

# U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION®

June 08, 2022

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member  
Senate Finance Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Chair  
House Ways & Means Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Ranking Member  
House Ways & Means Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Wyden, Chair Neal, Ranking Member Crapo, and Ranking Member Brady:

As the leading voice of the travel industry, U.S. Travel respectfully urges you to support pro-growth tax and trade policies that would help the industry reduce its carbon footprint and ensure U.S. destinations remain world-class—including tax incentives for sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), the installation of electric vehicle charging stations, and energy efficiency upgrades to commercial buildings, as well as trade agreements that lower the cost of environmental goods.

In January 2022, the U.S. Travel Association surveyed its members on sustainability issues and found, across industry segments, travel businesses and organizations feel a deep obligation to protect the planet and ensure our communities remain an attractive place to visit.

Travel businesses and organizations of all sizes—from airlines and hotels to airports and attractions—are already taking steps to reduce waste, reduce emissions, protect natural environments, and switch to more sustainable supplies and services. These efforts will not only improve the overall traveler experience and help us remain competitive with the rest of the world, but also benefit our workers, neighbors, and community partners. However, to accelerate and enable greater investment in this area, we need greater support at the federal level. To that end, we ask that you work together to enact the following pro-growth tax and trade policies designed to leverage the energy and ingenuity of the private sector for the public good:

**Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Credit:** In line with the Sustainable Skies Act (H.R. 3440/S. 2263), establish a \$1.50 - \$2.00 per gallon blender's tax credit for SAFs that achieves at least a 50 percent reduction in lifecycle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions compared to conventional jet fuel.

**Section 30C Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Credit:** Increase the cap on the credit from \$30,000 per location to \$100,000 and extend the credit through 2031.

**Section 179D Energy Efficient Commercial Buildings Deduction:**

1. Remove the lifetime cap so building owners will be incentivized to continually update their properties,
2. Modify the energy reduction requirements so more businesses can qualify, and
3. Increase the deduction's cap, with a bonus for projects that enable a building to acquire LEED Platinum certification. The cap should be simple and easy-to-understand, so that businesses do not need a team of tax lawyers to access it.

**Environmental Goods Trade Agreement:** Support renewed negotiations on the Environmental Goods Trade Agreement and ensure it includes the type of products travel businesses need access to in order to reduce their carbon footprint.

With these policies in place, we can significantly increase the scale and speed of our industry's sustainability initiatives. America is at its best when the public and private sectors work hand-in-hand. We stand ready to work with you to achieve a more sustainable and energy-independent future, creating a new age of American exceptionalism.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tori', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

**Tori Emerson Barnes**  
Executive Vice President  
Public Affairs and Policy

CC: Ambassador Katherine Tai, U.S. Trade Representative  
Mr. Brian Deese, Director of the National Economic Council