

United States Senate

COMMITTEES
ARMED SERVICES
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND
PENSIONS
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

August 30, 2021

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Chair
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science, & Transportation
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell:

As the Committee continues to work on the Commerce, Science, and Transportation title of the forthcoming reconciliation legislation, I write to provide more information on some of the topics that we've covered in previous member discussions and that are of particular importance to my State.

Reviving Nevada's tourism economy remains of paramount importance. I hope that the Commerce Committee's title includes robust resources for economic development programs at the Economic Development Administration (EDA), which focus on accelerating the recovery of communities that rely on the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors; additional resources for the Corporation for Travel Promotion, better known as Brand USA, the nation's primary organization dedicated to marketing the United States as a premier destination to international travelers; and additional resources for the International Trade Administration's (ITA) National Travel and Tourism Office (NTTO), which is dedicated to enhancing the global competitiveness of the U.S. travel and tourism industry.

In Nevada, international travel and tourism are the lifeblood of our economy, and our airports have been the gateway to the Silver State for millions of domestic and international tourists and business travelers. In 2019 alone, Las Vegas's Harry Reid International Airport welcomed over 50 million passengers, generated nearly \$35 billion in economic output, supported approximately 250,000 jobs, and was responsible 18 percent of the region's gross domestic product. I would like to stress the importance of providing ample resources for programs that support the nation's airports, such as the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), which I was proud to help draft as part of the recently passed *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*. The AIP would provide federal grants to airports for airport development and planning. Should the recently passed infrastructure package become law, Nevada and many other states would benefit from ample funding for the bill's newly created Airport Terminal Program, which would help some of our larger airports ensure their terminals are up-to-date and properly functional.

Other topics in the Committee's titles of the reconciliation package that are of particular importance to my State include funding for research into technology for wildfire and drought prevention, mitigation, and relief; programs that help advance technology for automated vehicles; investing in domestic solar manufacturing; funding for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Centers; a focus on workforce development for STEM and cyber fields; and funding for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) and the Manufacturing USA Program.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests and your tireless work as Chair of the Committee on Commerce, Science, & Transportation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jay Rosen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" being particularly prominent and stylized.