

# U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION®

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February 25, 2021

Dear Member of Congress,

On behalf of the undersigned businesses, organizations and industry representatives, we write in support of the bipartisan Hospitality and Commerce Jobs Recovery Act, as introduced by Senators Cortez-Masto and Cramer and Representatives Horsford and LaHood. The bill is designed to help lift up all corners of the travel industry—including hotels, airport vendors, airlines, bus companies, travel agencies, tour operators, restaurants, caterers, attractions, convention centers, event organizers and suppliers, food and beverage companies, and many more.

As you know, COVID-19 is wreaking an unbelievable amount of economic damage on the travel industry—more than 9 times greater than what the industry experienced after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Last year, the pandemic caused the industry to shrink by almost \$500 billion—leading to the loss of millions of jobs. Without a doubt, no industry has suffered more from this crisis than the travel industry.

Leisure and hospitality currently account for almost 40 percent of all U.S. jobs lost due to the pandemic. It's clear the broader economy will not be able to fully recover without targeted stimulus to address the unique economic challenges inflicted on the travel industry—an industry that, before the pandemic, had long been a reliable source of economic growth and stability in many communities around the country.

Therefore, we ask you to support swift enactment of the Hospitality and Commerce Jobs Recovery Act to provide a targeted, yet comprehensive way to bring back the jobs that were lost as soon as possible. Key among the provisions are tax incentives to help restore long-term planning and economic activity at convention centers, hotels, restaurants, attractions, souvenir shops, transportation hubs, and other travel-dependent establishments.

The bill also seeks to strengthen America's food supply chain by including targeted measures to address the unprecedented level of loss in spoiled food and beverage inventory last year due to local shutdown orders.

As the broader travel and hospitality industry continues to do its part to provide a safe and healthy environment for its workers and guests—we look to Congress to help put in place the policies needed to facilitate a quick and sustainable economic recovery, ensuring a better and brighter future for all travel workers.

Sincerely,

Accor  
American Gaming Association  
American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA)  
American Resort Development Association (ARDA)  
American Society of Travel Advisors (ASTA)  
Associated Luxury Hotels International  
Association Forum  
Bloomington Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Caesars Entertainment  
Choose Chicago  
Cincinnati USA Convention & Visitors Bureau  
CLEAR

ConferenceDirect  
Connecticut Office of Tourism  
Cvent  
Destination DC  
Destinations International  
Encore Group  
Events Industry Council  
Financial & Insurance Conference Professionals  
Global Business Travel Association  
Go LIVE Together  
Greater Palm Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau  
HelmsBriscoe

Hilton  
Hospitality Performance Network Global  
Hyatt Corporation  
IHG Hotels & Resorts  
International Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions (IAAPA)  
International Association of Exhibitions and Events  
International Franchise Association  
Las Vegas Sands Corporation  
Live Events Coalition  
Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board  
Maritz Global Events  
Marriott International  
Meeting Professionals International  
Nashville Convention & Visitors Corporation  
National Air Carrier Association  
National Beer Wholesalers Association  
National Coalition of Black Meeting Professionals  
National Tour Association (NTA)  
Nebraska Tourism  
New Orleans & Company  
North Dakota Tourism Division  
Northstar Travel Group  
NYC & Company  
Omni Hotels & Resorts  
One10  
Patti Roscoe & Associates (PRA)  
Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA)

San Diego Tourism Authority  
San Francisco Travel Association  
Simpleview  
Society of Independent Show Organizers (SISO)  
South Dakota Department of Tourism  
Student & Youth Travel Association (SYTA)  
Texas Hotel & Lodging Association  
Texas Travel Alliance  
The American Society of Travel Advisors  
The Travel Technology Association  
Travel Michigan  
Travel Nevada  
Travel Oregon  
U.S. Travel Association  
United States Tour Operators Association (USTOA)  
Visit Anaheim  
Visit Austin  
Visit Baltimore  
Visit California  
Visit Dallas  
Visit Denver  
Visit Fort Worth  
Visit Indy  
Visit Orlando  
Visit Phoenix  
Visit San Antonio  
Visit Seattle  
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts  
Wyoming Office of Tourism