

U.S. Travel Commends Senate Passage of Immigration Bill

Landmark Legislation Will Deliver Increased Economic Opportunity and Jobs to Communities Across America by Encouraging More Travel To and Within the United States

Roger Dow, president and CEO of the U.S. Travel Association, today released the following statement commending the U.S. Senate for approving S. 744, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act, which recognizes the importance of travel – an industry that contributes \$2.0 trillion per year to the U.S. economy and constitutes America's No. 1 services export:

"The Senate's passage today of historic immigration reform legislation is a significant step toward strengthening U.S. national security and encouraging more travel to and within the United States. Through a number of travel-friendly provisions, the bill will boost America's recovery by delivering jobs and economic growth to communities and businesses nationwide.

"As we welcome the Senate bill today, we urge the House of Representatives to equally consider how increased legitimate inbound travel for business and leisure purposes will enhance U.S. security and leverage the economic benefits of travel for all Americans."

The Senate bill includes numerous important travel-facilitation provisions and, for their leadership, U.S. Travel applauds Senators Pat Leahy (D-VT), Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Harry Reid (D-NV), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Mike Lee (R-UT), Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Mazie Hirono (D-HI). For a provision to reduce processing delays for passengers at high-volume international airports, U.S. Travel further applauds Senator Dean Heller (R-NV).

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