

# COMMITTEE ON



# ETHICS

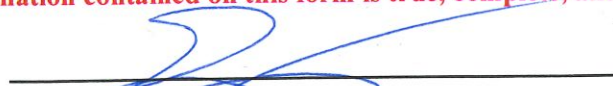
## EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

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](mailto: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.**

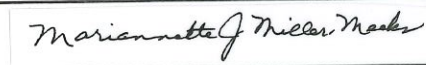
1. Name of Traveler: Blake Thelander
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**  None  
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): N/A
3. a. Dates: Departure: Wednesday, Aug 7, 2024 Return: Sunday, Aug 11, 2024  
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: Sunday, Aug 11, 2024 **OR**  None
4. Departure City: Washington, D.C. Destination: San Francisco, CA Return City: Washington, D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Center Forward
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Meetings and site tours with healthcare stakeholders, primarily pharmaceutical manufacturers and diagnostic companies to learn about research and innovation as it relates to federal legislation and agency policies.
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: Aug 19, 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: Mariannette Miller-Meeks Date: Aug 19, 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: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Travel Destination(s): \_\_\_\_\_

3. Date of Departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Return: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*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				
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: RL Kill Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*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](mailto: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: Blake Thelander

**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. Miller-Meeks

Office Address: 1034 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515

Telephone Number: (202) 225-6576

Email Address of Contact Person: blake.thelander@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](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Blake Thelander
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Center Forward
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: San Francisco, CA
4. a. Date of Departure: Wednesday, Aug 7 Date of Return: Monday, Aug 12  
b. Yes  No  Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  
If yes, list dates at personal expense: Sunday, Aug 11 and Saturday, Aug 10
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 Rep. Miller-Meeks' Health Policy Advisor, the lectures and sessions with key biotechnology and healthcare stakeholders will help inform the work I do for her on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.
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: Mariannette J. Miller Meeks Date: 6/13/2024

# 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:  
\_\_\_\_\_
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): \_\_\_\_\_
5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Return: \_\_\_\_\_
7. a. City of departure: \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Destination(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
c. City of return: \_\_\_\_\_
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:
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- 

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: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

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 type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total <b>Transportation</b> Expenses per Participant	Total <b>Lodging</b> Expenses per Participant	Total <b>Meal</b> Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee			
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	<b>Other</b> 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:     R. S. Kill     Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

July 26, 2024

Mr. Blake Thelander  
Office of the Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks  
1034 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Thelander:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to San Francisco, California, scheduled for August 7 to 12, 2024, sponsored by Center Forward. We note that this trip includes two days at your personal expense.

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:mc

**Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form: Supplemental**

<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Jordan	Brossi	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Anna Eshoo	As Health Policy Advisor to a member of the California delegation and Ranking Member of the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, Ms. Brossi can share perspectives on how the government is approaching regulations and incentives in the healthcare space.
Dillon	Cooke	Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Scott Peters	As Senior Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Cooke can provide insights on the room for federal support to investments in critical innovative technological industries.
Kit	Devine	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Jim Costa	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Foreign Affairs Committee, Ms. Devine can offer insight on Congress' efforts to incentivize international trade cooperation for critical supply chains, including onshoring and allyshoring key drug manufacturing.
Jesse	Ebadi	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Salud Carbajal	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Armed Services Committee, Mr. Ebadi can speak to the national security need to invest in American research and development.
Parker	Edwards	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative David Valadao	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Appropriations Committee, Mr. Edwards can speak to federal investments supporting healthcare development.
Sarah	Gilbert	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Neal Dunn	As a Legislative Director to a Co-Chair of the Healthcare Innovation Caucus, Ms. Gilbert can offer perspectives on federal efforts to encourage financial incentives for investing in startups and working to improve the regulatory process.
Kyler	Gilkey	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. Gilkey can offer insight on Congress's efforts to incentivize international trade cooperation for critical supply chains, including onshoring and allyshoring key drug manufacturing.

Emily	Henn	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Carol Miller	As Legislative Director to a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Ms. Henn can offer perspectives on Congress's efforts to expand or improve the existing tax structure to encourage innovation that may not be financially viable without government subsidy.
Ben	Hong Starr	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Mark Takano	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Education and Workforce Committee, Mr. Hong Starr can provide insights on how the federal government can invest in GME slots, scientific curriculums, and other workforce initiatives to aid in innovation.
Kaitlyn	Kelly	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Adam Schiff	As a Senior Policy Advisor to a member of the California delegation and the Judiciary Committee, Ms. Kelly can speak to federal protections and incentives for sharing intellectual property, which is essential to innovation and new business growth.
Shine	Lee	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Young Kim	As a Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Financial Services Committee, Ms. Lee can offer insights on how to incentivize venture capitalism to invest in American innovation, particularly in an international context as Rep. Kim is also on the Foreign Affairs Committee.
Joel	Miller	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Eric Swalwell	As a Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Judiciary Committee, Mr. Miller can speak to federal protections and incentives for sharing intellectual property, which is essential to innovation and new business growth.
Harsh	Patel	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Ami Bera	As a Health Policy Advisor to a member of the California delegation and a Co-Chair of the Healthcare Innovation Caucus, Mr. Patel can offer perspectives on federal efforts to encourage financial incentives to encourage financial incentives for investing in startups and early-stage companies bringing innovations to the market.

McLean	Piner	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Greg Murphy	As Legislative Director to a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Piner can offer perspectives on Congress's efforts to expand or improve existing tax incentives of the healthcare innovation sector.
Daniela	Puente	Health Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Tony Cardenas	As Health Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Energy and Commerce Committee, Ms. Puente can speak to the Committee's work on regulations to ensure an open, competitive marketplace for innovative young healthcare startups.
Quinn	Ritchie	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Mike Kelly	As a Legislative Director to a Co-Chair of the Healthcare Innovation Caucus, Mr. Ritchie can offer perspectives on federal efforts to encourage financial incentives for investing in startups and early-stage companies bringing innovations to the market.
Brian	Rogers	Deputy Chief of Staff	Office of Representative Kevin Mullin	As Deputy Chief of Staff to a member of the California delegation and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, Mr. Rogers can speak to investments in emerging technologies as a part of the healthcare ecosystem.
Danny	Ruiz	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Norma Torres	As Legislative Assistant for a member of the California delegation and the Appropriations Committee, Mr. Ruiz can offer insights on federal investment into healthcare research and public-private partnerships.
Sarah	Skirmont	Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Linda Sanchez	As Senior Legislative Assistant for a member of the California delegation and the Ways and Means Committee, Ms. Skirmont can speak to the efforts to expand or improve existing tax incentives of the healthcare innovation sector.
Blake	Thelander	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks	As Health Policy Advisor to a member on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Thelander can speak to the Committee's work on regulating to ensure an open and competitive marketplace for innovative young healthcare startups.

Jamie	Truax	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Raul Ruiz	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, Ms. Truax can share perspectives on how the government is approaching regulations and incentives in the healthcare space.
Stephen	Voljavec	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Vern Buchanon	As Senior Policy Advisor to the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee Health Subcommittee, Mr. Voljavec can offer insights on how the government's approach to balancing incentives that promote healthcare innovation yet give patients access to care and affordable treatments.
Jackie	Weinrich	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Doris Matsui	As Health Policy Advisor to a member of the California delegation and the Energy and Commerce Committee, Ms. Weinrich can provide insights on the room for federal support to investments in critical innovative technological industries.
Kelsi	Wilson	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Brad Wenstrup	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Ms. Wilson can offer perspectives on Congress's efforts to expand or improve existing tax incentives of the healthcare innovation sector, as well as insights on how to incentivize innovation in the mental health space.
Nick	Wooldridge	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Blake Moore	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Wooldridge can offer perspectives on Congress's efforts to expand or improve existing tax incentives of the healthcare innovation sector, as well as telehealth and other sunseting pandemic provisions.
Colin	Yokanovich	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Dan Crenshaw	As Senior Policy Advisor to a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Yokanovich can provide insights on the ability of the federal government to support investments in critical innovative technological industries.

12. Sponsor's interest in the subject matter and role in organizing the trip:

Center Forward's Healthcare Innovation Conference is being convened to bring together a bipartisan group of senior legislative staffers from the House of Representatives to discuss innovation and development in America's critical healthcare industries and how the federal government can foster business growth and further scientific progress. Center Forward's organizational mission is to provide centrists with the information they need to craft common-sense solutions and provide support in turning those ideas into results. Center Forward brings together Members of Congress, their staffs, not-for-profits, academic experts, trade associations, corporations, and unions to find common ground.

Center Forward is the sole organizer of the trip. Center Forward is planning the conference and is responsible for the organization and execution of the event logistics as well as the programming content. Discussion topics will include the venture capital ecosystem, innovative technologies, artificial intelligence applications for healthcare, supply chain onshoring, solutions for health disparities, new public-private partnership opportunities, and workforce development initiatives to support sensitive and growing industries. Conference attendees will be senior legislative staffers from House member offices, and will speak with researchers, business leaders, startup founders, academics, and local government officials in the San Francisco Bay area.

15.b.2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:

San Francisco, California was selected as the location for the conference to give attendees an on-the-ground experience in one of America's largest innovation hub cities. The Greater San Francisco Bay area has been the epicenter of healthcare innovation for decades serving as the point of overlap between the healthcare and technology industries. Coupled with a world-class university and remarkable workforce pool, some of the most innovative and successful American companies have chosen to make a home in San Francisco. Throughout the conference, attendees will see the results of investment in these industries and learn about the unique culture that attracts business growth and talent from across the country.



Center Forward Healthcare Innovation Conference  
InterContinental Mark Hopkins  
San Francisco, California — Wednesday, August 7 - Saturday, August 10, 2024  
Conference Agenda

---

Center Forward Contact Information

Riley Kilburg | 563-542-6821 | [riley@center-forward.org](mailto:riley@center-forward.org)  
Daniel Garza | 770-827-0242 | [daniel@center-forward.org](mailto:daniel@center-forward.org)  
Ava Bowman Thomas | 402-889-7058 | [ava@center-forward.org](mailto:ava@center-forward.org)  
Mercedes Angel | 812-270-1672 | [mercedes@center-forward.org](mailto:mercedes@center-forward.org)

<b>Wednesday, August 7, 2024</b>
----------------------------------

*Suggested Attire: Business Casual - Closed-toed shoes are required. Please note we will be traveling straight to our first visit after landing in San Francisco.*

**7:00 am (ET) - 9:40 am (PT)** Staff Departs from Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)  
Alaska Airlines Flight 458 | 5 h 40 min flight time

*Center Forward staff members will greet you at the barrier immediately as you walk into the Arrivals Hall. After everyone has gathered, our driver will depart the airport.*

**10:30 am - 10:45 am** Depart San Francisco International Airport (SFO) for AbbVie via shuttle  
AbbVie | 1000 Gateway Boulevard, South San Francisco, CA 94080

**10:45 am - 12:45 pm** AbbVie Facility Tour, Lunch, and Presentation

*AbbVie's state-of-the-art research and development facilities include cutting-edge technologies and methodologies employed in the drug discovery and development processes. Following the tour, attendees*

*will hear a detailed presentation delivered by AbbVie's leading scientists and executives.*

- Eleni Lagkadinou, Vice President of Oncology Early Development, AbbVie
- Asud Khaliq, Vice President of Medical Affairs - TA Head Multiple Myeloma, AbbVie
- Bardia Akbari, Vice President Clinical Study Leadership, AbbVie
- Ian McCaffery, Vice President of Precision Medicine, AbbVie
- Ken Emancipator, Executive Director, Precision Medicine Pathology, AbbVie
- Josue Samayoa, Director of Bioinformatics, AbbVie
- Martin Gawlitzek, Director, CMC Bioprocess Development, AbbVie

**12:45 pm – 1:00 pm** Depart AbbVie for Merck via shuttle

Merck | 213 E Grand Avenue, South San Francisco, CA 94080

**1:00 pm – 2:45 pm** Tour and Presentation of Merck facility

*This presentation will highlight Merck's strategic initiatives, ongoing clinical trials, and breakthrough treatments; emphasizing their contributions to advancing medical science and improving patient outcomes.*

- Grace McMahon, Associate Vice President of Pacific Hub, Merck

**2:45 pm – 3:00 pm** Depart Merck for Johnson & Johnson JLABS Incubator via shuttle

Johnson & Johnson JLABS | 329 Oyster Point Boulevard, 3rd Floor, South San Francisco, CA 94080

**3:00 pm – 4:30 pm** Tour and Presentation of JLABS

*Participants will tour J&J's JLABS to learn about the dynamic collaboration between large and small companies in the pharmaceutical industry. They will witness firsthand the laboratories and innovation spaces utilized by emerging biotech startups. The tour will showcase how JLABS supports these startups with resources, expertise, and infrastructure to accelerate the development of groundbreaking cures and technologies.*

*Following the tour, the delegation will attend a presentation highlighting the symbiotic relationship between J&J and the startups within the incubator. This presentation will emphasize the collaborative efforts to drive healthcare innovation, detailing successful projects and future initiatives aimed at advancing medical research and improving patient care. The session will also include opportunities for the staff to interact with entrepreneurs and scientists, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the incubator's impact on the pharmaceutical landscape.*

- Chris Haskell, Head of JLABS San Francisco Bay Area, Johnson & Johnson Innovation
- Brad Lin, CMO for Point Robotics (TBC), Johnson & Johnson Innovation
- Sean Carroll, Vice President of Seranova Bio (TBC), Johnson & Johnson Innovation
- Mili Shroff-Innovations Activations Marketing Manager, Johnson & Johnson Innovation
- Julia Samaniego- Innovation Activation Marketing Specialist, Johnson & Johnson Innovation
- Nick Ferrara- Business Operations Manager, Johnson & Johnson Innovation
- Arjun Suresh- Senior Operations Manager, Johnson & Johnson Innovation

- 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm** Depart JLABS for InterContinental Mark Hopkins via shuttle  
Intercontinental Mark Hopkins | 999 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94108
- 5:00 pm – 6:15 pm** Break
- 6:15 pm – 6:30 pm** Depart InterContinental Mark Hopkins for E&O Kitchen & Bar via shuttle  
E&O Kitchen & Bar | 314 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94108
- 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm** Welcome Dinner

*Riley Kilburg will give welcome remarks and walk through the agenda for the following two days. Remarks will focus on the mission of Center Forward, prior conferences and results, and the*

*importance of bipartisanship and pragmatic governing in the current political climate.*

*Mark Nagales, former Mayor of South San Francisco and current City Council member shares his thoughts on why the Bay Area has been a fertile ground for healthcare innovation. Known as the "Birthplace of Biotechnology," South San Francisco has been at the forefront of groundbreaking advancements in healthcare for decades. Councilmember Nagales will discuss the city's pivotal role in fostering an environment that nurtures biotech startups and attracts leading pharmaceutical companies. He will highlight key initiatives, public-private partnerships, and the unique ecosystem that supports continuous innovation in healthcare. His talk will provide a deeper understanding of how South San Francisco remains a global hub for life sciences and the impact this has on both local and global health outcomes.*

Speakers Include:

- Riley Kilburg, Executive Director, Center Forward
- Mark Nagales, Member, San Francisco City Council (former Mayor of South San Francisco)

**8:30 pm – 8:45 pm**

Depart E&O Kitchen & Bar for the InterContinental Mark Hopkins via shuttle

## Thursday, August 8, 2024

### BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Breakfast available in the primary lobby from 6:30 am until 8:00 am

*\*\*Business casual attire - Closed-toed shoes are required.*

- 8:15 am** Attendees meet in hotel lobby to depart for Stanford University
- 8:30 am - 9:30 am** Depart the InterContinental Mark Hopkins for Stanford University via shuttle. In transit, a member of the Center Forward team will brief attendees on the role of research universities in the United States' healthcare research and development ecosystem.
- Stanford SPARK | 450 Jane Stanford Way, Stanford, CA 94305
- 9:30 am – 11:30 am** Tour and Presentation of Stanford University SPARK facility
- The visit will begin with a tour of the SPARK facility, where attendees will observe collaborative workspaces that facilitate the translation of academic research into practical healthcare solutions. The staff will learn how SPARK's unique model supports researchers in advancing their discoveries from the lab to clinical applications, bridging the gap between academia and industry. The tour will be followed by a comprehensive presentation highlighting Stanford's contributions to medical innovation, showcasing successful projects that have emerged from the SPARK program.*
- Speakers Include:
- Dr. Daria Mochly-Rosen, Founder and Co-Director, SPARK
  - Dr. Rieko Yajima, Director of Drug Discovery and Innovation, SPARK
  - Dr. Will Goodyer, Assistant Director, SPARK
- 11:30 am – 12:00 pm** Depart Stanford University for Grail via shuttle
- Grail | 1525 O'Brien Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025
- 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm** Tour, Lunch, and Presentation at Grail
- Grail is a healthcare diagnostics company, pioneering new technologies to advance early cancer detection. A Grail representative will lead a tour and presentation showcasing their multidisciplinary organization of scientists, engineers, and*

*physicians. The discussion will cover the power of next-generation sequencing (NGS), population-scale clinical studies, and state-of-the-art computer science and data science to overcome one of medicine's greatest challenges.*

Speakers Include:

- Dr. Megan Hall, Distinguished Scientist and Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Grail

**2:00 pm – 2:30 pm**

Depart Grail for AstraZeneca via shuttle

AstraZeneca | 200 Saginaw Drive, Redwood City, CA 94063

**2:30 pm – 4:15 pm**

Tour and Presentation at AstraZeneca's facilities

*AstraZeneca's guided tour of cutting-edge labs and research centers, will provide a firsthand look at the company's pioneering work in drug discovery and development. The delegation will witness how AstraZeneca's scientists and researchers employ advanced technologies and methodologies to tackle some of the most pressing health challenges of our time. The presentation will also cover the company's role in addressing global health issues, emphasizing the importance of public-private partnerships in fostering medical advancements. The delegation will have the opportunity to discuss the critical factors that drive innovation and the policies that can support continued progress in healthcare.*

Speakers Include:

- Leonardo Bueno Estevez, Executive Director and General Manager, AstraZeneca Regional Supply - Redwood City

**4:15 pm – 5:15 pm**

Depart AstraZeneca for the InterContinental Mark Hopkins via shuttle

Intercontinental Mark Hopkins | 999 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

**5:15 pm – 6:10 pm**

Break

**6:10 pm – 6:30 pm**

Depart InterContinental Mark Hopkins for Harris' Restaurant via shuttle

Harris' Restaurant | 2100 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94109

**6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

Dinner – Investment in Critical Healthcare Innovation

*Attendees will hear from Rosanne Foust, President & CEO of the San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA). As a prominent leader in economic development within the region, Foust brings a wealth of experience and insight into the intersection of innovation and economic growth. Her presentation will shed light on how San Mateo County has become a thriving hub for healthcare innovation, driven by collaboration between industry, academia, and government. Foust will discuss the strategic initiatives undertaken by SAMCEDA to support and promote the life sciences sector, including workforce development programs, infrastructure investments, and initiatives to attract and retain talent. Through her remarks, delegates will gain valuable insights into the role of economic development organizations in fostering innovation ecosystems.*

Speakers Include:

- Rosanne Foust, President & CEO, San Mateo County Economic Development Association

**8:30 pm – 8:45 pm**

Depart Harris' Restaurant for the InterContinental Mark Hopkins via shuttle

## Friday, August 9, 2024

### BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

Breakfast available in the primary lobby from 6:30 am until 8:30 am

*\*\*Business casual attire - Closed-toed shoes are required.*

- 8:45 am** Attendees meet in hotel lobby to depart for Gilead
- 9:00 am – 9:45 am** Depart InterContinental Mark Hopkins for Gilead via shuttle. In transit, a member of the Center Forward team will brief attendees on infectious diseases including their definition, their prevalence in the United States and globally, and how they differ from a regulatory point of view.
- Gilead | 301 Velocity Way, Foster City, CA 94404
- 9:45 am – 11:45 am** Tour and Presentation of Gilead R&D Laboratories
- The visit includes a tour of Gilead's laboratories, displaying their work in developing treatments for HIV, hepatitis, and other infectious diseases. Following the tour, a presentation will highlight Gilead's collaborations with academic institutions and global health organizations. This visit will emphasize the importance of advancing healthcare innovation and improving global health outcomes. The delegation will also have the opportunity to engage with Gilead's top scientists and executives to discuss the future of infectious disease research and treatment.*
- Speakers Include:
- Anu Osinusi, Vice President of Clinical Development Virology, Gilead
  - Jared Baeten, Vice President of Clinical Development Virology, Gilead
  - Derek Spencer, Executive Director of FOCUS, Gilead
- 11:45 am – 12:30 am** Depart Gilead for Genentech via shuttle
- Genentech | 1 DNA Way, South San Francisco, CA 94080
- 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm** Lunch, Tour, and Presentation at Genentech

*The delegation will visit Genentech, a pioneering biotechnology company, known for its groundbreaking work in developing medicines for serious and life-threatening diseases. The visit will include a tour of Genentech's facilities, where the delegation will witness firsthand the innovative research that led to the first targeted antibody for cancer and the first medicine for primary progressive multiple sclerosis. Following the tour, a presentation will highlight Genentech's rich history of scientific breakthroughs, current research initiatives, and bold ambitions to tackle complex health challenges.*

Speakers Include:

- Christian Randecker, Senior Director of Clinical Supply Center - Operations and Process Support, Genentech
- Mike Laird, Vice President and Head of Cell Culture and Bioprocess Operations, Genentech

**2:30 pm – 2:45 pm**

Depart Genentech for California Life Sciences via shuttle

California Life Science | 685 Gateway Boulevard, #100, South San Francisco, CA 94080

**2:45 pm – 4:45 pm**

Presentation and Discussion at California Life Sciences

*California Life Sciences (CLS) is the premier trade association representing the diverse life sciences industry in California. CLS members include leading universities, biotechnology companies of all sizes, diagnostic firms, medical device companies, venture capitalists, patient advocates, and more.*

*During their visit, the attendees will hear from CLS on the collaborative ecosystem of life sciences innovation within the state. They will learn about the research and development efforts of member organizations, the critical role of venture capital in advancing scientific discoveries, and the impact of medical devices and diagnostics on patient care. The visit will also highlight how CLS fosters partnerships across academia, industry, and investment communities to drive forward innovative solutions to the world's most pressing health challenges.*

Speakers Include:

- Aracely Campa Ramirez, Senior Director of State Government Relations, California Life Sciences

**4:45 pm – 5:30 pm**

Depart California Life Sciences for InterContinental Mark Hopkins via shuttle

Intercontinental Mark Hopkins | 999 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

**5:30 pm – 6:30 pm** Break

**6:30 pm – 7:00 pm** Depart InterContinental Mark Hopkins for International Smoke via shuttle

International Smoke | 301 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

**7:00 pm – 9:00 pm** Dinner - Driving Innovation to the San Francisco Bay Area

*Attendees will have the privilege of hearing from Assemblymember Diane Papan, representing the 19th Assembly District, which encompasses portions of San Mateo County. As a dedicated public servant and advocate for her constituents, Assemblymember Papan has been instrumental in shaping healthcare policy and promoting innovation in the Bay Area. Her address will focus on the legislative efforts aimed at fostering a supportive environment for healthcare innovation and entrepreneurship in California. From advocating for funding for research and development to championing policies that promote access to healthcare services, Assemblymember Papan's insights will provide valuable perspectives on the role of government in advancing healthcare innovation. Delegates can expect to gain a deeper understanding of the legislative landscape and the opportunities and challenges facing the healthcare industry in the region.*

Speakers Include:

- Diane Papan, Assemblymember, 19th District (San Mateo)

**9:00 pm - 9:15 pm** Depart International Smoke for InterContinental Mark Hopkins via shuttle

**Saturday, August 10, 2023**

**BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN**

Breakfast available in the primary lobby from 6:30 am until 9:00 am

**8:45 am** Hotel check out and staff depart from InterContinental Mark Hopkins for San Francisco International Airport via shuttle

*Center Forward staff will be in the hotel lobby for the duration of the morning, and can organize transportation to the airport for conference attendees.*

**11:15 am (PT) - 7:34 pm (ET)** Staff departs from San Francisco International Airport (SFO)

United Airlines 1149 | 5 h 19 min flight time

**Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form: Supplemental**

<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Jordan	Brossi	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Anna Eshoo	As Health Policy Advisor to a member of the California delegation and Ranking Member of the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, Ms. Brossi can share perspectives on how the government is approaching regulations and incentives in the healthcare space.
Dillon	Cooke	Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Scott Peters	As Senior Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Cooke can provide insights on the room for federal support to investments in critical innovative technological industries.
Kit	Devine	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Jim Costa	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Foreign Affairs Committee, Ms. Devine can offer insight on Congress' efforts to incentivize international trade cooperation for critical supply chains, including onshoring and allyshoring key drug manufacturing.
Jesse	Ebadi	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Salud Carbajal	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Armed Services Committee, Mr. Ebadi can speak to the national security need to invest in American research and development.
Parker	Edwards	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative David Valadao	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Appropriations Committee, Mr. Edwards can speak to federal investments supporting healthcare development.
Sarah	Gilbert	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Neal Dunn	As a Legislative Director to a Co-Chair of the Healthcare Innovation Caucus, Ms. Gilbert can offer perspectives on federal efforts to encourage financial incentives for investing in startups and working to improve the regulatory process.
Kyler	Gilkey	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. Gilkey can offer insight on Congress's efforts to incentivize international trade cooperation for critical supply chains, including onshoring and allyshoring key drug manufacturing.

Emily	Henn	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Carol Miller	As Legislative Director to a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Ms. Henn can offer perspectives on Congress's efforts to expand or improve the existing tax structure to encourage innovation that may not be financially viable without government subsidy.
Ben	Hong Starr	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Mark Takano	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Education and Workforce Committee, Mr. Hong Starr can provide insights on how the federal government can invest in GME slots, scientific curriculums, and other workforce initiatives to aid in innovation.
Kaitlyn	Kelly	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Adam Schiff	As a Senior Policy Advisor to a member of the California delegation and the Judiciary Committee, Ms. Kelly can speak to federal protections and incentives for sharing intellectual property, which is essential to innovation and new business growth.
Shine	Lee	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Young Kim	As a Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Financial Services Committee, Ms. Lee can offer insights on how to incentivize venture capitalism to invest in American innovation, particularly in an international context as Rep. Kim is also on the Foreign Affairs Committee.
Joel	Miller	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Eric Swalwell	As a Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Judiciary Committee, Mr. Miller can speak to federal protections and incentives for sharing intellectual property, which is essential to innovation and new business growth.
Harsh	Patel	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Ami Bera	As a Health Policy Advisor to a member of the California delegation and a Co-Chair of the Healthcare Innovation Caucus, Mr. Patel can offer perspectives on federal efforts to encourage financial incentives to encourage financial incentives for investing in startups and early-stage companies bringing innovations to the market.

McLean	Piner	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Greg Murphy	As Legislative Director to a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Piner can offer perspectives on Congress's efforts to expand or improve existing tax incentives of the healthcare innovation sector.
Daniela	Puente	Health Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Tony Cardenas	As Health Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Energy and Commerce Committee, Ms. Puente can speak to the Committee's work on regulations to ensure an open, competitive marketplace for innovative young healthcare startups.
Quinn	Ritchie	Legislative Director	Office of Representative Mike Kelly	As a Legislative Director to a Co-Chair of the Healthcare Innovation Caucus, Mr. Ritchie can offer perspectives on federal efforts to encourage financial incentives for investing in startups and early-stage companies bringing innovations to the market.
Brian	Rogers	Deputy Chief of Staff	Office of Representative Kevin Mullin	As Deputy Chief of Staff to a member of the California delegation and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, Mr. Rogers can speak to investments in emerging technologies as a part of the healthcare ecosystem.
Danny	Ruiz	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Norma Torres	As Legislative Assistant for a member of the California delegation and the Appropriations Committee, Mr. Ruiz can offer insights on federal investment into healthcare research and public-private partnerships.
Sarah	Skirmont	Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Linda Sanchez	As Senior Legislative Assistant for a member of the California delegation and the Ways and Means Committee, Ms. Skirmont can speak to the efforts to expand or improve existing tax incentives of the healthcare innovation sector.
Blake	Thelander	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks	As Health Policy Advisor to a member on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Thelander can speak to the Committee's work on regulating to ensure an open and competitive marketplace for innovative young healthcare startups.

Jamie	Truax	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Raul Ruiz	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the California delegation and the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, Ms. Truax can share perspectives on how the government is approaching regulations and incentives in the healthcare space.
Stephen	Voljavec	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Vern Buchanon	As Senior Policy Advisor to the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee Health Subcommittee, Mr. Voljavec can offer insights on how the government's approach to balancing incentives that promote healthcare innovation yet give patients access to care and affordable treatments.
Jackie	Weinrich	Health Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Doris Matsui	As Health Policy Advisor to a member of the California delegation and the Energy and Commerce Committee, Ms. Weinrich can provide insights on the room for federal support to investments in critical innovative technological industries.
Kelsi	Wilson	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Brad Wenstrup	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Ms. Wilson can offer perspectives on Congress's efforts to expand or improve existing tax incentives of the healthcare innovation sector, as well as insights on how to incentivize innovation in the mental health space.
Nick	Wooldridge	Legislative Assistant	Office of Representative Blake Moore	As Legislative Assistant to a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Wooldridge can offer perspectives on Congress's efforts to expand or improve existing tax incentives of the healthcare innovation sector, as well as telehealth and other sunseting pandemic provisions.
Colin	Yokanovich	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Representative Dan Crenshaw	As Senior Policy Advisor to a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Yokanovich can provide insights on the ability of the federal government to support investments in critical innovative technological industries.

12. Sponsor's interest in the subject matter and role in organizing the trip:

Center Forward's Healthcare Innovation Conference is being convened to bring together a bipartisan group of senior legislative staffers from the House of Representatives to discuss innovation and development in America's critical healthcare industries and how the federal government can foster business growth and further scientific progress. Center Forward's organizational mission is to provide centrists with the information they need to craft common-sense solutions and provide support in turning those ideas into results. Center Forward brings together Members of Congress, their staffs, not-for-profits, academic experts, trade associations, corporations, and unions to find common ground.

Center Forward is the sole organizer of the trip. Center Forward is planning the conference and is responsible for the organization and execution of the event logistics as well as the programming content. Discussion topics will include the venture capital ecosystem, innovative technologies, artificial intelligence applications for healthcare, supply chain onshoring, solutions for health disparities, new public-private partnership opportunities, and workforce development initiatives to support sensitive and growing industries. Conference attendees will be senior legislative staffers from House member offices, and will speak with researchers, business leaders, startup founders, academics, and local government officials in the San Francisco Bay area.

15.b.2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:

San Francisco, California was selected as the location for the conference to give attendees an on-the-ground experience in one of America's largest innovation hub cities. The Greater San Francisco Bay area has been the epicenter of healthcare innovation for decades serving as the point of overlap between the healthcare and technology industries. Coupled with a world-class university and remarkable workforce pool, some of the most innovative and successful American companies have chosen to make a home in San Francisco. Throughout the conference, attendees will see the results of investment in these industries and learn about the unique culture that attracts business growth and talent from across the country.