

From: [Geoff Freeman, President and CEO, U.S. Travel Association](#)
To: [Maura Gast](#)
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Travel Industry Leaders:

One year ago, the [Commission on Seamless and Secure Travel](#) set a clear roadmap to modernize the American travel system. Since then, we've driven measurable progress. But significant funding now hangs in the balance and harmful policy proposals threaten to undercut our momentum.

Here is [where the industry stands](#) as we enter one of the most consequential decades for travel in generations.

- 1. Delivering Meaningful Progress:** One year after the [Commission's report](#), we've: (1) Gained government leadership for major global events, including White House task forces for the 2026 World Cup and America's 250th anniversary and \$1.6 billion dedicated towards event preparedness; (2) Secured a \$12.5 billion down payment to address long-standing infrastructure challenges while transforming aviation security; (3) Ended the "shoes-off" policy for travelers at TSA checkpoints; (4) Strengthened visa processing by successfully deploying more than 400 consular officers to high-demand markets and creating the FIFA Fast Pass for ticket holders; (5) Advanced screening and entry modernization with expanded biometrics and additional CBP staffing; and (6) Cut visa wait times from key international markets nearly in half (206 days down to 105 days)—the lowest average in more than three years.
- 2. Confronting the Challenges:** Progress does not eliminate risk. Two proposed policies—the "Visa Integrity Fee" and social media disclosures for travelers arriving from Visa Waiver Program countries—are projected to deter millions of international visitors annually, threaten to reduce spending by more than \$18 billion and put more than 150,000 American jobs at risk. This comes as international travel to the U.S. declined in 2025 for the first time since COVID—alongside a \$120 billion reversal in travel spending over the last decade. Killing these proposals is a top 2026 priority that requires greater commitment from Capitol Hill champions and highly-targeted engagement of industry leaders with the Trump administration.
- 3. Inviting You to Engage:** The next several years will determine whether the United States strengthens its position as the world's most competitive travel market—or continues ceding ground to faster-moving global competitors. Your voice matters. Destination Capitol Hill is the industry's most important opportunity to engage directly with policymakers and reinforce travel's role in economic growth and U.S. competitiveness. This year's program will provide direct insight into the political dynamics shaping decisions, including perspective from keynote speaker Jake Sherman, Founder of Punchbowl News. [Registration](#) is now open—we hope to see you there.

Thank you for your continued leadership and partnership as we work to strengthen America's travel system.

Geoff

Geoff Freeman | President and CEO
U.S. Travel Association 1899 Pennsylvania Avenue NW | 11th Floor | Washington, D.C. 20006
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U.S. Travel Association, 1899 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, 11th floor, Washington, DC 20006, 202.408.8422

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