Speakers:

Chris Krebs, *Founder, The Krebs Group; former CISA Director*

Despina Spanou , *Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology for the European Commission*

Artificial intelligence is fundamentally reshaping the cybersecurity threat landscape. From AI-powered malware and disinformation to next-generation defensive tools, how can defenders advance resilience, regulation, and the rules of engagement in an era of AI-enabled threats.

11 – 11:15 AM: Break

11:15 – 1:00 PM: Roundtable Discussion:

View from the AI Labs: National Security, Infrastructure, and Beyond

Speakers:

- **Sarah Heck**, *Head of Public Policy, Anthropic*
- **Ann O’Leary**, *Vice President, Global Policy, OpenAI*

The AI systems shaping the future of national security, critical infrastructure, and public life are being built right now — and the companies building them are faced with significant choices about how to balance capability with safety, openness with security, and innovation with accountability. This session will address how two of the most significant AI labs think about security threats, government collaboration, and the hard tradeoffs at the frontier of AI development.

1:00-2:00 PM: Working Lunch

Discussion continues between members of Congress and scholars on AI, military power, and national security. Lunch will focus on learnings provided by Sarah Heck, Ann O’Leary, and Timothy Haugh.

2:00-4:00 PM: Discussions with Scholars

Scholars will meet with members of Congress for in-depth discussion of ideas raised in the morning sessions, including Sarah Heck, Ann O’Leary, and Timothy Haugh.

4:00-5:00 PM: Pre-Dinner Remarks: *AI and National Security: The Big Picture*

Speaker:

- **Dean Ball**, *Foundation for American Innovation*
In conversation with **Brad Carson** *Americans for Responsible Innovation*

7:00 – 9:00 PM: Working Dinner

Seating is arranged to expose participants to a diverse range of views and provide the opportunity for a meaningful exchange of ideas. Scholars and lawmakers are rotated daily. Discussions will focus on global AI competition and AI's economic impacts.

Overnight at Bellagio Center

THURSDAY, April 9

7:00-8:45 AM: Breakfast

Roundtables:

9:00 – 11:00 AM: Roundtable Discussion:

AI and Military Power: The Future of Warfare and National Security

Speakers:

- **General Timothy D. Haugh**, *former Director of the NSA and Commander of U.S. Cyber Command - Confirmed*
- **Joel Predd**, *Director, Center for the Geopolitics, Rand*

From autonomous weapons systems to AI-driven intelligence analysis, artificial intelligence is fundamentally transforming how militaries operate, make decisions, and compete for strategic advantage. The United States and its adversaries are racing to integrate AI across every domain of warfare — and the decisions made today will affect both the militaries and civil populations for years to come.

11 – 11:15 AM: Break

11:15 AM – 1:00 PM: Roundtable Discussion:

AI and Reality Distortion: The Security Risks of the Information Ecosystem

Speakers:

Nabiha Syed, *CEO of Mozilla Foundation*

Peter Munford, *CEO of Vantix Partners*

Artificial intelligence is transforming how information is created, distributed, and consumed at a scale and speed that is outpacing the ability for both businesses and

public policy to keep up. This session examines the sweeping implications from AI-generated content flooding news feeds to the shift of unreliable chatbot responses and how this will affect an everchanging world.

1:00-2:00 PM: Working Lunch

Discussion continues between members of Congress and scholars on AI, military power, and national security. Lunch will focus on learnings provided by Nabihya Syed, Peter Munford, Chris Krebs, and Despina Spanou.

2:00 -6:00 PM: Discussions with Scholars

Scholars will meet with members of Congress for in-depth discussion of ideas raised in the morning sessions, including Nahiba Syed, Peter Munford, Chris Krebs, and Despina Spanou.

6:00-7:00 PM: Pre-Dinner Remarks: *AI Governance, Risk, and the American Workforce*

Speaker:

- **Gillian Hadfield**, *Johns Hopkins University*

7 – 9 PM: Working Dinner,

Seating is arranged to expose participants to a diverse range of views and provide the opportunity for a meaningful exchange of ideas. Scholars and lawmakers are rotated daily. Discussions will focus on AI and cybersecurity, AI-driven energy demands, and AI-generated information manipulation.

Overnight at Bellagio Center

FRIDAY, April 10:

7 – 8:45 AM: Breakfast

Roundables:

9 – 11 AM: Roundtable Discussion: *The China Paradox*

Speakers:

- *Klon Kitchen*, *Beacon Global Strategies*
- *Sean O hEigeartaigh*, *Center for the Studies of Existential Risk*

China has made artificial intelligence a cornerstone of its national strategy, pouring resources into research, talent, and military application — but significant gaps complicate the picture of an unstoppable advancement. This session offers an assessment of where China is ahead, where it is overhyped, and what the U.S. must understand about Beijing's AI ambitions to craft an effective competitive strategy.

11 – 11:15 AM: Break

11:15 AM – 12:45 PM: *Policy Reflections for Members of Congress*

This time is set aside for members of Congress to reflect on what they have learned during the conference and discuss their views on implications for U.S. policy. Drawing on the full range of conversations throughout the week, members will seek to identify for each other the most promising takeaways for the United States policy process, with a special focus on opportunities for bipartisan cooperation. This is a members-only conversation.

12:30 – 1:30 PM: Working Lunch

Discussion continues between members of Congress and scholars on AI, military power, and national security. Discussion will be focused on learnings from Klon Kitchen and Sean O hEigartaigh.

7 – 9:00 PM: Working Dinner

Seating is arranged to expose participants to a diverse range of views and provide the opportunity for a meaningful exchange of ideas. Scholars and lawmakers are rotated daily. Discussions will focus on AI policy reflections from the week.

Overnight at Bellagio Center

SATURDAY, April 11:

Check out, and depart for MXP. Participants depart for U.S.

Departures

Name	Departs Milan	Arrives in US	Notes
Rep. Amo	April 10 departs at 12:25 PM	April 10 arrives in Boston, MA at 8:04 PM	
Rep. Ansari	April 10 departs at 12:25 PM	April 10 arrives in Washington, DC at	

		9:31 PM	
Rep. Bost	April 11 departs at 3:20 PM	April 11 arrives in St. Louis, MO at 9:13 PM	
Rep. Cammack	April 11 departs at 12:25 PM	April 11 arrives in Jacksonville, FL at 10:56 PM	
Rep. Correa	April 11 departs at 12:25 PM	April 11 arrives in LAX at 9:39 PM	
Rep. Estes	April 11 departs at 3:20 PM	April 11 arrives in Wichita, KS at 10:35 PM	
Rep. Newhouse	April 11 departs at 12:25 PM	April 11 arrives in Sarasota at 11:59 PM	
Rep. Norcross	April 11 departs at 12:25 PM	April 11 arrives in Newark, NJ at 3:45 PM	
Rep. Olberholte	April 9 departs at 3:20 PM	April 9 arrives in San Diego, CA at 10:59 PM	
Rep. Pfluger	April 12 departs at 11:00 AM	Arrives 12 in San Angelo, TX at 11:57 PM	Extension on personal expense
Rep. Harris	April 11 departs at 9:45 AM	April 11 arrives in Washington, DC at 4:24 PM	

House Appendix
Aspen Institute Congressional Program
AI and the Shape of Global Power

April 6-11, 2025

Question 4: Provide names and titles of all House Members you are inviting. For each House Invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited.

These members are invited due to their subject matter interest and expertise in the geopolitical issues to be discussed at the conference.

- Rep. Yassamin Ansari - Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
- Rep. Don Beyer - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Kat Cammack - Committee on Energy and Commerce
- Rep. Lou Correa - Judiciary Committee
- Rep. Andy Harris - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Donald Norcross - House Armed Services Committee
- Rep. Jay Obernolte - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Emilia Sykes - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Mike Bost - Committee on Veterans' Affairs
- Rep. Ron Estes - Committee on Ways and Means
- Rep. August Pfluger - Committee on Homeland Security
- Rep. Dan Newhouse - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Gabe Amo - House Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Rep. Robert Aderholt - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Mark Alford - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Brian Babin - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Michael Baumgartner - House Foreign Affairs Committee
- Rep. Stephanie Bice - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Gus Bilirakis - House Energy and Commerce Committee
- Rep. Eric Burlison - Committee on Oversight and Accountability
- Rep. Andre Carson - House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
- Rep. Ben Cline - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Troy Downing - House Committee on Financial Services
- Rep. Chuck Edwards - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Jake Ellzey - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Brad Finstad - House Armed Services Committee
- Rep. Chuck Fleischmann - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Vince Fong - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

- Rep. Andrew Garbarino - House Committee on Homeland Security
- Rep. Carlos Gimenez - House Committee on Homeland Security
- Rep. Dan Goldman - House Committee on Homeland Security
- Rep. Craig Goldman - House Committee on Energy and Commerce
- Rep. Morgan Griffith - House Committee on Energy and Commerce
- Rep. Brett Guthrie - House Committee on Energy and Commerce
- Rep. Mike Haridopolos - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Jeff Hurd - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Mike Kennedy - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Ro Khanna - House Armed Services Committee
- Rep. Tom Kean - House Foreign Affairs Committee
- Rep. Jen Kiggans - Committee on Armed Services
- Rep. Young Kim - House Foreign Affairs Committee
- Rep. Brad Knott - Homeland Security Committee
- Rep. David Kustoff - House Committee on Ways and Means
- Rep. Nicholas Langworthy - House Energy and Commerce Committee
- Rep. Laurel Lee - House Energy and Commerce Committee
- Rep. Julia Letlow - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Ted Lieu - House Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Rep. Frank Lucas - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Seth Magaziner - Committee on Homeland Security
- Rep. Doris Matsui - House Energy and Commerce Committee
- Rep. Rich McCormick - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Grace Meng - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Max Miller - Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Rep. John Moolenaar - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Riley Moore - House Appropriations Committee
- Rep. Gary Palmer - Committee on Energy and Commerce
- Rep. David Rouzer - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Kim Schrier - Committee on Energy and Commerce
- Rep. Suhas Subramanyam - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Pete Stauber - House Committee on Small Business
- Rep. Bryan Steil - Committee on House Administration
- Rep. Dale Strong - Committee on Homeland Security
- Rep. Claudia Tenney - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. Ann Wagner - Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
- Rep. Daniel Webster - Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Rep. George Whitesides - House Committee on Armed Services

Question 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.

Aspen Institute's Congressional Program provides nonpartisan educational forums for members of Congress on public policy issues and organizes the conferences along with selecting members. The conference will take an in depth look at the Artificial Intelligence and how the development of AI will continue to influence industries, economies, and governance structures in the U.S. and across the globe. Federal policymakers will learn to understand a rapidly evolving technology that impacts every day life which includes communications, privacy, and ethics. This will continue to be a leading topic of conversation across all aspects of public policy. Aspen Institute has a special interest in Artificial Intelligence as signified by having a Digital Department within the Institute. Aspen Institute Congressional Program is paying for airfare, ground transportation, other transportation, meals and incidentals, and lodging.

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Ranking Member

Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Ashley Hinson, Iowa
Nathaniel Moran, Texas
Brad Knott, North Carolina

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>

April 2, 2026

The Honorable Ron Estes
U.S. House of Representatives
2234 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 Italy,¹ scheduled for April 6 to 11, 2026, sponsored by Aspen Institute, Inc.

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 \$525 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 \$525] 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

MG/MD:amr



Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member



**CONGRESSIONAL
PROGRAM**
aspen institute

The Honorable Ron Estes

**U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0306**

Dear Representative Estes,

I would like to invite you and Susan to our bipartisan, bicameral congressional conference on ***Securing U.S. Advantage in an Era of Evolving AI in Bellagio, Italy, April 6-11, 2026***, including travel dates. Please get back to us with interest to attend the conference **by Wednesday, February 25, 2026**. These conference spots fill up quickly due to heavy interest, so we may have to move you to a waitlist if we don't hear back in time. This invitation does not guarantee your participation in the conference.

Artificial Intelligence has emerged as a defining force shaping the global economy and the international balance of power, with profound implications for U.S. economic competitiveness and national security. Control over a complex ecosystem of strategic assets—including compute, data, energy, critical minerals, and human capital—will determine technological leadership and resilience in an era of intensifying competition with China and other global actors. Through roundtable discussions and exchanges with leading policy experts, Members of Congress will examine how advances in AI are reshaping U.S. business, infrastructure, and defense; assess regulatory and trade-offs; and explore integrated strategies to secure technological advantage, manage systemic vulnerabilities, and help shape global regulatory and ethical standards that advance American vitality and security.

Conference attendance is by invitation only. No outside observers, no lobbyists, no congressional staff, and no media are allowed to participate. All conference sessions are off-the-record. No foreign governments are accepted to fund the Aspen Institute Congressional Program. As required by the Senate and House ethics rules, we will provide congressional participants with completed and signed ethics private sponsor forms.

Travel expenses, including business class airfare, meals, and lodging will be paid for by the Aspen Institute; no expenses for entertainment or recreation are paid for in compliance with ethics rules.

The Congressional Program is part of the Aspen Institute, Inc. a nonprofit organization founded in 1949. The Congressional Program was created to promote leadership on public policy by bringing legislators together from both political parties with internationally renowned scholars for high level discussions and analysis. Since our program's inception, more than 639 members of Congress have participated in our 167 domestic and international conferences.

We hope you can join us for this important conference.

Sincerely,

Charlie Dent

Charles W. Dent
Former Member, U.S. Congress (PA-15th, 2005-2018)
Vice President and Executive Director
Aspen Institute Congressional Program
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