

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. 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: Charles Sedore
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: April 5th, 2024 Return: April 7th, 2024
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, D.C. Destination: Cambridge, MD Return City: Washington, D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Compass
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Attended peer review where legislative staffers discussed ongoing legislative projects.
Participated in roundtables on current challenges within different policy topics. Took part in a legislative simulation on immigration policy.
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 employee; **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 on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler:  Date: 04/11/2024

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Brad R. Wenstrup Date: 04/11/2024

Signature of Supervising Member: 

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original Amendment

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

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

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: American Compass

2. Travel Destination(s): Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

3. Date of Departure: April 5th, 2024 Date of Return: April 7th, 2024

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): See attached

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	\$40	\$299 per night for two nights= ~600	\$504	n/a
Accompanying Family Member	\$40		\$301	n/a

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: 4/9/2024

Name: Oren Cass Title: Executive Director

Organization: American Compass

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

Address: 300 Independence Ave SE, Washington DC, 20003

Telephone: (919) 633-7020 Email: duncan.braid@americancompass.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: Charles Sedore

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): Rep. Brad Wenstrup

Office Address: 2335 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515

Telephone Number: 202-225-3164

Email Address of Contact Person: greg.brooks@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: Charles Sedore
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: American Compass
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Cambridge, MD
4. a. Date of Departure: 04/05/2024 Date of Return: 04/07/2024
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 Legislative Assistant, the trip provides an opportunity to develop a greater knowledge in conservative economic policy as it relates to assisting my Member with his duties

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: *Paul R. W...*

Date: 02/29/2024

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:

American Compass

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 attached document

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

6. Date of Departure: 4/5/2024 Date of Return: 4/7/2024

7. a. City of departure: Washington DC

b. Destination(s): Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay, MD

c. City of return: Washington DC

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:
 American Compass is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to restore an economic consensus that emphasizes the importances of family, community, and industry to the nation's liberty and prosperity. A.C. is the sole sponsor & organizer of this trip.

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: Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay City: Cambridge, MD Cost Per Night: \$299
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Secluded location within driving distance of DC with necessary meeting space at a fair price

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	\$40	~\$600	\$504
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$40		\$301

	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: Duncan Braid Date: 2/21/2024
 Name: Duncan Braid Title: Coalition Director
 Organization: American Compass
 Address: 300 Independence Ave, SE Washington DC, 20003
 Email: duncan.braid@americancompass.org Telephone: (919) 633-7020

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 29, 2024

Mr. Charles Sedore
Office of the Honorable Brad Wenstrup
2335 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Sedore:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Cambridge, Maryland, scheduled for April 5 to 7, 2024, sponsored by American Compass.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) 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. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, 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.

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:eme

About the invitees: The following individuals were extended an invitation to the American Compass Conservative Economics Retreat due to their interest in conservative economic policy.

House Staffers			
First Name	Last Name	Office	Role
Marshall	Stallings	Rep. Jason Smith	Scheduler
Tyler	Fagan	Speaker Mike Johnson	Senior Policy Advisor
James	Hitchcock	Rep. Jim Banks	Legislative Director
Daniel	West	Re. Clay Higgins	Legislative Director
Charles	Sedore	Rep. Brad Wenstrup	Legislative Assistant

American Compass Conservative Economics Workshop

Friday, April 5 – Sunday, April 7, 2024

Hyatt Chesapeake Bay | Cambridge, MD

Retreat Programing

Friday April 5

CHARTER BUS (IF RIDING)

Union Station

10:30am

Attendees arrive and board bus

11:00am

Bus departs to Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

1:00pm

Bus arrives at Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

1:00pm-5:00pm

REGISTRATION

2:00pm-4:00pm

COMPASS WORKSHOPS

Attendees will be divided into groups; half will focus initially on “Peer Review” and half will focus on “On the Horizon,” then they will rotate.

Peer Review

We'll be going around the horn, inviting each attendee to share what they're working on and everyone else to provide feedback. Participants will also be tasked with providing additional topics for discussion at our Conservative Economics Roundtables.

Moderated by Chris Griswold & Duncan Braid

On the Horizon

Compass staff will present on the organization's key 2024 initiatives, including the launch of a new magazine and regular public opinion surveying. Participants will be broken into groups to discuss a number of relevant policy debates and asked to identify key open questions that could be answered with better research.

Moderated by Oren Cass & Oliver Traldi

3:00pm-5:00pm

CHECK-IN

5:00pm-6:30pm

WELCOME RECEPTION

6:30pm-8:30pm

DINNER

A Vision for Modern Conservatism

Executive Director Oren Cass gives a keynote address on the translation of conservative economics into a message and vision that addresses the economic and cultural concerns of ordinary Americans.

Remarks by Oren Cass

8:30pm-11:00pm

NIGHTCAP & FELLOWSHIP

An opportunity for attendees to gather and share a drink if they so choose before ending the day.

Saturday, April 6

8:00am-9:00am

BREAKFAST

SESSION I: COMING INTO ALIGNMENT

9:00am-12:30pm

After real-time polling to determine the sense of the group on a variety of issues, and a review of the feedback from the prior day, we'll hear from a special guest Rick Santorum and then divide into small groups to deliberate on key facets of a modern conservative vision.

9:00am-9:30am

REAL-TIME POLLING

Attendees will respond via their mobile devices to a variety of poll questions, seeing the group's responses in real-time. We will also see how the group fixed the federal budget.

9:30am-10:00am

REMARKS BY RICK SANTORUM

The political environment in Washington today is often discouraging, and the 2024 election cycle promises to be stressful and chaotic. How should conservatives understand and find meaning in their work and what goals should they set for the short-, medium-, and long-term?

10:00am-12:30pm

CONSERVATIVE ECONOMICS ROUNDTABLES

Attendees will participate in facilitated discussions on the key elements of a new conservative vision and agenda. In addition to pre-planned topics listed below, participants will have the opportunity to suggest additional topics during "On the Horizon" the day before. Results of these discussions will be synthesized into a document that forms

the basis of a presentation and discussion the following morning. Each attendee will participate in two 70-minute discussions, separated by a 10-minute break.

Topics will include:

- Defining the Challenge—narratives of American distress, diagnoses of underlying problems, identification of key culprits
- Core Principles—conservative values, non-negotiables, the contours of a coalition
- Goals and Aspirations—the vision for flourishing families, vital communities, and a strong nation
- Government’s Role—the American tradition, what government is good for, reinforcing the constitutional order
- A New Agenda—categories and framework, top priorities, opportunities to define the debate

Moderated by Oren Cass, Duncan Braid, Chris Griswold, Oliver Traldi and Abigail Salvatore, as well as attendees whose proposed topics are selected

12:30pm-1:30pm

LUNCH DEBRIEF

Participants will share reactions to topics discussed in the panels. Discussion questions will be provided.

Hosted by Duncan Braid

SESSION II: POLICY MAKING IN PRACTICE

1:30pm-4:30pm

Attendees will participate in an American Compass program on negotiation, attempting to forge an agreement on a hypothetical legislative package.

1:30pm-1:45pm

PLENARY: THE HOUSE WILL COME TO ORDER

An introduction to the simulation and brief explanation of rules and scoring.

1:45pm-4:30pm

BREAKOUT: HOW HARD COULD IT REALLY BE?

A challenge in all policy making is aligning the interests of the necessary stakeholders. In groups of 10 to 12, attendees will engage in a simulated exercise where they will attempt to reach an agreement necessary to pass a hypothetical package of legislation. They will be assigned roles of key parts of a hypothetical political coalition, including leaders of political factions in the government, industry associations, and outside pressure groups each with different and, at times, conflicting priorities. The simulation will be scored, and there will be prizes.

Hosted by Duncan Braid

4:30pm-6:00pm

BREAK

6:00pm-8:00pm

DINNER

Open buffet for attendees to eat at their convenience and discuss the weekend's programming so far.

8:00pm-10:00pm

PAST AS PROLOGUE

Attendees in small groups will be challenged with trivia about past political realignments, major legislative efforts, and other miscellany.

Hosted by Oren Cass

10:00pm-11:00pm

NIGHTCAP & FELLOWSHIP

An opportunity for attendees to gather and share a drink if they so choose before ending the day.

Sunday, April 7

8:00am-9:00am

BREAKFAST

9:00am-10:00am

EXECUTIVE TIME

10:00am-11:00am

SESSION III: SHOP TALK

Attendees in small groups apply insights from the previous sessions to their own careers and consider how they might help or be helped by colleagues in other professions.

Moderated by Oren Cass, Duncan Braid, Chris Griswold, Oliver Traldi and Abigail Salvatore

11:00am-11:10am

BREAK

11:10am-12:30pm

SESSION IV: CROSS POLLINATION

Attendees will reconvene as a group to review the synthesized results from deliberations in the Conservative Economics Roundtables, vote recommendations up and down via a live polling exercise, and discuss areas for further research and refinement.

Moderated by Oren Cass

12:30pm-1:30pm

CLOSING LUNCH

1:30pm

CHARTER BUS (IF RIDING)

Attendees load their luggage onto the bus.

2:00pm

Bus departs to Union Station

4:00pm

Bus arrives at Union Station

Front Lobby



American Compass
300 Independence Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20003

www.americancompass.org

To: Charles Sedore

2/20/24

Invitation

American Compass Workshop on Conservative Economics

Friday, April 5 – Sunday, April 7, 2024

Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

Cambridge, MD

The American Compass Workshop on Conservative Economics is an annual event our organization holds to provide American Compass members with the opportunity to encounter political and economic ideas that can help shape a new conservative consensus. At the workshop, we will explore new approaches to industrial policy, labor, family formation, financial regulation, and many other topics essential to developing that new consensus. Via our panels, guest speakers, and policy modules, we will endeavor to increase the fluency of each participant in these issues so that they are better equipped to engage in a number of ongoing, critical policy debates.

You are being invited because of your interest in conservative economic policy. If you choose to attend, we will cover your lodging, meals, and provide a charter bus between Cambridge, MD and DC.

Sincerely,

Oren Cass
Executive Director