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: Angela Shin
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: None ***OR*** ☑ None
   b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 09/04/2026 Return: 09/14/2026
   b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: 09/12/2026 - 09/14/2026 ***OR*** ☐ None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Seoul, Republic of Korea Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: KAGC CKLP educational delegation: AMCHAM Korea, National Assembly, MOFA, Korea Zinc, LG, Hanwha Ocean, U.S. Embassy Seoul, Gangwon Unification Observatory, historical/civic program, and delegation debriefs. See attached agenda.
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: Actual itinerary differed from approved agenda: Samsung/Hyundai were replaced by Korea Zinc/LG; DMZ by Gangwon Unification Observatory. Anduril and Office of National Security meetings were canceled due to counterpart circumstances; other meetings were rescheduled. See attached agenda.

I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler: _____ **Date:** 9/23/26

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: Rep. Marilyn Strickland **Date:** 9/23/26

Signature of Supervising Member: _____

last updated 7/2023

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: Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC)
2. Travel Destination(s): Seoul, Republic of Korea
3. Date of Departure: 09/04/2026 Date of Return: 09/14/2026
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Angela Shin

   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	$1,316.54	$1,367.00	$321.13	$46.72 - Museum admission and educational program expenses
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: Songwonseok **Date:** 09/23/2026

Name: Wonseok Song **Title:** Executive Director

Organization: Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC)

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

Address: 1012 14th Street NW, Suite 1475, Washington, DC 20005

Telephone: 202-450-4252 **Email:** info@kagc.us

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.

last updated 7/2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Angela Shin

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC)

3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Republic of Korea (Seoul)

4. a. Date of Departure: 09/04/2026 Date of Return: 09/14/2026

   b. Yes ☒ No ☐ Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?

   If yes, list dates at personal expense: 9/12-13

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. Strickland's Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Operations, understanding the US-Korea relations is helpful considering our office's close ties with the ROK. We frequently meet with legislators to talk about foreign affairs and the INDOPACOM, as it also relates to her position on HASC. Having a greater understanding will make office operations and scheduling smoother, as well as strengthening these relationships. In addition as her technology staffer, meetings with stakeholder groups like SK Hynix and the SK Group falls within my portfolio to advance the Congresswoman's legislative priorities and serve the district.

9. **Yes ☐ No ☒ Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**

10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member: _____ **Date:** 8/18/26

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

   Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC) | 1012 14th Street NWSuite 1475Washington, DC 20005

2. ☒ I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

3. ***Check only one.*** I represent that:
   a. ☒ The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**
   b. ☐ The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**
   c. ☐ The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

   If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: _____

4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary): _____

   See Attachment 1, Section III (Participant Selection Statement), pages14.

5. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: _____ Date of Return: 09/11/2026
7. a. City of departure: _____
   b. Destination(s): Seoul, Republic of Korea (ICN)
   c. City of return: Washington DC (IAD)
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:
   KAGC is a nonprofit organization organized under Section 501(c)(3) that promotes civic engagement and public policy education. KAGC serves as the sole organizer and administrator of this educational delegation. See Attachment 1, Sections I & III.

13. ***Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary***:
   a. Mode of travel: Air ☐ Rail ☐ Bus ☐ Car ☐ Other ☐ (specify: Local ground transportation in Korea)
   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:
   Not applicable. All air travel will be commercial economy/coach class.

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): _____
      Approximately $75 per participant per day.
      2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____
      Selected for its educational value and direct relevance to congressional responsibilities. See Attachment 1.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
   Hotel Name: Lotte City Hotel Mapo City: Seoul Cost Per Night: $165
   Reason(s) for Selecting: Cost-effective, centrally located, and convenient to scheduled meetings. See Attachment 1.
   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	$1,900	$1,155	$525
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A

	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	$275	Educational materials, interpretation/meeting support, and program administration.
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

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

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

Signature: _____ Date: 9/23/26

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 31, 2026

Ms. Angela Shin
Office of the Honorable Marilyn Strickland
1724 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Shin:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to South Korea,[1] scheduled for September 4 to 14, 2026, sponsored by the Korean American Grassroots Conference. 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 $525 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House employees may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently $525] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

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[1] Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or ohsstaff@mail.house.gov. House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at https://step.state.gov.

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

Sincerely,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:eme

2026 KAGC Congressional Korea Leadership Program (CKLP)

Actual / Updated Agenda | Republic of Korea | September 4-11, 2026

Friday, September 4 - Departure

Time	Activity	Venue / Location
As approved	Depart Washington, D.C. for Seoul, Republic of Korea	Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

Saturday, September 5 - Arrival in Seoul

Time	Activity	Venue / Location
Approx. 6:00 PM	Arrival at Incheon International Airport	Incheon International Airport
6:00-7:30 PM	Immigration, baggage claim, and customs	Incheon International Airport
7:30-8:30 PM	Transfer to Lotte City Hotel Mapo	Incheon to Seoul
8:30 PM	Hotel check-in	Lotte City Hotel Mapo, Seoul
Evening	Optional light welcome dinner / rest	Lotte City Hotel Mapo / Seoul

Sunday, September 6 - Program Orientation and Historical Context

Time	Activity	Venue / Location
9:30-10:30 AM	Program orientation: educational objectives, itinerary, participant responsibilities, logistics, safety guidance, and applicable ethics expectations	Lotte City Hotel Mapo, Seoul
10:30-11:00 AM	Transfer to Gwanghwamun area	Seoul
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Guided educational visit to Gyeongbokgung Palace and Gwanghwamun: Korean state institutions, cultural heritage, and civic symbolism	Gyeongbokgung / Gwanghwamun, Seoul
12:30-1:30 PM	Working lunch: historical context and preparation for official meetings	Gwanghwamun area, Seoul
1:45-3:30 PM	Guided educational visit to the National Museum of Korean Contemporary History: democratization, economic development, national division, and the U.S.-ROK alliance	National Museum of Korean Contemporary History, Seoul
3:30-4:30 PM	Seoul civic context walk / return to hotel: modern governance, civic space, and public institutions	Gwanghwamun / Seoul
5:30-6:30 PM	Delegation debrief: reflection on cultural acclimation and historical context for the week of policy meetings	Lotte City Hotel Mapo, Seoul

Monday, September 7 - U.S.-Korea Business and National Assembly Program

Time	Activity	Venue / Location
10:00 AM	Meeting with AMCHAM Korea	AMCHAM Korea Office, Yeouido, Seoul
Lunch	Working lunch	Seoul
2:00 PM	Meeting with Korean National Assembly staff	National Assembly, Seoul

Time	Activity	Venue / Location
3:00 PM	Meeting with the Secretary General and International Affairs officials of the Korean National Assembly	National Assembly, Seoul
4:00-5:00 PM	Guided tour of the Korean National Assembly	National Assembly, Seoul
5:30-6:15 PM	Daily delegation debrief: review of legislative and policy discussions	Lotte City Hotel Mapo, Seoul

Tuesday, September 8 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs Policy Meetings

Time	Activity	Venue / Location
10:00 AM	Meeting with the Ambassador for International Cooperation on Nuclear Energy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Seoul
11:00 AM	Meeting with the Director responsible for China affairs, MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Seoul
Lunch	Working lunch	Seoul
2:00 PM	Meeting with the Director-General for North American Affairs, MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Seoul
5:00-5:45 PM	Daily delegation debrief: review of diplomacy and policy discussions	Lotte City Hotel Mapo, Seoul

Wednesday, September 9 - Inter-Korean Relations and Security Site Visit

Time	Activity	Venue / Location
Full day	Educational visit to the Unification Observatory in Gangwon Province, focused on inter-Korean relations, security, and the division of the Korean Peninsula	Gangwon Province
5:30-6:15 PM	Daily delegation debrief: review of security and inter-Korean relations discussions	Lotte City Hotel Mapo, Seoul

Thursday, September 10 - Industry and Investment Program

Time	Activity	Venue / Location
9:00 AM	Meeting with Korea Zinc	Meeting room, Lotte City Hotel Mapo, Seoul
11:00 AM	Meeting with LG	LG Science Park, Magok, Seoul
Lunch	Working lunch	Seoul
2:00 PM	Meeting with Hanwha Ocean	Hanwha Ocean Headquarters, Euljiro, Seoul
6:30-8:00 PM	Daily delegation debrief dinner: review of economic security, investment, manufacturing, and supply-chain discussions	Seoul

Friday, September 11 - U.S. Embassy Policy Briefing / Conclusion of Official Program

Time	Activity	Venue / Location
10:00 AM	Policy briefing at the U.S. Embassy Seoul	U.S. Embassy Seoul
After briefing	Conclusion of KAGC-sponsored official programming	Seoul

Schedule Changes and Substitutions

The Committee on Ethics' approval was received during the week of departure, leaving KAGC a limited period to finalize certain meetings and site visits with counterparts in Korea. As a result, several activities were rescheduled, canceled, or replaced while maintaining the educational purpose and substantive focus of the approved program. The planned meetings with Samsung Electronics and Hyundai Motor Group could not be finalized and were replaced with meetings with Korea Zinc and LG. These substitute meetings remained within the approved program's focus on U.S.-Korea economic relations, industrial investment, advanced manufacturing, and supply-chain issues. The Korea Zinc meeting focused on critical minerals and strategic supply-chain cooperation, while the LG meeting focused on U.S. investment and manufacturing activities. The planned DMZ visit could not be finalized and was replaced with a full-day educational visit to the Unification Observatory in Gangwon Province, maintaining the program's focus on inter-Korean relations, regional security, and the division of the Korean Peninsula. Separately, the planned meeting with Anduril Technologies was canceled due to circumstances on Anduril's side. The planned meeting with the Office of National Security, Office of the President, scheduled for September 10 at 4:00 PM, was canceled due to circumstances on the Korean counterpart's side. Other approved meetings, including AMCHAM Korea, MOFA, Hanwha Ocean, and the U.S. Embassy Seoul briefing, were held on different dates and/or times based on counterpart availability. These scheduling changes and substitutions remained within the overall educational purpose and substantive focus of the approved program.

2026 KAGC Congressional Korea Leadership Program (CKLP)

Congressional Staff Educational Delegation to the Republic of Korea

Submission Package for Privately Sponsored Congressional Staff Travel

Prepared for the U.S. House Committee on Ethics

Prepared by
Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC)
1012 14th Street NW, Suite 1475
Washington, DC 20005

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Program at a Glance

Item	Description
Sponsor	Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC)
Purpose	Professional Educational Delegation for House Staff
Destination	Republic of Korea
Dates	September 4–11, 2026
Participants	Four House Staff Members, One DCCC Staff
Sponsor Representatives	Two KAGC Staff Members
Funding Source	KAGC General Operating Funds
Airfare	Commercial Economy Class
Lodging	Lotte City Hotel Mapo (Three Star Business Hotel)
Educational Focus	Democratic Governance | National Security Economic Policy | Advanced Manufacturing Technology | Foreign Direct Investment

Executive Director Cover Letter

On behalf of the Korean American Grassroots Conference ("KAGC"), I respectfully submit this package in support of our request for approval of the **2026 KAGC Congressional Korea Leadership Program (CKLP)**

KAGC is a national, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C. Our mission is to strengthen civic participation through congressional education, leadership development, public policy engagement, and grassroots advocacy. As part of that mission, KAGC develops congressional education programs that strengthen the professional capacity of congressional staff through firsthand learning experiences and informed engagement with public institutions, policy leaders, and the Korean American community.

KAGC believes that stronger public policy begins with better-informed public servants. By investing in congressional education, KAGC seeks to strengthen the long-term relationship between Congress, the Korean American community, and one of the United States' most important democratic allies.

The delegation is funded exclusively through KAGC's general operating funds. KAGC retains sole responsibility for participant selection, educational programming, financial management, logistics, and compliance with House Rules.

KAGC respectfully requests the Committee's approval of this educational delegation. We appreciate the Committee's careful consideration of this request and its continued oversight of privately sponsored congressional travel.

Respectfully,

Wonseok Song
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2026 KAGC Congressional Korea Leadership Program (CKLP)

Congressional Staff Educational Delegation to the Republic of Korea

The **2026 KAGC Congressional Korea Leadership Program (CKLP)** is a professionally structured educational program developed and administered by the Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC). The program is designed to provide congressional staff with firsthand educational experiences that strengthen their understanding of democratic institutions, public policy, international affairs, economic competitiveness, and issues directly relevant to their official responsibilities.

KAGC is a national, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C. Through congressional education, leadership development, public policy engagement, and grassroots advocacy, KAGC works to strengthen civic participation and foster constructive engagement between Congress and the Korean American community. The Congressional Staff Educational Delegation represents an extension of KAGC's educational mission by creating opportunities for congressional staff to engage directly with institutions and policy leaders whose work informs issues regularly considered by the United States Congress.

The delegation has been intentionally designed as a **professional development program** rather than a cultural exchange or observational tour. Educational activities focus on public policy, democratic governance, alliance cooperation, economic policy, advanced manufacturing, technological innovation, and legislative institutions. Throughout the program, participants will engage in structured policy discussions, institutional briefings, academic seminars, and professional exchanges with government officials, legislative professionals, scholars, journalists, diplomats, and private-sector leaders.

The Republic of Korea provides a uniquely valuable educational environment because it combines strong democratic institutions with one of the world's most advanced technology-driven economies. As one of the United States' closest treaty allies and one of its largest trading and investment partners, Korea offers congressional staff an opportunity to examine how legislation and public policy influence national security, economic development, industrial competitiveness, and technological innovation. These subjects are increasingly relevant to congressional committee work, legislative research, constituent engagement, oversight responsibilities, and policy development.

The educational itinerary includes meetings with representatives of the National Assembly of Korea, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Office of the President and National Security Office (subject to availability), the United States Embassy in Seoul, Seoul National University, and MoneyToday Media Group. Participants will also engage with major Korean companies—including Samsung Electronics, Hyundai Motor Group, LG Group, and SK Group—to examine how congressional legislation and public policy influence advanced manufacturing, semiconductor production, battery technology, supply chain resilience, workforce development, and foreign direct investment in the United States. A visit to the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) provides historical and strategic context regarding the U.S.–Republic of Korea alliance and security on the Korean Peninsula.

Participation has been intentionally limited to **five congressional staff members** in order to maximize educational value through direct interaction with host institutions, meaningful policy discussion, and individualized learning opportunities. Participants were selected based upon the relationship between their official congressional responsibilities and the educational objectives of the delegation. The small-group format allows for substantive engagement that would not be possible in a significantly larger delegation.

KAGC will administer all aspects of the delegation, including participant selection, educational programming, financial management, and logistical coordination. The program is funded **exclusively through KAGC's unrestricted general operating funds**. No corporation, foreign government, lobbying organization, trade association, or outside entity finances, directs, or controls the delegation. KAGC retains sole responsibility for the educational content, administration, and overall operation of the program.

Through this delegation, KAGC seeks to strengthen the professional knowledge of House staff by providing objective educational experiences that support informed policymaking and effective public service.

SECTION I

PURPOSE OF THE DELEGATION

The **2026 KAGC Congressional Korea Leadership Program (CKLP)** has been established by the Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC) as a professional congressional education program designed to provide congressional staff with objective educational experiences directly relevant to their official responsibilities.

The program advances KAGC's charitable mission by strengthening congressional education, leadership development, public policy engagement, and civic participation. Through direct engagement with governmental institutions, legislative professionals, academic experts, diplomats, journalists, and private-sector leaders, participants will gain practical knowledge of policy issues that regularly come before the United States Congress.

The delegation is intended to strengthen participants' understanding of democratic governance, legislative institutions, alliance management, national security, international trade, advanced manufacturing, technological innovation, economic competitiveness, and foreign direct investment. Educational activities emphasize comparative analysis, institutional learning, and practical policy discussions that support participants' professional responsibilities within the House of Representatives.

The Republic of Korea provides a uniquely appropriate educational setting because it combines mature democratic institutions with one of the world's most advanced technology-driven economies. As one of the United States' closest treaty allies and one of its largest trading and investment partners, Korea offers valuable opportunities to examine how legislation, regulation, and public policy are implemented through government institutions, industry, academia, and civil society.

The delegation also provides participants with broader historical and institutional context for issues affecting the Korean American community. By strengthening participants' understanding of Korea's political institutions, economic development, security environment, and bilateral relationship with the United States, the program supports more informed engagement with Korean American constituents, community organizations, and policy stakeholders.

Every meeting included in the itinerary has been selected because it contributes directly to one or more educational objectives of the program. The delegation is designed to emphasize substantive policy discussion, professional exchange, and firsthand institutional learning rather than observation or cultural tourism.

KAGC maintains full responsibility for participant selection, educational programming, financial management, logistical coordination, and program administration. The delegation is funded exclusively through KAGC's unrestricted general operating funds and is conducted solely in furtherance of KAGC's educational and charitable mission.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The Congressional Staff Educational Delegation has been developed to achieve the following educational objectives:

Objective One

Strengthen Understanding of Democratic Institutions

Provide participants with a deeper understanding of the organization, operation, and legislative processes of the Republic of Korea's democratic institutions through direct engagement with the National Assembly, legislative professionals, and public policy experts.

Objective Two

Enhance Knowledge of the U.S.–Republic of Korea Alliance

Expand participants' understanding of alliance management, regional security, diplomacy, and Indo-Pacific policy through meetings with government officials, diplomatic representatives, and national security professionals.

Objective Three

Examine Economic Policy and Industrial Competitiveness

Provide firsthand understanding of Korea's role in the global economy by examining advanced manufacturing, semiconductor production, battery technology, supply chain resilience, technological innovation, and foreign direct investment in the United States.

Objective Four

Support Professional Development

Strengthen the professional capacity of congressional staff through practical educational experiences directly relevant to legislative research, committee work, policy development, congressional operations, strategic communications, and constituent engagement.

EDUCATIONAL METHODOLOGY

The Congressional Staff Educational Delegation has been designed as a structured professional education program emphasizing firsthand learning, comparative institutional analysis, and direct engagement with subject-matter experts.

Educational activities will be conducted through a combination of policy briefings, institutional presentations, academic seminars, roundtable discussions, guided site visits, and moderated question-and-answer sessions. This instructional approach enables participants to compare governmental institutions, examine policy implementation, and engage directly with leaders responsible for developing and administering public policy.

Rather than relying exclusively on classroom instruction, the program integrates experiential learning by providing direct access to government agencies, legislative institutions, universities, diplomatic missions, media organizations, and major private-sector employers. This approach encourages substantive dialogue and allows participants to examine policy issues from multiple institutional perspectives.

Participation is intentionally limited to five congressional staff members to maximize educational value. The small-group format promotes meaningful discussion, individualized learning, and direct interaction with host institutions while providing opportunities for in-depth examination of issues directly related to congressional responsibilities.

Throughout the delegation, KAGC staff will serve exclusively in administrative and logistical roles. Their responsibilities include participant coordination, scheduling, transportation, communication with host institutions, and overall program management. Educational content will be provided by host organizations and invited subject-matter experts.

SECTION II DETAILED ITINERARY

Program Structure at a Glance: September 4-14, 2026

Day	Program Focus
Friday, Sept. 4	International departure from Washington, D.C.
Saturday, Sept. 5	Arrival in Seoul; transfer to hotel; rest
Sunday, Sept. 6	Orientation, cultural acclimation, and historical context
Monday-Friday, Sept. 7-11	Official educational meetings and site visits. Elliott Shin (9/11) – Departure from Seoul
Monday, Sept. 14	James Kwon, Angela Shin, Kellie Chong, and Edward Do – Departure from Seoul

Friday, September 4, 2026

International Departure

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
1:20 PM	Depart Washington, D.C.	International travel to the Republic of Korea.
In transit	Flight to Seoul	Participant preparation for the educational program.

Saturday, September 5, 2026

Arrival in Seoul

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
Approx. 6:00 PM	Arrival at Incheon International Airport	Arrival in the Republic of Korea.
6:00-7:30 PM	Immigration, baggage claim, and customs	Standard arrival processing.
7:30-8:30 PM	Transfer to Lotte City Hotel Mapo	Ground transportation from airport to lodging.
8:30 PM	Hotel check-in	Rest and preparation for the program.
Evening	Optional light welcome dinner / rest	Travel recovery; no substantive programming scheduled due to evening arrival.

Sunday, September 6, 2026

Program Orientation and Historical Context

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
9:30-10:30 AM	Program Orientation at hotel	Review educational objectives, itinerary, participant responsibilities, logistics, safety guidance, and applicable ethics expectations.
10:30-11:00 AM	Transfer to Gwanghwamun area	Move to historical and civic center of Seoul.
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Gyeongbokgung Palace and Gwanghwamun	Guided educational tour examining the historical development of Korean state institutions, cultural heritage, and civic symbolism in modern Korea.
12:30-1:30 PM	Working lunch	Discussion of historical context and preparation for official meetings.
1:45-3:30 PM	National Museum of Korean Contemporary History	Guided educational tour examining Korea's democratization, economic development, national division, and the evolution of the U.S.–ROK alliance.
3:30-4:30 PM	Seoul civic context walk / return to hotel	Contextual discussion of modern governance, civic space, and public institutions.
5:30-6:30 PM	Delegation debrief	Reflection on cultural acclimation and historical context for the week of policy meetings.

Monday, September 7, 2026

Democratic Institutions and Foreign Policy

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
8:30-9:00 AM	Transfer to National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Travel to legislative meetings.
9:00-10:30 AM	National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Meeting with the National Assembly Secretariat on legislative structure, the committee system, parliamentary procedures, and oversight responsibilities
10:45 AM-12:00 PM	National Assembly Staff Association	Discussion with members on the professional roles of legislative staff, policy research, committee operations, and constituent services.
12:00-1:15 PM	Working lunch	Comparative discussion of legislative institutions in the United States and the Republic of Korea.
1:30-2:45 PM	Meeting with Members of the National Assembly	Meeting with the Speaker of the National Assembly and staff on legislative priorities, bipartisan cooperation, and the U.S.–ROK relationship.
3:30-5:00 PM	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Meeting with Ministry of Foreign Affairs staff on alliance cooperation, regional diplomacy, Indo-Pacific strategy, and bilateral relations.
5:30-6:15 PM	Daily delegation debrief	Review of legislative and foreign policy discussions.

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Security, Diplomacy, and Academic Perspectives

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
9:00-10:30 AM	Office of the President / National Security Office	Meeting with the ROK Second Deputy National Security Advisor. Discussion of national security, deterrence, and U.S.–ROK coordination
11:00 AM-12:15 PM	Embassy of the United States in Seoul	Discussion with Embassy staff on the implementation of U.S. foreign policy, diplomatic engagement, security cooperation, and economic policy.
12:15-1:30 PM	Working lunch	Discussion of U.S. diplomatic priorities and bilateral cooperation.
2:30-4:00 PM	Seoul National University	Panel discussion with Seoul National University political science students on democratic governance, public policy, and Korean political institutions.
5:00-5:45 PM	Daily delegation debrief	Review of security, diplomacy, and academic discussions.

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Technology, Manufacturing, and Industrial Policy

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
8:30-10:00 AM	Transfer to Samsung Electronics headquarter / briefing location	Travel to advanced technology briefing.
10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Samsung Electronics	Meeting with Samsung's North American semiconductor manufacturing team on the CHIPS and Science Act, advanced manufacturing, supply chain resilience, workforce development, and foreign direct investment
12:00-1:15 PM	Working lunch	Discussion of technology policy and workforce development.
2:00-4:00 PM	Hyundai Motor Group	Meeting with Hyundai Motor Group's U.S. policy team on manufacturing investment, electric vehicle production, federal industrial policy, workforce development, and domestic job creation.
5:30-6:15 PM	Daily delegation debrief	Policy discussion on manufacturing, investment, and economic competitiveness.

Thursday, September 10, 2026

Economic Security, Supply Chains, and Public Communication

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
9:00-10:30 AM	AMCHAM Korea	Discussion on the business environment for U.S. companies in Korea, including bilateral trade, investment, and regulatory issues.
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	MoneyToday Media Group	Meeting with the Chairman of MoneyToday to discuss the role of media in democratic governance, public accountability, and policy communication.

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
12:30-1:45 PM	Working lunch	Discussion of economic security and international competitiveness.
2:30-4:00 PM	Anduril Technology	Discussion on how a U.S. defense technology company operates in Korea and supports bilateral defense innovation and industrial cooperation
4:30-6:00PM	Hanwha Ocean	Meeting with Hanwha Ocean's MASGA project team on U.S.–ROK shipbuilding cooperation, maritime industrial capacity, naval MRO, and bilateral industrial initiatives.
6:30 -8:00PM	Daily delegation debrief Dinner	Review of economic security, supply chain, and media discussions.

Friday, September 11, 2026

Security Environment on the Korean Peninsula

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
8:00 AM	Depart Seoul for DMZ educational visit	Travel to security-focused site visit.
10:00 AM-1:00 PM	Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)	Educational site visit focused on the Korean Armistice, deterrence, regional security, and the U.S.–ROK alliance.
10:00 AM KST	Elliott Shin - Departure from Seoul	Return travel to the United States. Departs Seoul at 10:00 AM KST and arrives at IAD at 10:50 AM ET.
10:50 AM ET	Elliott Shin arrives at IAD	Scheduled to arrive in IAD at 10:50 AM ET on September 11
1:00-2:00 PM	Working lunch / return travel discussion	Discussion of security environment and alliance policy.
2:00-4:00 PM	Return to Seoul	Informal educational discussion during return travel.
5:00-8:00 PM	Final program debrief Dinner	Review educational objectives, policy observations, comparative institutional lessons, and participant takeaways.

Saturday, September 12, 2026

Departure

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
11:00 AM	Hotel check-out	Personal time begins following the conclusion of KAGC-sponsored lodging. No KAGC-sponsored programming

Monday, September 14, 2026

Departure

Time	Activity	Educational Purpose / Focus
6:30 AM-8:00 AM	Transfer to Incheon International Airport	Ground transportation to airport.
10:00 AM	Departure from Seoul	James Kwon, Angela Shin, Kellie Chong, and Edward Do - Return travel to the United States. Departs Seoul at 10:00 AM KST and arrives at IAD at 10:50 AM ET.
10:50 AM ET	Arrives in IAD at 10:50 AM ET	Scheduled to arrive in IAD at 10:50 AM ET on September 14.

Itinerary Notes

- The Saturday schedule intentionally avoids substantive programming because the delegation is expected to arrive in Seoul in the evening after long-haul international travel.
- The Sunday program is educational in nature and provides historical, cultural, and civic context necessary for understanding the official meetings scheduled during the week.
- Private-sector meetings are included solely for educational policy discussions related to legislation, investment, manufacturing, technology, workforce development, and economic competitiveness.
- Any material change to the approved itinerary will be communicated in accordance with applicable House Rules and Committee guidance.

EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

National Assembly of the Republic of Korea

The National Assembly is the principal legislative institution of the Republic of Korea. This meeting will provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of Korea's legislative process, committee system, oversight responsibilities, and parliamentary procedures. Participants will compare the organization and operation of Korea's legislature with the United States Congress and examine the role of democratic institutions in developing public policy.

National Assembly Staff Association

Professional legislative staff play an essential role in supporting elected officials through policy research, legislative drafting, committee operations, and constituent services. This meeting will provide participants with comparative perspectives on the responsibilities, organization, and professional development of legislative staff in Korea and the United States.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Participants will receive policy briefings regarding the U.S.–Republic of Korea alliance, regional diplomacy, Indo-Pacific strategy, and current foreign policy priorities. The discussion will strengthen participants' understanding of international issues regularly considered by Congress.

Office of the President / National Security Office

This meeting will examine Korea's national security strategy, alliance coordination, deterrence policy, and current security challenges affecting the Korean Peninsula. Discussions will focus on strategic cooperation between the Republic of Korea and the United States.

United States Embassy Seoul

Participants will meet with American diplomatic personnel to better understand how United States foreign policy is implemented overseas and how the Embassy supports diplomatic engagement, security cooperation, economic policy, and bilateral relations.

Seoul National University

Political science students will participate in a panel discussion on democratic governance, public policy, Korean political institutions, and contemporary issues affecting Korea and the broader Indo-Pacific region.

MoneyToday Media Group

Participants will examine the role of journalism in democratic societies, including public accountability, policy communication, economic reporting, and the relationship between media and public institutions.

American Chambers of Commerce In Korea (AMCHAM KOREA)

Participants will examine the operating environment for American companies in the Republic of Korea, including bilateral trade and investment, regulatory issues, market access, and the private sector's role in strengthening the U.S.–Republic of Korea economic partnership.

Anduril Technology

Participants will examine how a U.S. defense technology company establishes and operates a presence in the Republic of Korea, navigates the Korean defense market, and collaborates with government and industry partners. The discussion will address defense procurement, emerging technologies, market-entry challenges, and public-private cooperation supporting bilateral defense innovation and the U.S.–Republic of Korea alliance.

Hyundai Motor Group

Participants will examine Hyundai's investments in U.S. manufacturing and discuss electric vehicle production, industrial policy, international competitiveness, and supply chain management. The discussion will emphasize the relationship between congressional policymaking and long-term private-sector investment.

Samsung Electronics

Participants will meet with Samsung's North American semiconductor manufacturing team to discuss the CHIPS and Science Act, advanced manufacturing, semiconductor supply-chain resilience, workforce development, and foreign direct investment.

Hanwha Ocean

Participants will examine U.S.–Republic of Korea cooperation in shipbuilding and the maritime industrial base, including commercial shipbuilding, naval maintenance, repair and overhaul, supply-chain resilience, workforce capacity, and opportunities for bilateral industrial cooperation. The meeting will also explore how Korean investment can support the revitalization of the U.S. shipbuilding sector and broader alliance objectives.

Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)

The visit to the Korean Demilitarized Zone provides historical and strategic context for understanding the Korean Armistice, deterrence, regional security, and the enduring U.S.–Republic of Korea alliance. The visit reinforces educational discussions conducted throughout the delegation on regional security, deterrence, and alliance policy.

SECTION III

PARTICIPANT SELECTION STATEMENT

Participant Selection Statement

Participation in the **2026 Congressional Staff Educational Delegation to the Republic of Korea** is intentionally limited to **five congressional staff members** in order to maximize educational value through direct engagement, substantive policy discussions, and individualized learning opportunities.

Participants were selected by KAGC based upon objective criteria directly related to the educational purposes of the delegation. Primary considerations included each participant's official congressional responsibilities, committee or office portfolio, policy expertise, leadership responsibilities, and the anticipated educational benefit of participation.

The delegation includes participants serving in both congressional committees and personal offices in order to provide a broad range of legislative and policy perspectives. The selected participants represent responsibilities in financial services, foreign affairs, legislative operations, public policy, communications, and constituent engagement—all subject areas that directly relate to the educational objectives of the delegation.

Political affiliation, party leadership, seniority, campaign involvement, or personal relationships were **not** considered in the participant selection process. Instead, KAGC sought to assemble a small, professionally diverse delegation whose official responsibilities would allow participants to apply the knowledge gained through the program to their ongoing work in Congress.

Participation is by invitation only. KAGC maintains sole authority over participant selection and no outside organization, corporation, foreign government, lobbying organization, trade association, or host institution has participated in or influenced the selection process.

KAGC maintains documentation supporting its participant selection process and will provide additional information to the Committee upon request.

Selected Participants

Participant	Position
James Kwon	Communication Director, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus
Angela Shin	Deputy Chief of Staff / Operations Director, Office of Representative Marilyn Strickland
Elliott Shin	Legislative Director, Office of Representative Carlos Giménez
Kellie Chong	Senior Policy Adviser, Office of Representative Dan Newhouse
Edward Do	Communications and Policy Director for Special Campaigns, DCCC (Non-Congressional Staff)
Jae Jang	Senior Professional Staff Member, House Financial Services Committee Financial Institutions Subcommittee
Jinwook Hwang	Deputy Communications Director, House Foreign Affairs Committee
Kevin Koo	Senior Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Lizzie Fletcher

Jonah Kim	Scheduler, Office of Representative Foster
Emily Kang	Legislative Aide, Office of Representative Mark Alford
Daniel Chung	Press Assistant, House Foreign Affairs Committee

Each participant has been selected because the educational content of the delegation directly supports his or her professional responsibilities within the House of Representatives.

FUNDING & PROGRAM INDEPENDENCE STATEMENT

Funding and Program Independence

The Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC) serves as the sole sponsor and administrator of the 2026 Congressional Staff Educational Delegation to the Republic of Korea.

The delegation is funded **exclusively through KAGC's unrestricted general operating funds**. The program is **not financed through restricted grants, earmarked donations, corporate sponsorships, foreign government funding, or contributions designated for this specific delegation**.

KAGC maintains exclusive responsibility and authority for:

- Participant selection
- Educational program design
- Development of the itinerary
- Selection of host institutions
- Financial management
- Program administration
- Logistical coordination
- Evaluation of educational outcomes

Organizations participating in the itinerary have been invited solely because they contribute to the educational objectives of the delegation. Their participation does not provide them with authority to select participants, determine program content, modify the itinerary, approve educational materials, or influence the administration of the delegation.

The delegation has been developed solely in furtherance of KAGC's charitable and educational mission. KAGC retains complete independence over every aspect of the program.

No outside organization exercises editorial control over the educational content or administration of the delegation.

PRIVATE SECTOR EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS STATEMENT

Educational meetings with private-sector organizations are included because they provide congressional staff with practical understanding of how federal legislation and public policy

affect investment, manufacturing, technology, workforce development, and economic competitiveness.

The selected companies—Samsung Electronics, Hyundai Motor Group, LG Group, and SK Group—have collectively invested billions of dollars in manufacturing facilities, research, technology development, and job creation throughout the United States. Their operations provide valuable case studies regarding implementation of legislation regularly considered by Congress, including the CHIPS and Science Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, trade policy, supply chain resilience, energy security, advanced manufacturing, and foreign direct investment.

Each meeting has been structured as an educational policy discussion rather than a corporate presentation or promotional event. Participants will examine how congressional legislation influences long-term investment decisions, industrial competitiveness, technological innovation, workforce development, and international economic cooperation.

No company participating in the delegation provides financial support for the program, selects participants, determines the educational agenda, or exercises any control over the content or administration of the delegation. Corporate participation is limited exclusively to educational discussions that advance the program's stated objectives.

These meetings are educational in nature and are intended solely to provide participants with a better understanding of the practical implementation of public policy. They are not intended to promote any commercial product, service, investment opportunity, or corporate interest.

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

KAGC is committed to conducting the Congressional Staff Educational Delegation in full compliance with all applicable House Rules, regulations of the Committee on Ethics, and guidance governing privately sponsored congressional travel.

The delegation will be administered in accordance with the itinerary and supporting materials submitted to the Committee. Should any material modification become necessary, KAGC will promptly notify the Committee and comply with all applicable reporting requirements.

Program expenditures will be limited to reasonable and necessary expenses directly supporting the educational objectives of the delegation. KAGC will maintain documentation for all expenditures in accordance with its financial management policies and nonprofit recordkeeping requirements.

KAGC staff accompanying the delegation will serve solely in administrative and logistical capacities. Their responsibilities include participant coordination, scheduling, transportation, communication with host institutions, emergency support, and overall program management. They will not engage in lobbying, advocacy, fundraising, or partisan political activities in connection with the delegation.

KAGC appreciates the Committee's oversight of privately sponsored travel and is committed to administering the delegation with the highest standards of integrity, transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility.

KAGC will maintain all records relating to the delegation in accordance with applicable nonprofit recordkeeping requirements.

SECTION IV

BUDGET NARRATIVE

Budget Narrative

The Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC) has prepared the budget for the 2026 Congressional Staff Educational Delegation using the principles of fiscal responsibility, prudent stewardship of charitable resources, and reasonable business travel practices.

The delegation has been intentionally designed as a modest professional education program. Budget estimates reflect reasonable commercial travel costs and necessary expenses directly supporting the educational objectives of the delegation. No portion of the budget includes luxury accommodations, premium airfare, entertainment expenses, recreational activities, or other costs unrelated to the educational program.

All expenditures will be incurred solely for educational purposes and will be limited to reasonable and necessary costs directly supporting the approved itinerary.

Air Transportation

Participants and accompanying KAGC staff will travel between Washington, D.C. and Seoul using **commercial economy-class airfare**. Airfare estimates are based on publicly available commercial fares available at the time of budget preparation and represent reasonable good-faith estimates.

Estimated airfare has been calculated at **approximately $1,800 per traveler**.

Lodging

Participants will stay at **Lotte City Hotel Seoul**, a moderately priced business hotel selected because of its reasonable cost, central location, safety, and convenient access to scheduled educational meetings.

Single-occupancy accommodations will be provided for all participants to support professional travel and accommodate varying work schedules during the delegation.

The estimated room rate is **approximately $150 per night** based on publicly available pricing from commercial travel providers.

Meals

Meal expenses are limited to reasonable business meals directly associated with scheduled educational activities.

Working breakfasts, lunches, and dinners have been budgeted using conservative estimates consistent with ordinary nonprofit business travel. Meal expenses are intended solely to support the educational schedule and are not designed to provide entertainment or luxury dining experiences.

Ground Transportation

Ground transportation includes airport transfers and transportation between scheduled educational meetings.

Transportation costs have been minimized by grouping meetings geographically whenever practical and by selecting lodging that reduces travel time between program locations.

Educational Program Administration

Administrative expenses include educational materials, participant orientation, meeting coordination, interpretation support when necessary, communications, and logistical management required to administer the delegation effectively.

These expenses directly support the educational objectives of the program and are necessary for the successful administration of the delegation.

Financial Stewardship

KAGC is committed to responsible stewardship of charitable resources. Every expenditure included in this budget directly supports the educational purposes of the delegation and reflects KAGC's commitment to conducting a practical, cost-effective professional education program.

ESTIMATED PROGRAM BUDGET

Estimated Cost Per Congressional Participant

Category	Estimated Cost (USD)
Roundtrip Economy Airfare	$1,700
Lodging (7nights @ $165)	$1,155
Meals	$525
Ground Transportation	$200
Educational Materials	$25
Interpretation & Meeting Support	$200

Category	Estimated Cost (USD)
Program Administration	$150
Total Per Participant	**$3,955**

Congressional Participants (4)

Category	Total
Airfare	$6,800
Lodging	$4,620
Meals	$2,100
Ground Transportation	$800
Educational Materials	$100
Interpretation & Meeting Support	$800
Program Administration	$600
Subtotal	**$15,820**

KAGC Administrative Staff (2) + Non Congressional Participant (1) =Total (3)

Category	Total
Roundtrip Economy Airfare	$5,100
Lodging	$3,465
Meals	$1,575
Ground Transportation	$600
Subtotal	**$10,740**

Shared Program Expenses

Category	Total
Pre-Departure Orientation	$500
Participant Materials & Printing	$350
Meeting Logistics & Administrative Support	$1,555
Subtotal	**$2,405**

TOTAL ESTIMATED PROGRAM COST

Category	Total
Congressional Participants	$15,820
KAGC Administrative Staff	$10,740

Category	Total
Shared Program Expenses	$2,405
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	**$28,965**

Good Faith Cost Estimate

The above budget represents KAGC's good-faith estimate of the anticipated costs necessary to conduct the Congressional Staff Educational Delegation. Actual expenditures may vary slightly depending on airfare availability, hotel rates, and local transportation costs at the time of travel. KAGC will ensure that all expenditures remain reasonable, necessary, and directly related to the educational purposes of the delegation.

SECTION V

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Expected Educational Outcomes

The 2026 Congressional Staff Educational Delegation has been designed to strengthen participants' professional knowledge through direct engagement with governmental institutions, academic experts, diplomatic representatives, journalists, and private-sector leaders in the Republic of Korea.

Upon completion of the delegation, participants are expected to:

- Develop a stronger understanding of the structure, operation, and legislative processes of the Republic of Korea's democratic institutions.
- Enhance their knowledge of the U.S.–Republic of Korea alliance, regional security, and Indo-Pacific policy.
- Gain practical insight into the implementation of congressional legislation through discussions concerning advanced manufacturing, semiconductor production, battery technology, foreign direct investment, and supply chain resilience.
- Strengthen their understanding of the relationship between public policy, economic competitiveness, and technological innovation.
- Acquire comparative perspectives that support legislative research, committee responsibilities, constituent engagement, strategic communications, and policy development.
- Better understand issues affecting Korean American communities through broader knowledge of Korea's political institutions, economic development, and bilateral relationship with the United States.

The delegation is intended to provide lasting professional value by expanding participants' policy knowledge and strengthening their capacity to support Members of Congress in their official responsibilities.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

KAGC is committed to continuous improvement of its congressional education programs.

Following completion of the delegation, participants will be invited to provide written feedback regarding the educational content, organization, and overall effectiveness of the program. Participant evaluations will assist KAGC in assessing whether the delegation achieved its stated educational objectives and will inform future improvements to congressional education initiatives.

KAGC will also conduct an internal review of the program to evaluate logistical execution, educational outcomes, and administrative performance. Lessons learned through this evaluation process will be incorporated into future congressional staff educational delegations.

RISK MANAGEMENT

KAGC recognizes the importance of effective planning and participant safety throughout the delegation.

KAGC staff accompanying the delegation will serve exclusively in administrative and logistical capacities. Responsibilities include participant communications, transportation coordination, meeting logistics, scheduling, emergency response coordination, and communication with host institutions.

Prior to departure, participants will receive:

- A complete program itinerary.
- Emergency contact information for KAGC staff.
- Hotel information and transportation details.
- Contact information for the Embassy of the United States in Seoul.
- Program guidelines and logistical instructions.

Throughout the delegation, KAGC staff will remain available to provide logistical assistance and coordinate any necessary schedule adjustments resulting from unforeseen circumstances.

Any significant modification to the approved educational itinerary will be communicated to the Committee on Ethics in accordance with applicable House Rules and Committee guidance.

Participants remain responsible for complying with all applicable House Rules and Committee on Ethics requirements throughout the delegation.

Prior to departure, KAGC will provide participants with guidance regarding program expectations, logistics, emergency procedures, and applicable ethics requirements.

CONCLUSION

The Korean American Grassroots Conference respectfully submits this package in support of the **2026 Congressional Staff Educational Delegation to the Republic of Korea**.

The delegation has been carefully designed as a professional educational program that advances KAGC's charitable mission while providing congressional staff with objective, firsthand learning opportunities directly related to their official responsibilities.

The program emphasizes democratic governance, national security, economic policy, advanced manufacturing, technological innovation, and the United States–Republic of Korea alliance through structured engagement with governmental institutions, academic experts, diplomatic representatives, journalists, and private-sector leaders.

KAGC has developed the delegation using principles of independence, fiscal responsibility, transparency, and educational integrity. The organization retains sole responsibility for participant selection, program administration, educational content, financial management, and compliance with all applicable House Rules and Committee on Ethics regulations.

KAGC respectfully requests the Committee's approval of this educational delegation and appreciates the Committee's continued oversight of privately sponsored congressional travel.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

Korean American Grassroots Conference Organizational Brochure

Official KAGC organizational brochure describing the organization's mission, history, congressional education programs, leadership development initiatives, and civic engagement activities.

Appendix B

IRS Determination Letter

Internal Revenue Service determination letter recognizing KAGC as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information contained in this submission package is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that the Korean American Grassroots Conference will administer the Congressional Staff Educational Delegation in accordance with the information provided herein and all applicable House Rules and Committee on Ethics regulations.

Wonseok Song
Executive Director
Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC)

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(202) 450-4252

Date: 07/07/2026

KOREAN
AMERICAN
GRASSROOTS
CONFERENCE

KAGC:

WHO WE ARE

KOREAN AMERICAN GRASSROOTS CONFERENCE

GRASSROOTS
TO
CONGRESS

(202) 450-4252
INFO@KAGC.US
KAGC.US

KAGC: Who We Are

The Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC) serves as a **bridge** between **the Korean American grassroots community** and **Capitol Hill**, educating members of Congress and their staff on key policy priorities facing Korean Americans. KAGC also supports civic education and voting registration initiatives through its partnership with **30 affinity organizations** nationwide.

To empower our community as active **civic participants** and effective **grassroots advocates**, KAGC serves as a central **resource hub** for the Korean American electorate to access up-to-date information and analysis through its publications on Korean American legislative developments and policy priorities. As the leading Korean American grassroots organization in Washington, D.C., KAGC is committed to fostering civic literacy and leadership across all age groups.

This booklet offers a concise overview of KAGC's major programs and activities, including a summary of the 119th Congress and previews of KAGC's 2025 legislative publications, including the Korean American Population Report, Korean American Policy Priorities, and the 118th Congress Korean American Legislative Developments.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

02 **KAGC Introduction**

This chapter introduces KAGC's mission and programs.

06 **Summary of the 119th Congress**

This chapter provides a representational overview of the 119th Congress, including the political distribution of seats, racial and ethnic diversity, and profiles of the Korean American Members of Congress, and the Korea Caucus.

08 **Korean American Population Data**

This chapter provides an overview of the Korean American population, including data on the top 20 U.S. states, counties, congressional districts, and cities, along with an analysis of the top 10 states.

11 **2025 Korean American Policy Priorities**

This chapter presents the findings by the Korean American Grassroots Conference on the key issues facing the Korean American community and the policy recommendations to address them.

18 **118th Congress Legislative Developments**

This chapter provides a summary of the legislation introduced in the 118th U.S. Congress, relevant to the Korean American community, along with an analysis by the Korean American Grassroots Conference on the legislative outlook for the 119th U.S. Congress under the new administration.

27 **Support KAGC**

As a charitable, educational not-for-profit organization, all donations to KAGC are tax-deductible under the IRS code 501(c)(3).

KAGC's MISSION

The Korean American Grassroots Conference is dedicated to uplifting our community through active civic engagement, and in turn, to contributing to the U.S-Korea alliance. To that end, KAGC provides our community members on the grassroots level with legislative education, advocacy training, congressional programs, and platforms to actively participate in their local communities as vocal citizens.

ABOUT KAGC

The largest nationwide network of Korean American voters, the Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC) is a **non-partisan**, **not-for-profit organization** dedicated to **uplifting our community** through active **civic participation** from **the grassroots level**.

KAGC bridges **the grassroots to Capitol Hill** by educating members and staff of Congress on Korean American policy priorities, as well as assisting its **30 partner organizations** to develop and **implement civic education** and **voter registration programs** across the United States.

In order to equip and empower our community members to become active participants and effective advocates, KAGC serves as **the central resource hub** by providing up-to-date information and analyses on the Korean American electorate, priority issues, and the latest policy developments.

Over the years, KAGC has served as the leading grassroots organizer for the Korean American community in Washington, D.C. – providing comprehensive civic education, hosting national conferences, and fellowship programs to develop civic literacy and leadership capacities for community members of all age groups.

KAGC PROGRAMS

Voter Education

UPLIFTING THE VOICES OF KOREAN AMERICANS

- Promoting "**Get Out the Vote**"
- **Educating members of Congress and voters** on the critical issues facing the Korean American community
- Hosting local and regional seminars to **educate community** members on civic engagement and grassroots advocacy
- Publishing Korean American **policy priorities** for each Congress

Programs

Voter Registration Challenge
Regional Seminar
KAGC U On-Campus Education

Resources

KAGC Election Guide
Korean American Policy Priorities
Korean American Legislative Developments
Korean American Population Data
Korean American Voter Data
Korean Americans in Public Office
Directory on Members of Congress

Capitol Hill Engagement

RAISING THE AWARENESS AND PRESENCE OF KOREAN AMERICANS

- **Engaging directly with members of Congress** and offices to support their outreach initiatives with Korean American constituents
- **Hold 200+ attendee receptions** co-hosted by honorary speakers to commemorate the contributions and achievements of Korean Americans

Programs

Congressional Advocacy
Korean American Day Reception
727 Korean War Armistice Day Reception
Issue-Based Briefings
Other Congressional Receptions

KAGC Conference

LARGEST ANNUAL GATHERING OF KOREAN AMERICAN VOTERS

- **Largest annual gathering** of Korean American voters since 2014
- **Fostering future generations of young Korean American leaders** through first-hand experience in civic engagement and grassroots advocacy in Washington, D.C.
- **Hosting civic education workshops** with congressional staffers to prepare for Capitol Hill office visits
- Building connections with KAGC alumni and other community members in Washington D.C.

Programs

KAGC U Leadership Summit
KAGC National Conference
Young Professionals Summit
West Coast Conference

Public Sector Capacity Building

BUILDING A PIPELINE FOR TOMORROW'S PUBLIC SERVANTS – FROM GUIDANCE TO SUCCESS

- **Establishing a pipeline for young Korean Americans** to navigate and secure various career opportunities in the public sector
- Collaborations with the White House and representatives from **federal agencies** to hold interactive career panels with KAGC fellows

Programs

Congressional Fellowship
KAGC Academy
CKASA Career Panel
Public Sector Career Panel
White House Meeting

US-Korea Public Diplomacy

STRENGTHENING U.S.-KOREA RELATIONS

- **Supporting members of Congress and staffers** in deepening their understanding of **the Korean American community and U.S. relations with South Korea**
- **Providing guidance to Korean businesses and government officials** on how to navigate changing trends in U.S.

Programs

Press Briefings
Congress 101
Circle 900
Embassy Reception

WEBSITE

To learn more about KAGC,
visit our website and join our mailing list.

INSTAGRAM

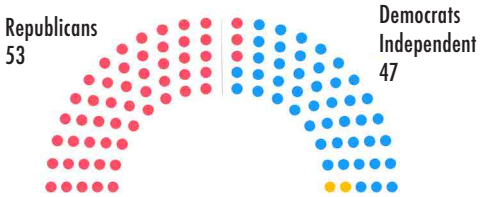
Updates regarding KAGC news will be posted on KAGC's Instagram.

KAGC has begun to teach me the means by which I can advocate for my communities. I realized through the KAGC U Summit that my identity could also serve as a channel to serve and uplift the underrepresented Asian American demographic in government. Thank you again to KAGC for providing me with a formal introduction to public service.

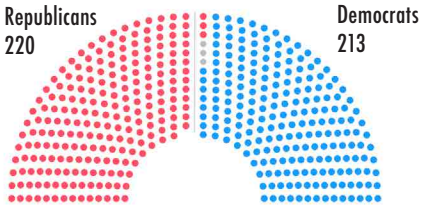
Sydney Kim, 2024 Fellow
- Rep. Juan Ciscomani (AZ-6)

SUMMARY OF THE 119TH CONGRESS

BALANCE OF POWER

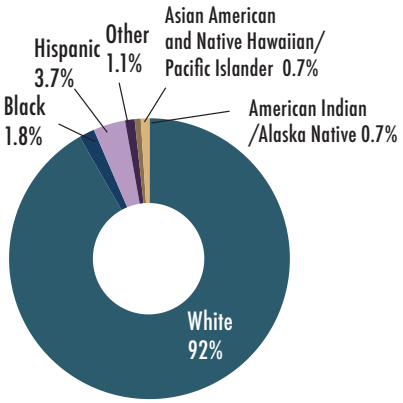


SENATE

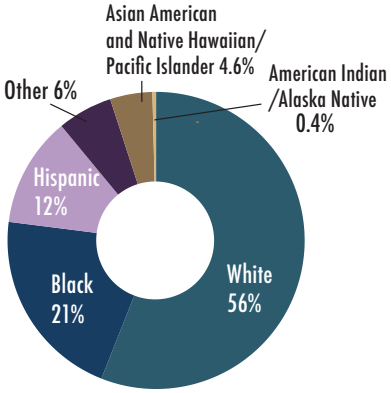


HOUSE

RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY BY PARTY



SENATE



HOUSE

CONGRESSIONAL KOREA CAUCUSES

Both chambers of Congress have a Korea Caucus dedicated to **advancing and strengthening the bilateral alliance** between the United States and the Republic of Korea.

The Senate Korea Caucus is a bipartisan group that works to enhance economic, security, cultural, and scientific ties between the United States and the Republic of Korea. Its launch coincided with the 70th anniversary of the U.S.-ROK alliance in 2023, demonstrating the Senate's commitment to upholding the enduring partnership.

SENATE, Executive Member List:

- Sen. Jon Ossoff (D-GA) Co-Chair
- Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI) Co-Chair
- Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AK) Co-Chair
- Sen. Todd Young (R-IN) Co-Chair

CONGRESSIONAL KOREA CAUCUSES

The House Congressional Caucus on Korea was established in 2023 to address key political, social, and economic issues emerging on the Korean Peninsula. The caucus' mission is to foster diplomatic dialogue and collaborate on matters of mutual interest between the two nations

HOUSE, Executive Member List:

- Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA) Co-Chair
- Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA) Co-Chair
- Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA) Co-Chair
- Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC) Co-Chair

KOREAN AMERICAN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Sen. Andy Kim (D, NJ)

First elected in 2018, Senator Andy Kim became the second Korean American Member of Congress when he was elected to represent New Jersey's 3rd District. He then made history again in 2024 when he became **the first Korean American elected to the United States Senate**.

Rep. Young Kim (R, CA-40)

First elected in 2020, Congresswoman Young Kim became one of the first three Korean American women elected to the United States Congress. Rep. Kim serves as the Chair of the Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Rep. Marilyn Strickland (D, WA-10)

First elected in 2020, Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland became one of the first three Korean American women elected to the United States Congress. Rep. Strickland serves as a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the House Committee on Armed Services.

Rep. Dave Min (D, CA-47)

First elected in 2024, Congressman Dave Min became the sixth Korean American to ever serve in the United States Congress. Rep. Min serves as a member of the House Natural Resources Committee and House Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

KOREAN AMERICAN POPULATION DATA

Korean American Population Data Report includes detailed data on Korean American populations across the United States, highlighting key **demographic insights** at the national and state levels.

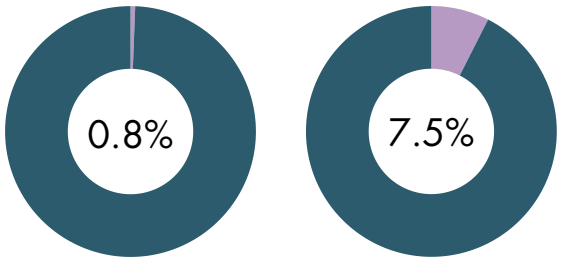
Data from U.S Census bureau 2021 American Community Surveys (ACS)

Korean American Population:
1,945,880

Asian American Population:
24,837,699

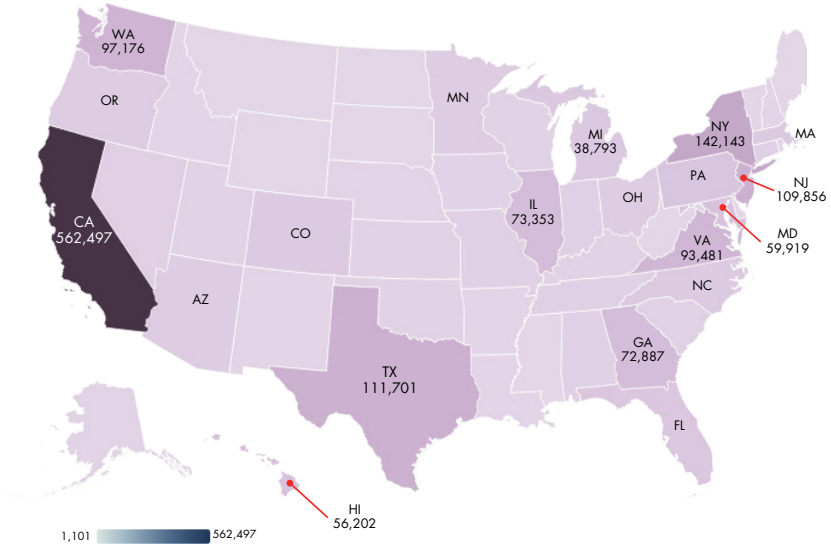
U.S. Population:
332,387,540

Percentage of the U.S. Population



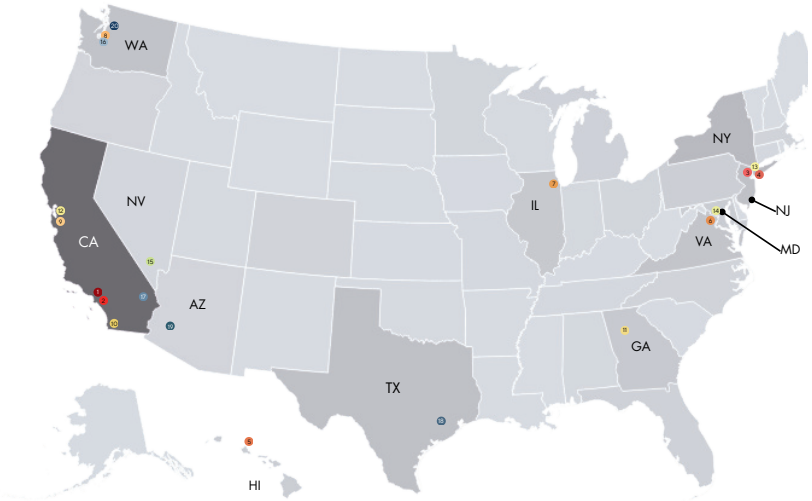
Korean American Asian American

Top 20 U.S. States by Korean Population



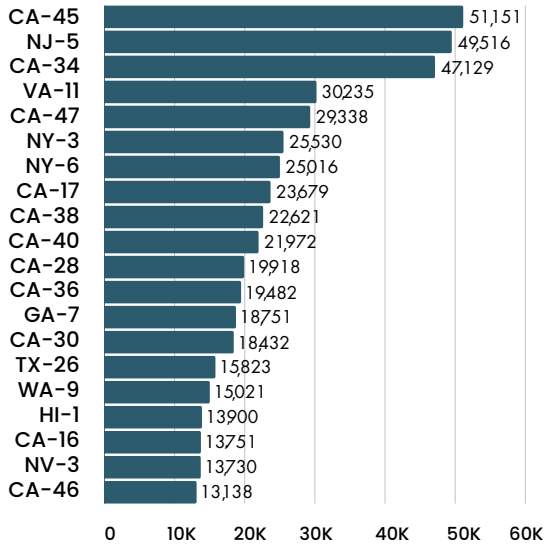
California	562,497
New York	142,143
Texas	111,701
New Jersey	109,856
Washington	97,176
Virginia	93,481
Illinois	73,353
Georgia	72,887
Maryland	59,919
Hawaii	56,202
Pennsylvania	50,110
Florida	42,508
Michigan	38,793
Massachusetts	34,044
Colorado	33,978
North Carolina	33,591
Arizona	26,447
Oregon	26,369
Ohio	26,021
Minnesota	25,498

Top 20 U.S. Counties by Korean American Population

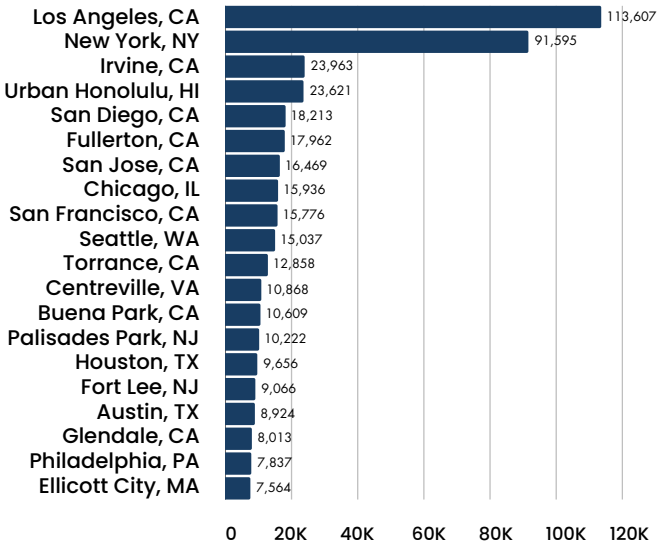


1	Los Angeles County, CA	229,593
2	Orange County, CA	112,041
3	Bergen County, NJ	63,558
4	Queens County, NY	51,484
5	Honolulu County, HI	48,178
6	Fairfax County, VA	48,041
7	Cook County, IL	43,638
8	King County, WA	43,622
9	Santa Clara County, CA	38,805
10	San Diego County, CA	30,162
11	Gwinnett County, GA	29,167
12	Alameda County, CA	24,569
13	New York County, NY	20,798
14	Montgomery County, MD	19,854
15	Clark County, NV	19,242
16	Pierce County, WA	18,590
17	San Bernardino County, CA	17,077
18	Harris County, TX	17,009
19	Maricopa County, AZ	16,659
20	Snohomish County, WA	15,965

Top 20 U.S. Congressional Districts by Korean American Population



Top 20 U.S. Municipalities /Cities by Korean American Population



**Data from U.S. Census Bureau 2023 American Community Surverys (ACS) 1-Year Estimates*

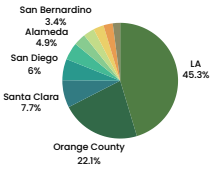
Detailed Korean American Population Data by State

CALIFORNIA

CA's Korean American population: **562,497**

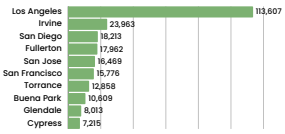
with U.S. Citizenship: *450,623*
- Naturalized Population: *208,162*

Top California Counties by Korean Population



Los Angeles County	229,593
Orange County	112,041
Santa Clara County	38,805
San Diego County	30,162
Alameda County	24,569
San Bernardino County	17,077
San Francisco County	15,776
Riverside County	14,702
Contra Costa County	13,209
San Mateo County	10,476

Top California Cities by Korean Population

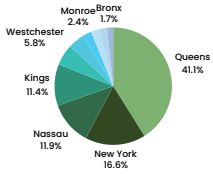


NEW YORK

NY's Korean American population: **142,143**

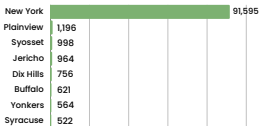
with U.S. Citizenship: *109,944*
- Naturalized Population: *53,107*

Top New York Counties by Korean Population



Queens County	51,484
New York County	20,798
Nassau County	14,941
Kings County	14,336
Westchester County	7,294
Suffolk County	5,763
Monroe County	2,968
Richmond County	2,848
Erie County	2,722
Bronx County	2,129

Top New York Cities by Korean Population



To access the full report on the **Korean American Population**, visit the KAGC website or scan this QR code

KOREAN AMERICAN POLICY PRIORITIES

Since 2011, KAGC has published a list of **policy priorities** of the Korean American community each year to **reflect the ever changing needs of its members**. The 2025 edition features relevant legislation of the 119th Congress – highlighting the main challenges they seek to resolve and providing policy recommendations to address them.

ADOPTEE RIGHTS TO CITIZENSHIP

KAGC urges Congress to end the crisis with a legislative solution to close the policy loophole and provide **intercountry adoptees with the US. citizenship** that they are entitled to.

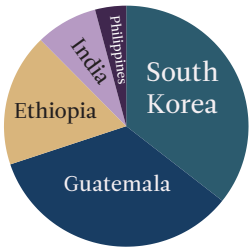
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide **a legislative solution** to proactively apply the changes made by **the Child Citizenship Act of 2000** to those left out of the law.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R. 8617 / S.4448 Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2024 *118th Congress*

Note:
Sending Countries for Adoptees Entering U.S. on IR4 and IH4 Visas: 1999–2021



South Korea	26.05%	19,222
Guatemala	25.01%	16,319
Ethiopia	13.45%	8,775
India	6.28%	4,098
Philippines	3.17%	2,071

DIVIDED FAMILIES

> KAGC calls for **a humanitarian reunion** between Korean Americans and their families in North Korea.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish a formal mechanism for **promoting humanitarian reunions between divided families** in the United States and North Korea.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R.7152 /S.3876 Korean American Divided Families National Registry Act *118th Congress*

Note:

On December 23, 2022, President Biden signed H.R. 7776, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, into **law**. Section 5599B directs the U.S. Secretary of State to consult with South Korean officials on potential reunions between Korean Americans and their relatives in North Korea, but **these provisions have not yet led to actual reunions**.

SMALL BUSINESS

> KAGC calls for a measure to **help increase resiliency in small businesses** that ensures more targeted support.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Define "**microbusiness**" in the federal government as **a firm with fewer than 10 employees** and annual gross receipts **less than $1,000,000**.
- Ensure that the language of federal relief programs are primarily targeting actual small businesses and "**microbusinesses**", instead of large corporations.
- Create and implement programs that **provide translation services**, bilingual resources, and multilingual support, including consultation hotlines and online channels, to help Asian American small businesses overcome language barriers in accessing information.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R.7152 /S.3876 Korean American Divided Families National Registry Act *118th Congress*

Note:

Among all ethnic groups, Korean Americans have the highest rate of small businesses with **4 or fewer employees**.

IMMIGRATION

> KAGC supports **comprehensive immigration reform** and protection for **undocumented immigrant youth**.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Adopt a permanent legislative solution to the current crisis by creating **a pathway to citizenship** for the nation's 10.5 million undocumented immigrants.
- Provide U.S.-educated, **undocumented young immigrants** (also known as **DREAMers**) who came to the U.S. through no fault of their own with a faster track to legal residency.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

S.365 Dream Act of 2023 *118th Congress*

H.R 3599 DIGNIDAD (Dignity) Act of 2023 *118th Congress*

Note:

- As of June 30th, 2024, approximately **4,750 of active DACA recipients** were estimated to have been born in South Korea, which ranks 5th among the top countries of origin.
- As of June 30th, 2024, a total of **43,069 DACA applications** have been approved for those born in South Korea, placing the county at **the 5th among the countries of origin**.

DIVERSE WORKFORCE

> KAGC calls for a biennial survey of **racial, ethnic, and gender diversity** among all staff in the legislative branch.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Restore** the former ODI's biennial House Workforce Study, which surveys congressional workforce demographic composition, compensation, and workplace conditions
- Nonpartisan Senate and House talent management offices should collect detailed demographic data, analyze trends in each office, and work with offices to develop diversity inclusion plans that help Members of Congress.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R.5681 Pipeline to Service Act *118th Congress*

AANHPI HEALTHCARE

> KAGC calls for the awareness of the **Korean American community's high uninsured rates**, especially among low-income and foreign born immigrants

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop resource materials and conduct outreach campaigns **in Korean** to educate members of the Korean American public about existing financial and social services.
- Partner with community stakeholders that can provide assistance **with interpreting and translating healthcare services for Koreans** needing diagnosis and treatment.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R.5762 Health CARE Act of 2023 *118th Congress*

Note:

While the uninsured rates for non-elderly Koreans have declined from 26.6% in 2010 to 7.8% to 2022, it is the second highest among Asian American and NHPI subgroups.

MENTAL HEALTH

> KAGC calls for holistic and comprehensive measures to ensure the wellbeing of Asian American and Pacific Islander and **Korean Americans against a background of inaccessible mental health services, cultural taboos, and stigmas perpetuating declining mental health**.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Implement legislation advancing **language accessibility** in mental health services in federal, state, and local agencies across the nation.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R 3073 / S.1452 Community Mental Wellness and Resilience Act of 2023 *118th Congress*

Note:

About 18% of Korean American adults report a need for external mental health support, such as counseling or therapy. Among Korean American youth ages 12 to 17, that figure rises to 29%, indicating a greater level of mental health need in younger populations.

VOTING RIGHTS

> KAGC calls for reforms to election administrations with **increased language access** and other measures in order to ensure the voting rights of all Americans.We recommend the establishment of **a national standard for maintaining voter data** in each state and local government.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Attorney General should **provide** a set of **federal guidelines to political subdivisions** that meet the compliance requirement of Section 203.
- **Create an incentive grant** for political jurisdictions to cover reasonable costs incurred in translating voting materials, hiring poll workers, and conducting public outreach.
- **Establish a national standard** of election administration, **including the maintenance of voter data**, public disclosure, and procedures for obtaining voter rolls by the public.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R. 5295/S.2960 Expanding the Vote Act *118th Congress*

H.R.156 Restoring Faith in Elections Act *118th Congress*

EDUCATION

> KAGC calls for **the incorporation of Asian American history in the educational curriculum of K-12 public schools**, higher education institutions, and other eligible entities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Support state-level initiatives** to incorporate Asian American studies in K-12 curriculum.
- Highlight examples of **Asian Americans' contributions to nation-building and combat stereotypes**, such as the perpetual foreigner syndrome and the model minority myth.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R.3434 / S.1702 Teaching Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander History Act *118th Congress*

DATA DISAGGREGATION

> KAGC calls for **the disaggregation of educational data** by Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander subgroups in accordance **with the standards of the U.S. Census.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Uphold the OMB's Directive No. 15 racial data collection standards by requiring **full compliance** by federal agencies to collect **detailed racial and ethnic subgroup data**.
- **Partner with AANHPI community organizations** to foster greater participation in **federal data collection** efforts through effective cultural and linguistic outreach.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R.6086 / S.3152 All Students Count Act of 2023 *118th Congress*

U.S.-KOREA RELATIONS - SECURITY

> KAGC calls for **stronger cooperation between the United States and the ROK Armed Forces**.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Maintain and bolster **the U.S.–Korea alliance** as it is critically important for reasons including regional security. And it is in the best interest of both the U.S. and the Republic of Korea to **ensure peace in the Indo–Pacific region**.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.Res.318 / S.Res.816 Recognizing the importance of the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea on October 1, 1953 *118th Congress*

Note:

Over **28,500 U.S. troops and civilian staff** serve in dozens of military facilities across South Korea, including 14 major bases.

U.S.-KOREA RELATIONS - TRADE

KAGC supports measures to **strengthen trade between the United States and South Korea**.

RECOMMENDATIONS

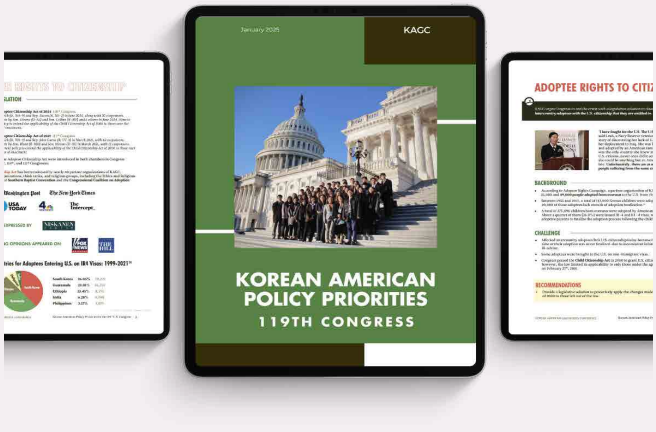
- Build on **the strong trade partnership** between **the U.S. and Korea** for mutual benefits that extend **beyond economic gains**.
- Amending **the KORUS FTA** to **allow a freer exchange of workforce** between **the U.S. and South Korea** is necessary to reap the full economic and social benefits that comes from the exchange of highly specialized human capital.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

H.R.2827 / S.1301 Partner with Korea Act *118th Congress*

Note:

- South Korea is **the 7th largest export market** for the U.S. and **6th largest trading partner**. U.S. goods and services trade with South Korea totaled an estimated **$224.4 billion** in 2022. Exports were **$94.4 billion**; imports were **$130.1 billion**.



To access the full report on the **2025 Korean American Policy Priorities**, visit the KAGC website or scan this QR code

LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

The 118th Legislative Development Summary cataloged **120 legislative bills and resolutions** from the 118th Congress that were selected based upon their relevance to Korean and Korean American issues. They are classified into **15 policy categories**: *Adoptee Rights to Citizenship; Community Safety; Divided Families; Education; Healthcare; Immigration; Korean American Culture; Mental Health; Minority Language Access; North Korean Oversight; Small Business; U.S.–Korea Relations (Security & Trade); Veterans' Affairs; and Voting Rights.*

Within each category, every measure is identified by its legislative status, type of legislation (bill or resolution), and a list of their corresponding sponsors and cosponsors. This booklet will entail the names of the legislation, and their companion versions, with the full details available in the 118th Korean American Legislative Development report that is available on our website.

KOREAN / KOREAN AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW

Of the **19,315 legislation** that was introduced in the 118th Congress, **120 or (0.62%)** are listed in this report for their relevance to Korean or Korean American issues. Among the **1,009 measures** that were enacted or passed in the 118th Congress, **9 (0.9%)** are listed in this report.

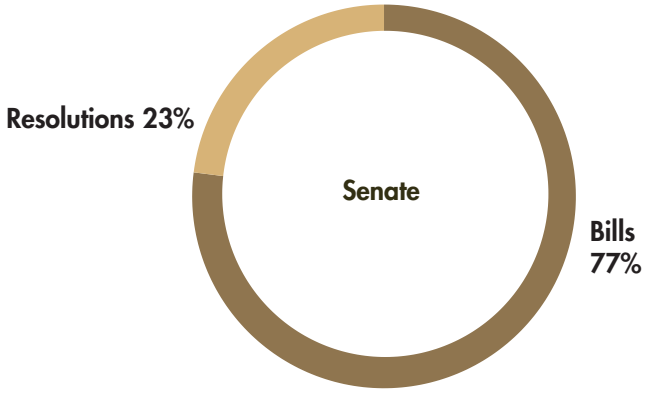
Korean / Korean American Legislation

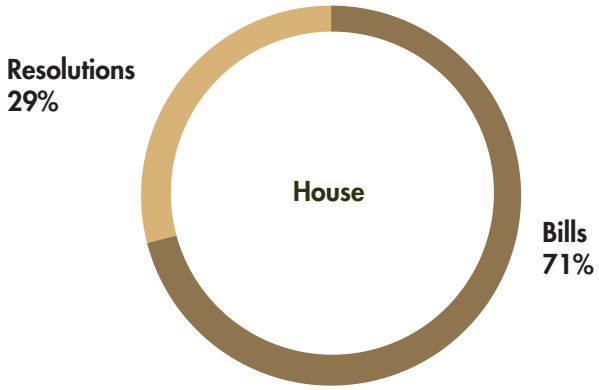
Senate Legislation (Passed 8 out of 48 or 16.67%)	House Legislation (Passed 3 out of 72 or 4.2%)	Total Enacted (11 out of 120 or 9.17%)

• **Bills**: 37
  • **Enacted**: 2 (5.4%)
• **Resolutions**: 11
  • **Passed**: 6 (54%)
	• **Bills**: 51
	  • **Enacted**: 2 (3.9%)
	• **Resolutions**: 21
	  • **Passed**: 1 (4.8%)
		• **Bills**: 4 of 88 (4.6%)
		• **Resolutions**: 7 of 32 (22%)

TYPES OF LEGISLATION

- **Senate**: 48 pieces of legislation – 37 bills (77%) and 11 resolutions (23%)
- **House**: 72 pieces of legislation – 51 bills (71%) and 21 resolutions (29%)



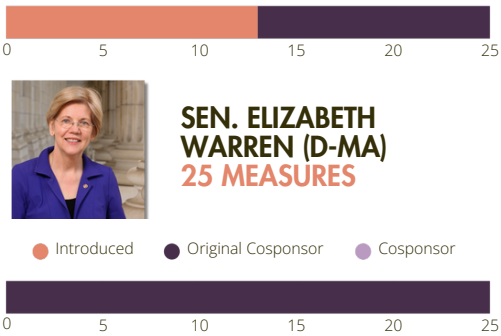


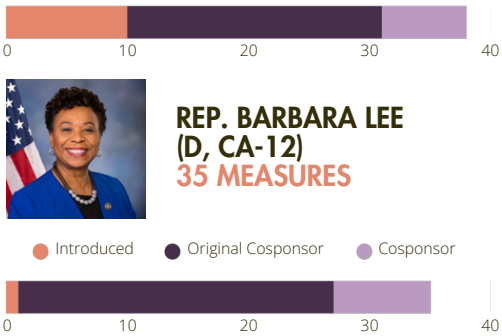
KOREAN AMERICAN LEGISLATION BY ISSUE

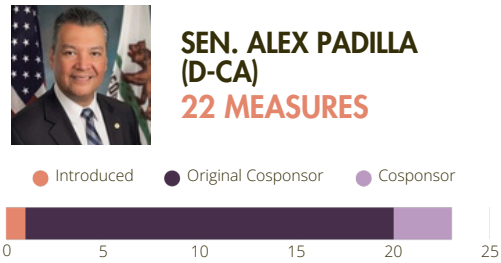
Issue	Senate Bills	Senate Resolutions	House Bills	House Resolutions
Adoptee Rights to Citizenship	1	0	1	0
Community Safety	2	0	2	2
Divided Families	1	0	1	1
Education	3	0	3	0
Healthcare	2	0	4	0
Immigration	4	0	6	0
Korean American Culture	0	7	1	12
Mental Health	2	0	4	1
Minority Language Access	3	0	5	0
North Korean Oversight	6	0	5	2
Small Business	2	2	3	0
U.S.-ROK Relations - Security	3	2	3	3
U.S.-Korea Relations - Trade	1	0	3	0
Veterans' Affairs	1	0	4	0
Voting Rights	6	0	6	0

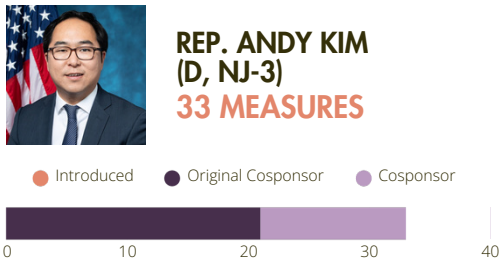
TOP 5 MOST LEGISLATIVELY ACTIVE MEMBERS

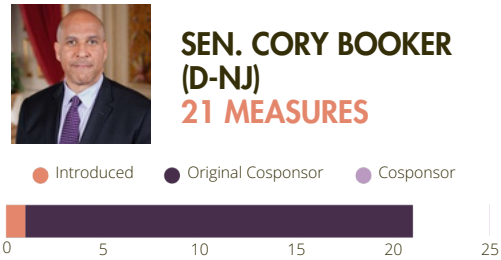
	SENATE	HOUSE
1	SEN. MAZIE HIRONO (D,HI) 25 MEASURES	REP. JUDY CHU (D, CA-28) 38 MEASURES
2	SEN. ELIZABETH WARREN (D-MA) 25 MEASURES	REP. BARBARA LEE (D, CA-12) 35 MEASURES
3	SEN. ALEX PADILLA (D-CA) 22 MEASURES	REP. ANDY KIM (D, NJ-3) 33 MEASURES
4	SEN. CORY BOOKER (D-NJ) 21 MEASURES	DELEGATE ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON (D, DC-AT LARGE) 32 MEASURES
5	SEN. RON WYDEN (D-OR) 16 MEASURES	REP. JILL N. TOKUDA (D, HI-2) 32 MEASURES

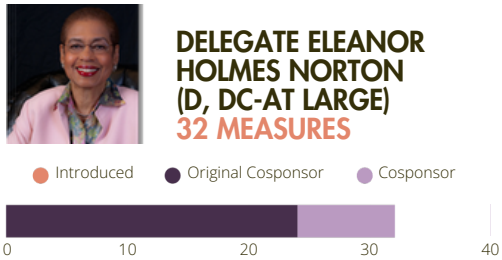


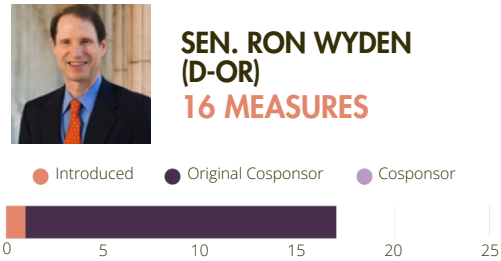


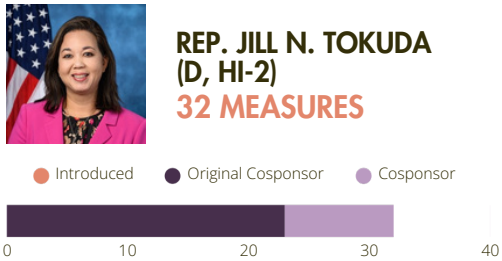












118TH LEGISLATIVE BILL SUMMARY

ADOPTEE RIGHTS

[S.4448] / [H.R.8617]
Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2024

DIVIDED FAMILIES

[S.3876] / [H.R.7152]
Divided Families National Registry Act

SMALL BUSINESS

[S.1402] / [H.R.6457]
Minority Entrepreneurship Grant Program Act of 2023

[S.45] / [H.R. 45]
Small Business Tax Fairness and Compliance Simplification Act

[S.Res.200]
A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of April 30, 2023, through May 6, 2023, as "National Small Business Week" to celebrate the contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in every community in the United States

[S.Res.671]
A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of April 28, 2024, through May 4, 2024, as "National Small Business Week" to celebrate the contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in every community in the United States

[H.R.10079]
COACH Act

IMMIGRATION

[S.365]
Dream Act of 2023

[S.1667] / [H.R.3442]
America's CHILDREN Act of 2023

[S.883] / [H.R. 1643]
New Deal for New Americans Act of 2023

[S.2585] / [H.R.5025]
National Office of New Americans Act

[H.R.16]
American Dream and Promise Act of 2023

[H.R.3194]
U.S. Citizenship Act

[H.R.3599]
DIGNIDAD (Dignity) Act of 2023

EDUCATION

[S.3152] / [H.R.6086]
All Students Count Act of 2023

[S.1702] / [H.R.3434]
Teaching Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander History Act

[S.2582] / [H.R.2783]
AANAPISI Opportunity Act

Community Safety

[S.2030] / [H.R.4172]
Hate Crimes Commission Act of 2023

[S.2565] / [H.R.4780]
Language Access to Gun Violence Prevention Strategies Act of 2023

[H.Res.200]
Condemning the horrific shootings that occurred in Monterey Park, California, on January 21, 2023, and in Half Moon Bay, California, on January 23, 2023, honoring the memory of the victims of the attacks, expressing condolences and support to all those impacted by these tragedies, and reaffirming the House of Representatives' commitment to supporting the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community.

[H.Res.450]
Condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

KOREAN AMERICAN CULTURE

[S.Res.693]
A resolution recognizing the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States

[S.Res.209] / [H.Res.390]
A resolution recognizing the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States

[S.Res.243] / [H.Res.483]
A resolution recognizing the month of June 2023 as "Immigrant Heritage Month", a celebration of the accomplishments and contributions of immigrants and their children in making the United States a healthier, safer, more diverse, prosperous country, and acknowledging the importance of immigrants and their children to the future successes of the United States

[S.Res.845]
A resolution expressing support for the recognition of September 23, 2024, to September 29, 2024, as "Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions Week"

[S.Res.378] / [H.Res.736]
A resolution expressing support for the recognition of the week of September 25 through October 1, 2023, as "Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions Week"

[S.Res.681]
A resolution supporting the designation of May 10, 2024, as "National Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Mental Health Day"

[S.Res.205] / [H.Res.385]
A resolution supporting the designation of May 10, 2023, as "National Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Mental Health Day"

[H.R.430]
Lunar New Year Day Act

[H.Res.1002]
Recognizing the cultural and historical significance of Lunar New Year

[H.Res.36]
Supporting the goals and ideals of Korean American Day

[H.Res.963]
Supporting the goals and ideals of Korean American Day

[H.Res.280]
Expressing support for the designation of November 22, 2023, as "Kimchi Day"

[H.Res.366]
Commemorating the 31st anniversary of the 1992 Los Angeles riots

MENTAL HEALTH

[S.1700] / [H.R.3548]
Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act

[S.1773] / [H.R.3680]
Stop Mental Health Stigma in Our Communities Act

[H.Res.639]
Supporting the goals and ideals of "Minority Mental Health Awareness Month" and recognizing the disproportionate impacts of mental health conditions and struggles on minority populations and communities.

[H.R.7489]
Increasing Access to Mental Health in Schools Act

[H.R.7924]
ACCESS in Mental Health Act

HEALTHCARE

[S.4773] / [H.R.9161]
Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2024

[S.2646] / [H.R.5008]
HEAL for Immigrant Families Act of 2023

[H.R.420]
Language Access for Medicare Beneficiaries

[H.R.5762]
Health CARE Act of 2023

VOTING RIGHTS

[S.2960] / [H.R.5295]
Expanding the VOTE Act

[S.1] / [H.R.11]
Freedom to Vote Act

[S.5151] / [H.R.9727]
Voter Empowerment Act of 2024

[S.4] / [H.R.14]
John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2024

[S.2841]
Register America to Vote Act of 2023

[S.700] / [H.R.1439]
Vote at Home Act of 2023

[H.R.5290]
Voters on the Move Registration Act of 2023

MINORITY LANGUAGES ACCESS

[S.1784] / [H.R.3817]
Mental Health Workforce and Language Access Act of 2023

[S.4265] / [H.R.8252]
Improving Language Access in Mortgage Servicing Act of 2024

[S.4248] / [H.R.2835]
Multilingual Financial Literacy Act

[H.R.6033]
SPEAK Act of 2024

[H.R.8739]
Language Access for Workers Act

NORTH KOREAN OVERSIGHT

[S.369] / [H.R.917]
Protecting Military Installations and Ranges Act of 2023

[S.584] / [H.R.3012]
North Korean Human Rights Reauthorization Act of 2023

[S.283]
No Emergency Crude Oil for Foreign Adversaries Act

[S.488]
FOIA Fix Act of 2023

[S.3150] / [H.R.6502]
IMF Accountability Act of 2023

[S.5131]
STRATEGIC Act of 2024

[H.R.958]
To require certain reports and briefings relating to North Korea

[H.R.5532]
Russia–North Korea Cooperation Sanctions Act

[H.Res.44]
Maintaining North Korea's seizure of the vessel USS Pueblo and its detention of the crew were in violation of international law and seeking the return of the USS Pueblo to the United States.

[H.Res.1080]
Expressing the sense of Congress that coordinated action must be taken by the United States Government and partner countries to address the humanitarian and human rights crises facing North Koreans in the People's Republic of China, including forced labor, arbitrary detention, human trafficking, and the forcible repatriation from China.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

[S.2648] / [H.R.366]
Korean American VALOR Act

[H.R.611]
Colonel Young Oak Kim Congressional Gold Medal Act

[H.R.4140]
To authorize the President to award the Purple Heart to Louis Boria, Jr., for injuries incurred during World War II and the Korean War while a member of the Marine Corps.

[H.R.6355]
Never Forgotten Korean War POW Act

U.S.-KOREA RELATIONS - SECURITY

[S.2226] / [H.R.2670]
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024

[S.4638]
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025

[S.Res.545] / [H.Res.1056]
A resolution recognizing the importance of trilateral cooperation among the United States, Japan, and South Korea

[S.Res.175] / [H.Res.318]
A resolution recognizing the importance of the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea on October 1, 1953

[S.4720] / [H.R.6096]
Allied Burden Sharing Report Act

[H.R.1369]
Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act

[H.Res.858]
Acknowledging the courage and sacrifice of veterans of the Korean War and Korean Defense Veterans

U.S.-KOREA RELATIONS - TRADE

[S.1301] / [H.R.2827]
Partner with Korea Act

[H.R.9876]
United States–Republic of Korea Digital Trade Enforcement Act

[H.R.9952]
To add the Republic of Korea to the E3 Nonimmigrant Visa Program

Students prepare for congressional meetings on bills related to the Korean American community.

Students speak with Sen. Cory Booker (D–NJ) about Korean American policy priorities.

OUTLOOK
ON THE 119TH CONGRESS

Korean American policy advocates can confront the challenge of legislative de-prioritization by learning how to align their policy goals with those of lawmakers.

The Outlook on the 119th Congress is included as part of the Legislative Development report to provide readers with **an overview of the key political actors and policy priorities** in the upcoming legislative session. The latest version covers a political landscape where President Trump and the Republicans have won full control of the White House and Congress – although Democrats still have the ability to influence the legislative process as the minority. For at least the next two years, the Korean American community should expect to see a close collaboration between the newly elected President and Republican leaders in Congress, as they look to enact many of his presidential campaign promises – border security and immigration; government efficiency; AI and cryptocurrency; environmental deregulation; and America First foreign policy.

White House

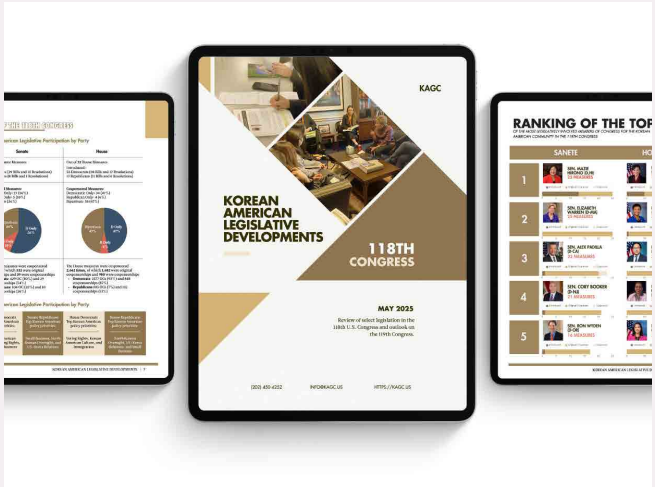
Among President Trump's policy objectives for his second term, the five listed in the Outlook are **Border Security and Immigration; Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE); Environmental Deregulation; Foreign Policy; and Technology: AI and Crypto**. These policy issues were central to Trump's overwhelming victory in the 2024 United States Presidential Election, as voters were generally dissatisfied with former President Joe Biden's handling of the inflationary economy, the border crisis, and peace negotiations of the wars in Israel and Ukraine. For each of these key areas, the White House synopsis entails the domestic political context, Trump-led initiatives, prospective challenges, and the potential policy impacts on the Korean American community.

Senate

The 119th Senate could serve as a bastion for Korean American policy priorities that may be overridden in the House of Representatives. **A major development is the leadership change for Senate Republicans**, where **Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)** stepped down after 17 years of serving in the top party role. His successor, Senator John Thune (R-SD), holds a traditionalist conservative background but also vowed to implement Trump's agenda without compromising the Senate's status as a co-equal branch of government. The Outlook assesses that Senator Thune and a group of moderate Senate Republicans will hold the key in moderating some of the stances on Trump's core policy priorities that will affect the Korean American community, such as funding for social welfare services, immigration, and U.S.-Korea relations. Moreover, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Senate Democrats are better positioned than their House counterparts to combat partisan legislation, due to the greater impact of defections in the Senate – granting it a crucial role to maintain legislative progress on Korean American issues.

House of Representatives

Legislative productivity looks to ease for **the 119th House of Representatives as Speaker Mike Johnson (R, LA-4)** presides over a slim but relatively united Republican majority. Emerging out of a tumultuous 118th Congress, the Outlook foresees that President Trump will play a key role in maintaining political stability among the various House GOP factions – to ensure that his core policies are enacted without major opposition to him nor to Johnson's leadership. On the other hand, **House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D, NY-8)** does not face any immediate threats to his leadership role but faces growing pressure from the Democratic Caucus to formulate a clear strategy of opposing Trump's agenda and regaining control of the chamber in 2026. Because of these reasons, the future of Korean American legislation in the 119th Congress is uncertain – as less political drama will allot more floor time for legislative consideration but bipartisan measures in support of the Korean American community may be set aside in favor of conservative bills.



To access the full report on the **118th Congress Legislative Developments,** visit the KAGC website or scan this QR code

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As a charitable and educational not-for-profit organization, all donations to KAGC are **tax-deductible under the IRS code 501(c)(3). Please consider supporting KAGC** in its efforts to uplift the Korean American community through **active civic engagement** and, in turn, **bolstering the U.S.-Korea alliance**.

How to Donate to KAGC

Thank you for your interest in donating to KAGC. Your valuable contribution will go towards KAGC's initiatives to uplift the voices of Korean Americans. Here's how you can donate:

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You can donate by scanning the **PayPal or Donorbox QR code**. If you're using PayPal, you'll need to create an account before you can donate.

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We also accept donations via **Credit Card, Bank Account, Zelle, and Check**.

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Once you've completed the form, you can submit it in one of two ways:

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- **Email**: Scan the form and send it to info@kagc.us.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at info@kagc.us or call us at (202) 450-4252. Thank you again for your support!

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기부자 정보를 기입하신 후, 원하시는 기부 옵션을 작성해주세요.
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The largest nationwide network of Korean American voters, KAGC is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization dedicated to uplifting our community through active civic engagement. With various civic engagement programs throughout the year, KAGC educates the public on the key issues of the Korean American community and empowers the community members to amplify their voice. KAGC is a 501(c)(3) organization, and donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowable under the law. All information discussed in this brief is intended for civic education purposes only. KAGC does not endorse or oppose any political party, candidate, or campaign.

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CONFERENCE INC
% WONSEOK SONG
1012 14TH ST NW STE 1475
WASHINGTON DC 20005-4393

052298

Employer ID number: 47-4863494
Form 990 required: y

Dear Taxpayer:

We're responding to your request dated June 29, 2023, about your tax-exempt status.

We issued you a determination letter in OCTOBER 2015, recognizing you as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code CIRC) Section 501Cc) CO 3) .

We also show you're not a private foundation as defined under IRC Section 509Ca) because you're described in IRC Sections 509Ca)Cl) and 170Cb)Cl)CA)Cvi).

Donors can deduct contributions they make to you as provided in IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts under IRC Sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

In the heading of this letter, we indicated whether you must file an annual infor□ation return. If you're required to file a return, you must file 1p_r1e of the following by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of your annual accounting period:

- Form 9_90, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990-N, Electronic Notice Ce-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or Form 990-EZ
- Form 990-PF, Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947Ca)Cl) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

According to IRC Section 6033Cj), if you don't file a required annual information return or notice for 3 consecutive years, we'll revoke your tax-exempt status on the due date of the 3rd required return or notice.

You can get IRS forms or publications you need from our website at www.irs.gov/forms-pubs or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

If you have questions, call 877-829-5500 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.,

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1012 I4TH ST **NW** STE 1475
WASHINGTON DC 20005-4393

local time, Monday through Friday (Alaska and Hawaii follow Pacific time).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Steve M. Brown, Operations Manager
Operations 3-CIN