

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the **Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.**

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☒ The **original** *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), **AND**
☒ A **copy** of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): International Campaign for Tibet

Travel date(s): October 23 to October 30, 2022

Name of accompanying family member (if any): N/A

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING **DID NOT INCREASE** DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
☐ Good Faith Estimate	\$2305	\$707	\$169	
☒ Actual Amount				

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
☐ Good Faith Estimate				
☐ Actual Amount				

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. *See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6).* (Attach additional pages if necessary.):

11/17/2022
(Date)

Matt Squeri
(Printed name of traveler)

Matt Squeri
(Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

11/17/2022
(Date)

Jeffrey A. Markley
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)



Senate Staff Delegation visit to Dharamsala, India

Sunday, October 23, 2022 – Sunday, October 30, 2022

Itinerary

Sunday, Oct. 23

5:40 pm Depart Washington, D.C. to New Delhi on American Airlines from Washington Dulles International Airport
Flight duration: 18hr 20 min (1 stop JFK)

Monday, Oct. 24

9:30pm Arrive Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi
Transfer to Andaz Hotel, Aerocity hotel and rest overnight

Tuesday, Oct. 25

6:30 am Check out and Depart hotel for airport to Dharamsala

8:55am Depart New Delhi (DEL) for Dharamsala (DHM)
by Spice Jet flight
Flight duration: 1hr 20 min

10:20am Arrive Dharamshala airport
Welcome by Tencho Gyatso, Interim Vice President, International Campaign for Tibet

Transfer to Norbu House hotel

11:30am Arrive hotel and check in - McLeod Ganj, Dharamsala

- 12:00Noon **Lunch and Trip overview and briefing with ICT's Tencho Gyatso**
Tencho will provide a general briefing and overview of the afternoon schedule, offering background information on the members of the Tibetan leadership that the delegation will be meeting in the afternoon, and overviews of the various departments and offices that they head.
- 1:15pm Depart for CTA
- 1:30pm **Meeting with Mr. Penpa Tsering, President (Sikyong), Central Tibetan Administration (CTA).** Established in April 1959, the CTA is the continuation of the government of Tibet in exile and the true representative of the Tibetan people. The Sikyong or President of the CTA is elected by the Tibetans in exile and heads the Kashag, the highest executive office of the CTA which runs and fulfills all its executive and administrative responsibilities. The Sikyong will discuss the CTA's various projects, and how his administration is working towards finding a solution for the future of Tibet in light of the current challenges including political, environmental, cultural, economic challenges.
- 3:00pm **Visit and tour of Tibet Museum** The *Tibet Museum*, aims to educate the exile Tibetan community and visitors to Dharamsala through presentations on Tibet's rich history and culture. The Tibet Museum's permanent exhibition is the, "I am Tibetan and This is my story" project. Tibet in this museum has a past, a present and a future. Through objects, archives, photographs and personal testimonies we highlight Tibet's historical, political and international importance by showcasing our culture, recent history in exile, and the teachings and legacy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The museum also addresses the many crisis facing Tibetans in Tibet today such as human rights abuses, exploitation of the environment, and curbs on cultural preservation. The Tibet Museum highlights Tibet's cultural and political struggle, and the resilience.
- 4:00pm **Meeting with Speaker of Tibetan Parliament in Exile**
Instituted in 1960, the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile is the highest legislative organ of the Tibetan refugee community. The Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile is headed by a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker, who are elected by the members amongst themselves. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker will update on the work of the Tibetan Parliament and Tibetan people's efforts to transition to a secular democracy in exile. This interaction offers an opportunity to understand Tibetan democratic process in exile.
- 5:00pm Depart to Hotel
- 6:00pm **Dinner with guests from Central Tibetan Administration**

Guests will include the Kalon Norzin Dolma, Minister, Mr. Karma Choephel, Secretary, Mr. Tenzin Lekshay, CTA spokesperson and two staff of the Department of Information and International Relations of the CTA. The Kalon offered welcome remarks and the delegation had an opportunity to engage discussions on the governance structure of the CTA, the democratic process that has been established in exile, as well as the CTA's efforts and interactions with the US and other governments around the world in raising awareness about the issue of Tibet.

Wednesday, Oct. 26

7:30am Briefing breakfast with ICT's Tencho Gyatso

Overview of schedule, programs and meetings in Dharamsala.

8:00 am Attend a long life prayer offering for His Holiness the Dalai Lama and a Public Teaching

His Holiness the Dalai Lama gives teachings throughout the year at various times and in different places. His Holiness also gives public talks. In India, teachings and public talks are usually free and open to the public, and thousands of disciples flock to Dharamsala every year to receive His Holiness's teachings. The teachings are held the main Tibetan Temple (Tsulagkhang) in Dharamsala several times a year and they are officially translated into several languages including English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Hindi and Japanese on FM channels. In this occasion, the staff and students of the Tibetan Children's Village school, and the Tibetan-American communities of North America are offering a long life prayer for His Holiness at the main Temple. There will be several hundred disciples attending from all over the world and the local tibetan population. The group will have an opportunity to listen and observe a the ceremonies and morning events.

11:30 am Lunch with Ven. Geshe Lhakdor

Ven. Geshe Lhakdor has served His Holiness the Dalai Lama as his translator and religious assistant since 1989. A distinguished Buddhist scholar, Geshe Lhakdor was the English translator for His Holiness, the 14th Dalai Lama, from 1989 to 2005. He is also the Director of the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives in Dharamsala, and facilitates the Science for Monks program and shares his own expertise as a scholar of science and philosophy. He will elaborate and speak on His Holiness the Dalai Lama five main commitments and efforts of the Library as an institution in safeguarding Tibetan scriptures and Buddhist texts and teachings.

1:00pm Return to Hotel

1:15pm Depart for CTA

1:30pm **Briefing with Tibet Policy Institute (TPI) and Tibetan Center for Democracy and Human Rights (TCHRD).** The TPI serves as a think tank and intellectual hub for the CTA, gathering scholars and experts on topics related to Tibet. The TCHRD is a non-governmental human rights organization that monitors, researches and produces information on human rights situation in Tibet. We will hear from some of the scholars about their research and analysis. This session will enable the delegation to see how Tibetan researchers and human rights advocates are undertaking their work in exile.

2:45pm Depart for lower Dharamsala and Norbulingka Institute

3:15pm Visit to Norbulingka Institute

The Norbulingka Institute is dedicated to the training and preservation of traditional Tibetan arts and culture including traditional Tibetan painting, wood carving, and weaving. The delegation met with Mr. Dechen Maja, Director of Norbulingka, who led a tour of the center to visit and speak with some of the master artisans and learn how Tibetans are developing and maintaining their traditional woodwork, painting, stitching crafts skills. We learnt about the challenges and opportunities currently faced by the institute and how they have managed to survive in the challenging times of covid during these past two years.

6:00pm Return to Hotel

7:00pm **Dinner and discussion with Tencho Gyatso**

Discussion of the day's meetings and next programs with Tencho Gyatso. We discussed about many of the issues and challenges faced by the Tibetan community in exile and also discussed the progression of the tibetan community from early years of refugee life to today when there are many thriving institutions dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Tibet's unique culture and heritage.

8:30pm Return to Hotel

Thursday, Oct. 27

7:00am **Briefing breakfast with ICT's Tencho Gyatso**

Overview of schedule, programs and meetings in Dharamsala.

- 7:30am Depart Hotel for Tsugla-khang
- 8:00am Visit the *Tsuglagkhang* (pronounced *Tsug-Lag-khang*)
The Tsuglagkhang refers to the main temple that is near the residence of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Namgyal Monastery, which is next door to it. The Tsuglagkhang is the first temple built by the Tibetans in exile and contains numerous sacred Buddhist statues that Tibetan refugees rescued from Tibet and brought with them into exile. Namgyal Monastery is historically connected to the Dalai Lamas and Tibetan historical heritage. It is the personal monastery of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and is non-sectarian and responsible for maintaining ritual practices and teachings of all the four main lineages of Tibetan Buddhism.
- 8:30am Audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama**
His Holiness the Dalai Lama is the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people. He was forced to flee into exile in 1959. He is one of the world's foremost exponents of non-violence and was awarded the Nobel Peace prize in 1989. The Dalai Lama has developed his Middle Way initiative to resolve the Tibetan issue in consideration of the interest of both the Tibetans and the Chinese people. Facing the threat of religious and cultural extinction and believing in resolving conflicts through serious dialogue and not confrontation, the Dalai Lama has since many decades relinquished the goal of independence of Tibet in favor of genuine autonomy – a proposal that is consistent with the Chinese Constitution. This approach also takes into consideration the People's Republic of China's security and stability concerns. The group is scheduled to have a brief audience with His Holiness and may have opportunity to discuss the Tibetan issue and His Holiness's middle way approach.
- 10:45am Coffee and walk to Ganden Choeling Nunnery
- 11:00am Visit to Ganden Choeling Nunnery**
Ganden Choeling is the oldest nunnery in the Dharamsala area and is located in McLeod Ganj, Upper Dharamsala. The nunnery had absorbed a steady stream of refugee nuns since 1975 and now 175 nuns live and study there. The nunnery has a well-established education system and an office run by the nun's committee. The nunnery is also home to a number of elderly nuns, many of whom, became nuns later in life and who are taken care of in the nunnery by the younger nuns. We will learn how the nuns have rebuilt in exile and a glimpse into their simple daily life of study and practice.
- 12:00Noon Lunch

1:30pm Meeting with Tibetan NGOs

We will meet with leaders from Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), the National Democratic Party (NDP) and Tibetan Women's Association (TWA). The TYC, established in 1970, is a non-governmental organization of Tibetans that advocates for independence of Tibet. The National Democratic Party, is a membership based political party founded by the TYC in 1994, and operates as the only Tibetan national political party with its mission statement, manifesto and elected leadership. The third organization, TWA was formally established in 1984, and works to promote Tibetan women's empowerment and raise global awareness of the critical situation in Tibet. They will discuss their work and engagement within the Tibetan diaspora communities.

3:00pm Visit some small business and local Tibetan NGOs

The little town of McLeod Ganj is the center of the Tibetan community life with many small businesses that include Tibetan shops, restaurants and various small non-profit offices. The group will have a brief tour which will provide a glimpse of the day to day life and visit a few businesses to understand the local economy and see some of the handicrafts produced by Tibetan refugees. And we will learn about some of the grassroots social and charitable organizations located around town that cater to various needs of the refugee community such as the Lha Charitable Trust, a grassroots volunteer organization that provides resources for the local community like language classes, clean water and soup kitchen programs.

5pm Return to Hotel

7:00 pm Dinner with Special Guests.

Mr. Chhime Rigzin Chhoekyappa, Mr. Tsegyam Ngaba, Mr. Tenzin Taklha, & Mr. Tseten Chhoekyappa are Secretaries of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. We will hear about His Holiness vision and efforts particularly towards promotion of peace and justice, and in particular his efforts for finding a solution to the Tibet-China crisis for more than 70 years. The Dalai Lama have traditionally been both political and spiritual leaders of Tibet. But the current 14th Dalai Lama was forced into exile in 1959 after Chinese occupation of his homeland. In exile, the Dalai Lama worked to gradually establish a democratic governance system to which he handed his full political authority since 2011. Inside Tibet, any signs of loyalty to the Dalai Lama are seen as dissent and can be met with arrest and imprisonment. The delegation will be able to engage and hear directly from his secretaries about the work and efforts of the Dalai Lama to not only safeguard Tibetan identity and culture in exile, but also make contributions towards the benefit of the world community.

Friday, Oct. 28

- 7:00am **Briefing breakfast with Tencho Gyatso**
Overview of schedule, programs and meetings in Dharamsala
- 8:30 am Depart hotel
- 9:00am **Visit the Dalai Lama Archive and Kora circuit**
The Kora circuit is the path encircling the residence of His Holiness, where one can see the memorials and collections of photographs of Tibetans who had self-immolated from 2009.
- 10:30am **Visit to Tibetan Children's Village School (TCV)**
The Tibetan Children's Village was established in early 1960 to give much needed care and education to the many children who had been orphaned or separated from their families while arriving as refugees in India. TCV today has several thousand children under its care and the school model has received numerous awards and praise for its work with Tibetan children. The group will visit the school, classrooms, observe how Tibetan language, culture are taught alongside a modern education.
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:30pm Depart for Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts
- 2:00pm **Visit and learn about the preservation of Tibetan traditional arts at the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts**
The Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA) is a premier institute that is entrusted with the responsibility of preserving and promoting Tibet's rich musical heritage and arts. Founded in August 1959, it was one of the first institutes established by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Dance and music have always been integral to the Tibetan culture and are considered to be one of the key components of the traditional "five minor sciences." We will meet members of this vibrant institute, which includes instructors, artists, administrative staff, craftsmen, and students who live on the premises of the institute. We will learn about the Institute's growth and contributions for the exile Tibetan communities everywhere.
- 3:30pm Depart for McLeod

- 4:00pm Visit the Tibetan Medical Center branch at Mcloed Ganj**
The Tibetan Medical center branch serves the local Tibetan community. The doctors and medical staff are graduates of the Tibetan Institute of Medicine and skilled in the practice of traditional Tibetan herbal remedies and healing practices. This is one of the traditional practices that has been re-established in exile and serves not only the Tibetan population but also the local Indian and the many visitors who come to Dharamsala.
- 5:00pm Return to Hotel**
- 6:00pm Dinner and final trip review with ICT Tencho Gyatso**
Discussion, feedback and conversation over the meetings and programs over the last few days in Dharamsala. ICT has been organizing this trip for many years but we would like to find what was useful and how to improve the program to offer the best exposure and productive learning trip for our future staff delegations. This trip only touches on a few aspects of the Tibetan community and experience but there is much more to understand and learn.

Saturday, Oct. 29

- 8:30am Briefing breakfast with Tencho Gyatso**
Overview of schedule, programs and meetings in Delhi
- 9:30am Check out and Depart hotel for Dharamshala airport**
- 11:35 am Depart Dharamshala (DHM) for Delhi (DEL)**
by Spice Jet flight *Duration: 1hr 25 min*
- 1:00pm Arrive Delhi**
- 1:30pm Transfer to Taj Mahal Hotel**
- 2:00pm Lunch Meeting with Indian Think tank and Policy makers.** Guests include, Mr. Shyam Saran, Mr. Shiv Shanker Menon and Mr. Jayadeva Ranade. Mr. Shyam Saran is former Foreign Secretary. Mr. Shiv Shanker Menon is Former National Security Adviser. Mr. Jayadeva Ranade is a Member of the National Security Advisory Board and President of the recently established 'Centre for China Analysis and Strategy'. The group will have an opportunity to hear and discuss about Tibet affairs from the

perspective of India's national security interests. Also present will be Mr. Tempa Tsering, India and East Asia Director, Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and ICT Board Member, and Mr. Dhondup Gyalpo, Secretary, Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, New Delhi.

3:00 pm Transfer to JW Marriot, Aerocity, Delhi

8:30pm Check out Hotel and Depart for IAG Airport

11:30 pm Travel to Washington, D.C, from Indira Gandhi
International Airport, New Delhi

Sunday, Oct 30

10:00 am Arrive Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA)

EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Date/Time Stamp:

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved. This form **must** be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Matt SqueriEmploying Office/Committee: Senator Merkley/Congressional-Executive Commission on ChinaPrivate Sponsor(s) (list all): International Campaign for Tibet (ICT)Travel date(s): October 23, 2022 to October 30, 2022

*Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.*

Destination(s): Dharamsala, India and New Delhi, India

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

Matt Squeri is staff director of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, which has statutory mandates to "cooperate with the Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues in the Department of State" and to provide annual updates on "the status of negotiations between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama or his representatives, and measures taken to safeguard Tibet's distinct historical, religious, cultural, and linguistic identity and the protection of human rights." This trip directly pertains to Squeri's ability to advance those mandates and will benefit the work of the Commission and its chair, Senator Merkley.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): N/ARelationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

9/16/2022

(Date)

Matt Squeri

(Signature of Employee)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Senator Jeffrey A. Merkley

(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize

Matt Squeri

(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (signify "yes" by checking box) ☐

9/16/2022

(Date)

Jeffrey A. Merkley

(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should NOT submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee MUST also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): International Campaign for Tibet (ICT)
2. Description of the trip: The purpose of the trip is to provide first hand information to a small select group of senate foreign policy staffers on the impact of programmatic and political support (see attached)
3. Dates of travel: October 23, 2022 to October 30, 2022
4. Place of travel: Dharamsala, India and New Delhi, India
5. Name and title of Senate invitees: Attached
6. I certify that the trip fits one of the following categories:
 - ☐ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.
 - OR -
 - ☒ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
7. ☒ I certify that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
 - AND -
 - ☒ I certify that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
8. I certify that:
 - ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.
 - AND -
 - ☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)

I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

- ☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

- OR -

- ☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

- OR -

- ☒ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

ICT is the sole sponsor of this trip.

The staff del will be accompanied by ICT's Interim Vice President Tencho Gyatso

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

The International Campaign for Tibet is a non profit, non partisan, human rights organization that advocates for human rights and democratic freedoms for the people of Tibet. ICT focuses on educating and raising awareness on the situation in Tibet and the exile Tibetan community.

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

Previous congressional staff delegations were sponsored in December 2002, January 2004, May 2005, October 2018, and September 2019.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

ICT educates on the issue of Tibet through a variety of activities including talks, newsletters, email and other electronic media, and by publishing long form reports on the current events in Tibet.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
☒ Good Faith estimate	\$3550 Detail Attached	\$900 Detail Attached	\$300 Detail Attached	None
☐ Actual Amounts				

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

This trip is prepared specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

Dharamsala is the base of the Tibetan community in exile, home to many refugees and former prisoners of conscience. The Dalai Lama lives in Dharamsala as well. New Delhi is the capital. (See Attached)

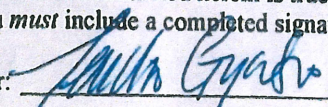
19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

In New Delhi: Andaz, Gate No. 1, Asset No.1, Hospitality District Delhi, Aerocity, New Delhi, Delhi 110037

In Dharamsala: Norbu House Hotel, Mcloed Ganj, Dharamsala, HP, India.

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

The hotel in Delhi is conveniently located near the Airport. The Hotel in Dharamsala is centrally located near most of the institutions to be visited.

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:
- The lodging in Delhi is less than the federal per diem rate. The lodgings in Dharamsala are less than the federal per diem rate. The meals in both Delhi and Dharamsala are less than the federal per diem for both those cities.
22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:
- Round trip airfare between US and New Delhi, India will be Economy Plus class. Round trip airfare between New Delhi and Dharamsala will be economy. Ground transportation in Delhi - (see attached)
23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).
24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:
- None
25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):
- Signature of Travel Sponsor: 
- Name and Title: Tencho Gyatso, Interim Vice President
- Name of Organization: International Campaign for Tibet
- Address: 1825 Jefferson Pl, NW
- Telephone Number: 202.785-8591 or 202.785.1515 ext 243
- Fax Number: 202.785.4343
- E-mail Address: tencho.gyatso@savetibet.org



September 6, 2022

Dear Matt,

It's my pleasure to let you know that we are organizing a Senate staffer delegation to travel to Dharamsala, which is the seat of the Central Tibetan Administration and where the Dalai Lama has been residing since he was forced into exile 60 years ago. The trip is scheduled for October 23 to October 30, 2022.

As you know, we have done similar staffer delegations in previous years and we would be honored if you could consider joining this time. We are hoping to put together a small delegation of 3-4 staffers interested in foreign policy to deepen their knowledge of Tibetan culture and of their struggle to maintain it, which the US Congress has been supporting for three decades. I can assure you it is a wonderful trip and experience.

Looking forward to hearing from you and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Tencho Gyatso
Interim Vice President/Director of Outreach

**Private Sponsor Travel Certificate Form
Attachments**

#5 – Name and title of Senate Invitees:

Name	Title	Office
Matt Squeri	Staff Director, CECC	Senator Merkley
Reza Zomorrodian	Defense & National Security LA	Senator Schumer
Maggie Dougherty	Senior Policy Staff Member	Senator Risch
Adam Kozlowski	National Security Advisor	Senator Ernst

#12 – Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip

ICT will arrange for meetings with relevant leaders in the Tibetan exile community including H.H. the Dalai Lama, President Penpa Tsering and other leaders of the Central Tibetan Administration. ICT will arrange visits to institutions that receive U.S. government funding either through USAID, PRM or The Tibet Fund. Accompanying the Congressional staffers will be ICT Interim Vice President, Tencho Gyatso.

#13 – Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to the mission

The International Campaign for Tibet is a non-profit, non-partisan, human rights organization that advocates for democratic freedoms for the people of Tibet. ICT focuses on educating and raising awareness about the situation inside Tibet and the Tibetan community in exile. The trip will allow Congressional staff to see the impact of US government support for Tibetan exile communities and meet with members of the Tibetan exile community those that are the beneficiary of the funding.

#14 – Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring Congressional trips.

In its 30 year history the International Campaign for Tibet has facilitated trips of delegations of Members of Congress, and sponsored Congressional staff delegations to Dharamsala, India, the seat of the Central Tibetan Administration. In that time ICT has arranged for congressional staff to meet with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan leadership. ICT has introduced delegation members to Tibetan refugees and toured sites that receive U.S. government funding to help the refugees. This trip will be similar to previous trips and the staffer delegation will be able to see the progress and the challenges faced by the Tibetan exile community.

#15 – Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than Congressional trips)

ICT educates the American people on the issue of Tibet through a variety of activities including talks, newsletters, email and other electronic media and by publishing long form reports that address current events inside Tibet.

#16

	Transportation	Lodging	Meals	Other
Good Faith Estimate	Total: \$3550 Round trip airfare DC - Delhi = \$2800 Round trip airfare Delhi - Dharamsala = \$400 Ground transportation in Delhi = \$100 Ground Transportation in Dharamsala = \$250	Total: \$900 Two nights in New Delhi = \$400 Four nights in Dharamsala = \$500	Total: \$300 New Delhi: \$175 Dharamsala: \$125	\$0

#18: reason for selecting location of trip

Dharamsala is the base of the Tibetan community in exile, home to many refugees and former political prisoners. The Dalai Lama lives in Dharamsala as well. New Delhi is

the capital of India, and there are representatives of the Dalai Lama based there who work closely with the government of India and civil society leaders.

#22 Describe the type and class of transportation being provided

Round trip airfare between the US and New Delhi is in Economy Plus class.

Round trip airfare between New Delhi and Dharamsala is in coach class.

Ground transportation in New Delhi and Dharamsala will be in Standard Toyota Innova SUV with Air conditioning.



Senate Staff Delegation visit to Dharamsala, India

Sunday, October 23, 2022 – Sunday, October 30, 2022

Itinerary

Sunday, Oct. 23

5:40 pm Depart Washington, D.C. to New Delhi on American Airlines from Washington Dulles International Airport
Flight duration: 18hr 20 min (1 stop JFK)

Monday, Oct. 24

9:30pm Arrive Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi
Transfer to Andaz Hotel, Aerocity hotel and rest overnight

Tuesday, Oct. 25

6:30 am Check out and Depart hotel for airport to Dharamsala

8:55am Depart New Delhi (DEL) for Dharamsala (DHM)
by Spice Jet flight
Flight duration: 1hr 20 min

10:20am Arrive Dharamshala airport
Welcome by Tencho Gyatso, Interim Vice President, International Campaign for Tibet

Transfer to Norbu House hotel

11:30am Arrive hotel and check in - McLeod Ganj, Dharamsala

12:00Noon **Lunch and Trip overview and briefing with ICT's Tencho Gyatso**
A briefing and overview of the programs in Dharamsala

1:15pm Depart for CTA

1:30pm **Meeting with Mr. Penpa Tsering, President (Sikyong), Central Tibetan Administration (CTA).** Established in April 1959, the CTA is the continuation of the government of Tibet in exile and the true representative of the Tibetan people. The Sikyong or President of the CTA is elected by the Tibetans in exile and heads the Kashag, the highest executive office of the CTA which runs and fulfills all its executive and administrative responsibilities. The Sikyong will discuss the CTA's various projects, and how his administration is working towards finding a solution for the future of Tibet in light of the current challenges including political, environmental, cultural, economic challenges.

3:00pm **Visit and tour of Tibet Museum & Library of Tibetan Works and Archives (LTWA)**

The *Tibet Museum*, aims to educate the exile Tibetan community and visitors to Dharamsala through presentations on Tibet's rich history and culture. The Tibet Museum's permanent exhibition is the, "I am Tibetan and This is my story" project. Tibet in this museum has a past, a present and a future. Through objects, archives, photographs and personal testimonies we highlight Tibet's historical, political and international importance by showcasing our culture, recent history in exile, and the teachings and legacy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The museum also addresses the many crisis facing Tibetans in Tibet today such as human rights abuses, exploitation of the environment, and curbs on cultural preservation. The Tibet Museum highlights Tibet's cultural and political struggle, and the resilience.

The LTWA serves as a national library, museum, and archive for the Tibetan community and is also a repository for significant collections of artifacts, manuscripts and other records, while also serving as a center for language and cultural education. Tibetan refugees have carried hundreds of ancient Tibetan manuscripts into India, often guarding them with their lives. Many of these precious texts are preserved in this Institute and today, it is internationally recognized as a pre-eminent education center, and houses numerous manuscripts and artifacts in its museum. We will meet Ven. Geshe Lhakdor, Director of the Museum to gain an understanding of the Institute and Tibetans efforts to restore, protect, and preserve their culture in exile from their homeland.

4:00pm Meeting with Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Tibetan Parliament in Exile

Instituted in 1960, the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile is the highest legislative organ of the Tibetan refugee community. The Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile is headed by a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker, who are elected by the members amongst themselves. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker will update on the work of the Tibetan Parliament and Tibetan people's efforts to transition to a secular democracy in exile. This interaction offers an opportunity to understand Tibetan democratic process in exile.

5:00pm Depart to Hotel

6:00pm Dinner with guests from Central Tibetan Administration

Guests will include Sikyong Penpa Tsering, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Tibetan Parliament in exile, members of Kashag, and Secretaries of Department of Information and International Relations.

Wednesday, Oct. 26**7:30am Briefing breakfast with ICT's Tencho Gyatso**

Overview of schedule, programs and meetings in Dharamsala.

8:00 am Attend a long life prayer offering for His Holiness the Dalai Lama and a Public Teaching

His Holiness the Dalai Lama gives teachings throughout the year at various times and in different places. His Holiness also gives public talks. In India, teachings and public talks are usually free and open to the public, and thousands of disciples flock to Dharamsala every year to receive His Holiness's teachings. The teachings are held the main Tibetan Temple (Tsulagkhang) in Dharamsala several times a year and they are officially translated into several languages including English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Hindi and Japanese on FM channels. In this occasion, the staff and students of the Tibetan Children's Village school, and the Tibetan-American communities of North America are offering a long life prayer for His Holiness at the main Temple. There will be several hundred disciples attending from all over the world and the local tibetan population. The group will have an opportunity to listen and observe a the ceremonies and morning events.

11:30 am Lunch with Ven. Geshe Lhakdor

Ven. Geshe Lhakdor has served His Holiness the Dalai Lama as his translator and religious assistant since 1989. A distinguished Buddhist scholar, Geshe Lhakdor was the English translator for His Holiness, the 14th Dalai Lama, from 1989 to 2005. He is also the Director of the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives in Dharamsala, and facilitates the Science for Monks program and shares his own expertise as a scholar of science and philosophy. He will elaborate and speak on His Holiness the Dalai Lama five main commitments and efforts of the Library as an institution in safeguarding Tibetan scriptures and Buddhist texts and teachings.

1:15pm Depart for CTA

1:30pm Briefing with Tibet Policy Institute (TPI) and Tibetan Center for Democracy and Human Rights (TCHRD). The TPI serves as a think tank and intellectual hub for the CTA, gathering scholars and experts on topics related to Tibet. The TCHRD is a non-governmental human rights organization that monitors, researches and produces information on human rights situation in Tibet. We will hear from some of the scholars about their research and analysis. We will also hear from Ms. Tsering Tsomo, Executive Director, TCHRD, who will give an overview of the current human rights situation in Tibet. This session will enable the delegation to see how Tibetan researchers and human rights advocates are undertaking their work in exile.

2:45pm Depart for Reception Center/Transit school

3:15pm Visit the Reception Center and Transit school
This is where all recent arrivals from Tibet are received and provided immediate assistance for basic needs. Young adult Tibetans coming from Tibet are receive education at the Transit school while they adjust to life as a refugee in India. We will meet with students and staff at the reception center and transit school to hear of their work and experiences.

4:15pm Visit to Norbulingka Institute
The Norbulingka Institute is dedicated to the training and preservation of traditional Tibetan arts and culture including traditional Tibetan painting, wood carving, and weaving. We will have a guided tour of the center with one of the institute staff to meet and visit some of the artist workshops and see how Tibetans are developing and maintaining their traditional woodwork, painting, stitching crafts skills.

6:00pm Return to Hotel

7:00pm **Dinner and discussion on SEE Learning with Tempa Tsering & Mrs. Jetsun Pema**

Mr. Tempa Tsering will introduce and lead a discussion on the Social, Emotional, and Ethical (SEE) Learning Initiative. SEE Learning initiative is an innovative K-12 education program developed by Emory University, at the behest of His Holiness. It provides educators with tools to foster the development of emotional, social and ethical intelligence for students and themselves. It is rooted in a vision of a human society with genuine sense of concern for each other and collective responsibility for global welfare. Envisioning a human society with genuine sense of concern for each other and collective responsibility for global welfare, His Holiness proposed an educational transformation grounded in the perspective that the seven billion human beings are completely equal in wanting to be happy, not wanting to suffer and together in cooperation, we stand to gain for ourselves and our community.

Thursday, Oct. 27

8:00am **Briefing breakfast with ICT's Tencho Gyatso**

Overview of schedule, programs and meetings in Dharamsala.

8:30 am Depart hotel

9:00am **Visit to Tibetan Children's Village School (TCV)**

The Tibetan Children's Village was established in early 1960 to give much needed care and education to the many children who had been orphaned or separated from their families while arriving as refugees in India. TCV today has several thousand children under its care and the school model has received numerous awards and praise for its work with Tibetan children. The group will visit the school, classrooms, observe how Tibetan language, culture are taught alongside a modern education.

11:30am Return to Norbu Hotel

12:00Noon Lunch

1:30pm Meeting with Tibetan NGOs

We will meet with leaders from Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC), the National Democratic Party (NDP) and Tibetan Women's Association (TWA). The TYC, established in 1970, is a non-governmental organization of Tibetans that advocates for independence of Tibet. The National Democratic Party, is a membership based political party founded by the TYC in 1994, and operates as the only Tibetan national political party with its mission statement, manifesto and elected leadership. The third

organization, TWA was formally established in 1984, and works to promote Tibetan women's empowerment and raise global awareness of the critical situation in Tibet. They will discuss their work and engagement within the Tibetan diaspora communities.

3:00pm Visit to Ganden Choeling Nunnery

Ganden Choeling is the oldest nunnery in the Dharamsala area and is located in McLeod Ganj, Upper Dharamsala. The nunnery had absorbed a steady stream of refugee nuns since 1975 and now 175 nuns live and study there. The nunnery has a well-established education system and an office run by the nun's committee. The nunnery is also home to a number of elderly nuns, many of whom, became nuns later in life and who are taken care of in the nunnery by the younger nuns. We will see how the nuns have rebuilt in exile and a glimpse into their simple daily life of study and practice.

4:00 pm Visit some small business and local Tibetan NGOs

The little town of McLeod Ganj is the center of the Tibetan community life with many small businesses that include Tibetan shops, restaurants and various small non-profit offices. The group will have a brief tour which will provide a glimpse of the day to day life and visit a few businesses to understand the local economy and see some of the handicrafts produced by Tibetan refugees. For example, the Tibetan Children Village Handicraft shop which has products made by students from their vocational training center and the proceeds directly benefit the TCV school. And we will see some of the grassroots social and charitable organizations located around town that cater to various needs of the refugee community such as the Lha Charitable Trust, a grassroots volunteer organization that provides resources for the local community like language classes, clean water and soup kitchen programs.

5pm Return to Hotel

7:00 pm Dinner with Special Guests.

Mr. Chhime Rigzin Chhoekyappa, Mr. Tsegyam Ngaba, Mr. Tenzin Taklha, & Mr. Tseten Chhoekyappa are Secretaries of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. We will hear about His Holiness vision and efforts particularly towards promotion of peace and justice, and in particular his efforts for finding a solution to the Tibet-China crisis for more than 70 years.

Friday, Oct. 28

7:00am Briefing breakfast with Tencho Gyatso

Overview of schedule, programs and meetings in Dharamsala

7:30am Depart Hotel for Tsugla-khang

8:00am **Audience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama**

His Holiness the Dalai Lama is the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people. He was forced to flee into exile in 1959. He is one of the world's foremost exponents of non-violence and was awarded the Nobel Peace prize in 1989. The Dalai Lama has developed his Middle Way initiative to resolve the Tibetan issue in consideration of the interest of both the Tibetans and the Chinese people. Facing the threat of religious and cultural extinction and believing in resolving conflicts through serious dialogue and not confrontation, the Dalai Lama has since many decades relinquished the goal of independence of Tibet in favor of genuine autonomy – a proposal that is consistent with the Chinese Constitution. This approach also takes into consideration the People's Republic of China's security and stability concerns. The group is scheduled to have a brief audience with His Holiness and may have opportunity to discuss the Tibetan issue and His Holiness's middle way approach.

10:30am Coffee

11:00am **Visit the Tsug-lag-khang, Namgyal Monastery and Kora circuit**

The *Tsuglagkhang* (pronounced *Tsug-Lag-khang*) refers to the main temple that is near the residence of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Namgyal Monastery, which is next door to it. The Tsuglagkhang is the first temple built by the Tibetans in exile and contains numerous sacred Buddhist statues that Tibetan refugees rescued from Tibet and brought with them into exile. Namgyal Monastery is historically connected to the Dalai Lamas and Tibetan historical heritage. It is the personal monastery of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and is non-sectarian and responsible for maintaining ritual practices and teachings of all the four main lineages of Tibetan Buddhism. The monks of Namgyal perform all the rites and rituals for the successive Dalai Lamas and are especially adept ritual dances and offering creations like sand mandalas and butter sculptures. The visit will provide an overview of Tibetan Buddhist's traditional way of learning and life in the monasteries. The Kora circuit is the path encircling the residence of His Holiness, where one can see the memorials and collections of photographs of Tibetans who had self-immolated from 2009.

1:00pm **Lunch**

2:30pm Depart for Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts

3:00pm Visit Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts

The Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA) is a premier institute that is entrusted with the responsibility of preserving and promoting Tibet's rich musical heritage and arts. The institute was founded by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama on reaching Kalimpong in August 1959. It was later shifted to McLeod Ganj in 1961. Earlier named as the Tibetan Music, Dance, and Drama Society, it was one of the first institutes established by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Dance and music have always been integral to the Tibetan culture and are considered to be one of the key components of the traditional "five minor sciences." We will meet few members of this vibrant institute, which includes instructors, artists, administrative staff, craftsmen, and students who live on the premises of the institute.

4:30pm Return to Hotel

6:00pm **Dinner and final trip review with ICT Tencho Gyatso**

Saturday, Oct. 29**8:30am Briefing breakfast with Tencho Gyatso**

Overview of schedule, programs and meetings in Delhi

9:30am Check out and Depart hotel for Dharamshala airport**11:35 am Depart Dharamshala (DHM) for Delhi (DEL)**

by Spice Jet flight *Duration: 1hr 25 min*

1:00pm Arrive Delhi

1:30pm Check in Hotel – Andaz Hotel, Aerocity, Delhi

2:00pm Lunch

2:45pm Transfer to Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

3:30pm Meeting with Indian Think tank and Policy makers. Invited guests include, Mr. Ranjit Gupta, Mr. Arun Shourie, and Mr. Jayadeva Ranade. Mr. Ranjit Gupta, is a retired Indian Foreign Service officer. Mr. Arun Shourie, is former BJP leader and journalist. Mr. Jayadeva Ranade is a Member of the National Security Advisory Board and President of the recently established 'Centre for China Analysis and Strategy'. The group will have an opportunity to hear and discuss about Tibet affairs from the

perspective of India's national security interests. Also present will be Mr. Tempa Tsering, India and East Asia Director, Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and ICT Board Member.

5:00 pm Transfer to JW Marriot, Aerocity, Delhi

9:00pm Check out Hotel and Depart for IAG Airport

11:30 pm Travel to Washington, D.C, from Indira Gandhi
International Airport, New Delhi

Sunday, Oct 30

10:00 am Arrive Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA)