

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: Scott Watson
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** ☒ None
b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: August 18, 2026 Return: August 22, 2026
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: August 22, 2026 **OR** ☐ None
4. Departure City: Washington, D.C. Destination: Long Beach, CA Return City: Washington, D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Progressive Policy Institute (Third Way Foundation)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: We toured various companies advancing innovations in the commercial space sector, toured Cal State Long Beach, and had a roundtable with the mayor of Long Beach
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: 08/31/2026

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: Gabe Evans

Date: 08/31/2026

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: _____ 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

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:**

☐ Actual Amounts ☐ Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee			
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee		
For each Accompanying Family Member		

19. **Check only one:**

- a. ☐ I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
b. ☐ *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**

- a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: Lindsay Lewis 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.

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>

August 12, 2026

Mr. Scott Watson
Office of the Honorable Gabe Evans
1229 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Watson:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Long Beach, California, scheduled for August 18 to 21, 2026, sponsored by the Third Way Foundation, Inc. We note that this trip includes one day 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 \$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.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:ac

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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

☐ Actual Amounts ☐ Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee			
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee		
For each Accompanying Family Member		

19. **Check only one:**

- a. ☐ I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
b. ☐ *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**

- a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: Lindsay Lewis 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.



PPI Space Del III Long Beach Program:

August 18-20, 2026

Sunday Aug 16, 2026

8:20 - 10:52 AM

Depart from Washington, DC (IAD) to Los Angeles (LAX)

Flight: United Airlines (UA 1734) Yannick Gill Flight**

Tuesday, Aug 18, 2026

****Official Program Begins****

7:00 - 9:35 AM

Depart from Washington, DC (IAD) to Los Angeles (LAX)

Flight: United Airlines (UA 319)

9:35 - 10:30 AM

Deplane/Grab Bags

10:30 - 10:45 AM

Bus to Varda Space Industries

10:45 AM - 12:30 PM

Tour of Varda Space Industries

Location: 225 S Aviation Blvd, El Segundo, CA 90245

Staff will tour Varda Space Industries' facility to learn about the reentry vehicle company's capabilities and how they are used by various USG and commercial entities. Varda will touch on the regulatory environment and how it impacts the company's operations as well as the importance of international collaboration.

This tour is important to staff's understanding of the regulatory environment for US space companies and ability to provide oversight of how USG agencies invest in these kinds of capabilities.

12:30 - 1:15 PM

Lunch at Varda Space Industries

Location: 225 S Aviation Blvd, El Segundo, CA 90245

Staff will eat lunch at Varda Space Industries (paid for by trip sponsor). They will get the opportunity to ask questions about the information from the tour.

1:15 - 1:30 PM

Bus to Impulse Space

1:30 - 3:00 PM

Tour of Impulse Space

Location: 2651 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Staff will tour Impulse Space's factory to learn about in-space mobility and how it is used by various USG and commercial entities. Impulse will touch on the regulatory environment and how it impacts the company's operations as well as how its recent onboarding to the DoD NSSL program is going.

This tour is important to staff's understanding of the regulatory environment for US space companies and ability to provide oversight of how USG agencies invest in these kinds of capabilities.

3:00 - 3:30 PM

Bus to CSU Long Beach

3:30 - 4:45 PM

Tour of CSU Long Beach

Location: 16007 Crenshaw Blvd, Torrance, CA 90506

This tour is important to staff's understanding of how workforce development impacts the local space economy - and contributes to national goals.

4:45 - 5:15 PM

Taxi to Hotel

5:15 - 6:30 PM

Hotel Check-in/Executive Time

Location: Fairmont Breakers Long Beach (210 E Ocean Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90802)

7:00 - 8:30 PM

Dinner and Discussion of Day

Location: Ballast Point Brewing (110 N Marina Dr, Long Beach, CA 90803)

PPI staff will moderate a lively discussion about the tours of the day and the relevant issues that came up. This is an important opportunity for staff to ask questions about topics that were raised across tours to ensure they're appropriately connecting the hands-on learning with their DC-based legislative work.

Wednesday, August 19th, 2026

8:00 - 9:00 AM

Breakfast

9:00 - 9:30 AM

Bus to Rocket Lab

9:30 - 11:15 AM

Tour of Rocket Lab

Location: 3881 McGowen St, Long Beach, CA 90808

Staff will tour Rocket Lab's factory to learn about rocket launch and how it is used by various USG and commercial entities. Rocket Lab will touch on the regulatory environment and how it impacts the company's operations as well as how its recent onboarding to the DoD NSSL program is going.

This tour is important to staff's understanding of the regulatory environment for US space companies and ability to provide oversight of how USG agencies invest in these kinds of capabilities.

11:15 - 11:30 AM

Bus to Vast

11:30 - 1:15 PM

Tour of Vast

Location: 2851 Orange Ave, Long Beach, CA 90806

Staff will tour Vast's factory to learn about commercial space stations and how they will be used by various USG and commercial entities. Vast will touch on the regulatory environment and how it impacts the company's operations as well as how NASA's CLD program is going in light of recent changes.

This tour is important to staff's understanding of the regulatory environment for US space companies and ability to provide oversight of how USG agencies invest in these kinds of capabilities.

1:15 - 2:00 PM

Lunch at Vast Space

Location: 2851 Orange Ave, Long Beach, CA 90806

Staff will eat lunch at Varda Space Industries (paid for by trip sponsor). They will get the opportunity to ask questions about the information from the tour.

2:00 - 2:15 PM

Travel to K2 Space Corporation

2:15 - 4:00 PM

Tour K2 Space Corporation

Location: 1355 Sepulveda Blvd, Torrance, CA 90501

Staff will tour K2 Space's factory to learn about high-power satellites and other systems and how they are used by various USG and commercial entities. K2 Space will touch on the regulatory environment and how it impacts the company's operations as well as how the recent Space Force acquisition structure changes are going.

This tour is important to staff's understanding of the regulatory environment for US space companies and ability to provide oversight of how USG agencies invest in these kinds of capabilities.

4:00 - 4:30 PM

Travel to Hotel

4:30 - 6:30 PM

Executive Time

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Dinner with Long Beach Mayor and Local Space CEOs

Location: Ruth's Chris Steakhouse (80 E Ocean Blvd Ste 160, Long Beach, CA 90802)

This dinner will be the culmination of everything staff have learned about the Long Beach space ecosystem and how it serves national needs. The Mayor and local space CEOs will join dinner to discuss how federal legislation impacts them and top issues staff should be watching.

This tour is important for staff's understanding of how a "tech hub" comes together. It involves federal, state, and local

government combined with academic institutions and industry. This will directly inform their legislative work.

Thursday, August 20, 2026

7:00 - 8:00 AM

Breakfast at Hotel

8:00 - 8:45 AM

Travel to LAX

10:45 - 6:50 PM

Depart from Los Angeles (LAX) to Washington, DC (IAD)

Flight: United Airlines (UA 2667)

****Official Program Ends****

Friday, August 21, 2026

11:00 AM - 6:53 PM

Depart from Los Angeles (LAX) to Washington, DC (IAD)

*Flight: United Airlines (UA 2667) * Scott Watson Flight**

Monday July 6, 2026

Scott Watson
Office of U.S. Representative Gabe Evans
1229 Longworth House Office Building

Dear Scott,

On behalf of the **Progressive Policy Institute**, I'd like to invite you on a staff delegation trip to **Long Beach, CA from August 18 to 20**.

For over a decade, PPI has hosted congressional delegation trips with elected officials and staff to learn firsthand about some of the most pressing policy issues facing our nation, and the world at large. Prior space policy trips have been to **Seattle, Munich, and Brussels with more to come**. This bipartisan, high-level trip will feature a select group of senior staff working for members of the House and Senate who are committed to advancing innovative and forward-looking policies.

We're travelling to Long Beach - often referred to as "Space Beach" - to learn firsthand about how current administration policies are impacting the space industry and its competitiveness. In particular, the trip will examine the importance of a presence in low-Earth orbit for science and industry, how launch capacity is constrained domestically, why most space capabilities are dual-use, and what the NASA as well as DoD budgets will mean for the space industry writ large. As part of this trip, we will meet with commercial companies in Long Beach and get a feel for the workforce pipelines in the area.

Key themes of the trip will be:

- Understanding the state of the low-Earth orbit economy and how NASA policies have impacted it
- Understanding how NASA and DoD policies influence the space community given the dual-use nature of most space capabilities
- Understanding the domestic launch economy and why its capacity is constrained
- Opportunities to see firsthand the effects of U.S. space policy, meet with American space businesses, and learn more about the impact of the NASA and DoD budget

PPI is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming on current policy issues and generating radically pragmatic ideas for governing. As such, this trip will comply with House and Senate ethics rules.

Please RSVP no later than Friday, July 10, 2026. I hope you will join us in what promises to be an insightful and educational trip. Space is limited; please contact myself, **Mary Guenther**, at 240-330-0251 or mguenther@ppionline.org or **John Michael Dieng** at 347-949-2741 or jdieng@ppionline.org if you have questions or require further information.

Regards,

Lindsay Lewis
CEO, Progressive Policy Institute

Mary Guenther
Head of Space Policy



PPI Space Del III Long Beach Program:

August 18-20, 2026

Tuesday, Aug 18, 2026

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This tour is important to staff's understanding of the regulatory environment for US space companies and ability to provide oversight of how USG agencies invest in these kinds of capabilities.

3:00 - 3:15 PM

Taxi to El Camino College

3:15 - 4:45 PM

Tour of El Camino College

Location: 16007 Crenshaw Blvd, Torrance, CA 90506

Staff will tour El Camino College's Space Cyber and Supply Talent Development Center to learn about how community colleges play in developing the workforce space companies need.

This tour is important to staff's understanding of how workforce development impacts the local space economy - and contributes to national goals.

4:45 - 5:15 PM

Taxi to Hotel

5:15 - 6:30 PM

Hotel Check-in/Executive Time

Location: Fairmont Breakers Long Beach (210 E Ocean Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90802)

7:00 - 8:30 PM

Dinner and Discussion of Day

Location: Ballast Point Brewing (110 N Marina Dr, Long Beach, CA 90803)

PPI staff will moderate a lively discussion about the tours of the day and the relevant issues that came up.

This is an important opportunity for staff to ask questions about topics that were raised across tours to ensure they're appropriately connecting the hands-on learning with their DC-based legislative work.

Wednesday, August 19th, 2026

8:00 - 9:00 AM

Breakfast

9:00 - 9:30 AM

Taxi to Rocket Lab

9:30 - 11:15 AM

Tour of Rocket Lab

Location: 3881 McGowen St, Long Beach, CA 90808

Staff will tour Rocket Lab's factory to learn about rocket launch and how it is used by various USG and commercial entities. Rocket Lab will touch on the regulatory environment and how it impacts the company's operations as well as how its recent onboarding to the DoD NSSL program is going.

This tour is important to staff's understanding of the regulatory environment for US space companies and ability to provide oversight of how USG agencies invest in these kinds of capabilities.

11:15 - 11:30 AM

Taxi to Vast

11:30 - 1:15 PM

Tour of Vast

Location: 2851 Orange Ave, Long Beach, CA 90806

Staff will tour Vast's factory to learn about commercial space stations and how they will be used by various USG and commercial entities. Vast will touch on the regulatory environment and how it impacts the company's operations as well as how NASA's CLD program is going in light of recent changes.

This tour is important to staff's understanding of the regulatory environment for US space companies and ability to provide oversight of how USG agencies invest in these kinds of capabilities.

1:15 - 2:00 PM

Lunch at Vast Space

Location: 2851 Orange Ave, Long Beach, CA 90806

Staff will eat lunch at Varda Space Industries (paid for by trip sponsor). They will get the opportunity to ask questions about the information from the tour.

2:00 - 2:15 PM

Travel to K2 Space Corporation

2:15 - 4:00 PM

Tour K2 Space Corporation

Location: 1355 Sepulveda Blvd, Torrance, CA 90501

Staff will tour K2 Space's factory to learn about high-power satellites and other systems and how they are used by various USG and commercial entities. K2 Space will touch on the regulatory environment and how it impacts the company's operations as well as how the recent Space Force acquisition structure changes are going.

This tour is important to staff's understanding of the regulatory environment for US space companies and ability to provide oversight of how USG agencies invest in these kinds of capabilities.

4:00 - 4:30 PM

Travel to Hotel

4:30 - 6:30 PM

Executive Time

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Dinner with Long Beach Mayor and Local Space CEOs

Location: Tantalum (6272 Pacific Coast Hwy, Long Beach, CA 90803)

This dinner will be the culmination of everything staff have learned about the Long Beach space ecosystem and how it serves national needs. The Mayor and local space CEOs will join dinner to discuss how federal legislation impacts them and top issues staff should be watching.

This tour is important for staff's understanding of how a "tech hub" comes together. It involves federal, state, and local government combined with academic institutions and industry. This will directly inform their legislative work.

Thursday, August 20, 2026

7:00 - 8:00 AM

Breakfast at Hotel

8:00 - 8:45 AM

Travel to LAX

10:45 - 6:50 PM

**Depart from Los Angeles (LAX) to Washington, DC
(IAD)**

Flight: United Airlines (UA 2667)

House Staff Invitees

PPI August 2026 - Space Staff Del to Long Beach, California

Abigail Carter
Chief of Staff for Congressman Suhas Subramanyam (D-VA)
abby.carter@mail.house.gov

Maddie Mitchell
Deputy Chief of Staff/Legislative Director for Congresswoman Jennifer Kiggans (R-VA)
maddie.mitchell@mail.house.gov

Walter Gonzalez
Deputy Chief of Staff/Legislative Director for Congressman Glenn Ivey (D-MD)
walt.gonzalez@mail.house.gov

Scott Watson
Legislative Director for Congressman Gabe Evans (R-CO)
scott.watson@mail.house.gov

Yannick Gill
Legislative Director for Congressman Christian Menefee (D-TX)
yannick.gil@mail.house.gov

Michelle Galdamez
Legislative Director for Congresswoman Emily Randall (D-WA)
michelle.galdamez@mail.house.gov

Chi Chukwaka
Legislative Director for Congressman Wesley Bell (D-MO)
chi.chukwaka@mail.house.gov

Katy Foley
Legislative Director for Congresswoman Brittney Pettersen (D-CO)
katy.foley@mail.house.gov

Demarquin Johnson
Legislative Director for Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (D-MA)
demarquin.johnson@mail.house.gov

John M. Cooper
Legislative Director for Congresswoman Doris Matsui (D-CA)
john.m.cooper@mail.house.gov

Griffin Wong
Legislative Director for Congresswoman Kelly Morrison (D-MN)
griffin.wong@mail.house.gov

Emily Hartshorn
Senior Legislative Assistant for Congressman Gabe Vasquez (D-NM)
emily.hartshorn1@mail.house.gov

Kaitlyn Mullen
Senior Legislative Assistant for Congresswoman Julia Letlow (R-LA)
kaitlyn.mullen@mail.house.gov

Christian Kerr
Senior Legislative Assistant for Congressman Robert Garcia (D-CA)
christian.kerr@mail.house.gov

Kelsey McBarron
Counsel/Professional Staff Member for Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
Majority Staff
kelsey.mcbarron@mail.house.gov

The U.S. House of Representative staff above have been invited because of their policy portfolios and senior roles within their respective offices.

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.

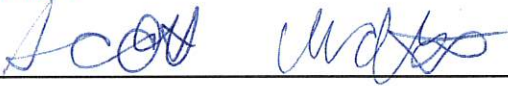
This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

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: Scott Watson

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): Scott Watson

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Rep. Gabe Evans

Office Address: 1229 Longworth House Office Building

Telephone Number: 202-225-5625

Email Address of Contact Person: scott.watson@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: Scott Watson
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: The Third Way Foundation
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Long Beach, CA
4. a. Date of Departure: August 18th, 2026 Date of Return: August 21st, 2026
b. Yes ☒ No ☐ Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?
If yes, list dates at personal expense: August 21st, 2026
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 Legislative Director for Congressman Gabe Evans, I handle the space and defense portfolio. The district my boss represents is a growing commercial aerospace hub in Colorado, and my responsibilities require frequent engagement with that industry. This trip will deepen my knowledge of the commercial space industry and will help me staff my boss in meetings with space companies and help grow this sector in Colorado.
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: Gabe Evans Date: 7/17/2026