

# RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

RECEIVED  
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE  
PUBLIC RECORDS  
Date/Time Stamp

2023 SEP 15 AM 11:55

**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. **This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

**Certification:** In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:

Private Sponsor(s):  
Foundation for Rural Service

Travel Dates:  
08/15/2023 to 08/18/2023

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

## Expenses

| Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meals Expenses | Other Expenses (Amount & Description) |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| \$849.65                | \$196.00         | \$150.00       | \$0.00                                |

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- The final **Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

9/15/2023  
Date

RACHEL LANG  
Printed Name of Traveler

Rachel Lang  
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.

9/15/23  
Date

*R. W. G. D.*  
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

## RE-1 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.

Name of Traveler:

Rachel Lang

Employing Office/Committee:

FINANCE

Private Sponsor(s):

Foundation for Rural Service

Destination(s):

Alexandria, Minnesota Fargo, North Dakota

Travel Dates:

08/15/2023 to 08/18/2023

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

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

I lead Senator Wyden's work on telecommunications. In this capacity, I am particularly focused on expanding access to affordable, reliable broadband in rural areas of Oregon. This trip is directly related to this work, as it serves to educate Congressional staff on the geographic and financial challenges of providing robust broadband service to remote rural areas, as well as to highlight the role rural telecom companies play in providing these essential services that support education, commercial activity, agriculture, health, and public safety. During the trip, I will meet with small, rural telecom companies in rural parts of North Dakota and Minnesota.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?

No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:

N/A

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

7/14/2023

Date

Rachel Lang

Signature of Employee

## TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms,  
Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

1 Senator Ron Wyden  
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize

Rachel Lang  
(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)

7/14/23

Date

R Wyden

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer



## ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

**Note:** Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Expense Change**

**Revised Amount**

**Explanation**

There were no changes to pre-approved travel expenses.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation: There were no changes to the pre-approved itinerary.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.



# Foundation for Rural Service (FRS): 2023 FRS Congressional Broadband Tour -- North Dakota and Minnesota

 RACHEL LANG

Title:

None

Employing Office/Committee:

FINANCE

Duty Station:

WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):

Alexandria, Minnesota

Fargo, North Dakota

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

I lead Senator Wyden's work on telecommunications. In this capacity, I am particularly focused on expanding access to affordable, reliable broadband in rural areas of Oregon. This trip is directly related to this work, as it serves to educate Congressional staff on the geographic and financial challenges of providing robust broadband service to remote rural areas, as well as to highlight the role rural telecom companies play in providing these essential services that support education, commercial activity, agriculture, health, and public safety. During the trip, I will meet with small, rural telecom companies in rural parts of North Dakota and Minnesota.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:

None

## Organization Information

### Organization Name

Foundation for Rural Service (FRS)

### Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

### §501(c)(3) Organization Type

Public Charity

### Address

4121 Wilson Boulevard

### Address 2 (Optional)

Public Charity

### City, State Zip

Arlington, Virginia 22203 United States

### Phone Number

703-346-0817

### Organization URL

[frs.org](https://frs.org)

## History of Congressional Travel

FRS has sponsored similar trips for congressional staff to Montana (2013), New York (2014), Kentucky and Tennessee (2015), Wyoming (2016), South Dakota (2017), West Virginia (2018), Montana (2021), and Vermont (2022).

## Educational Activities

FRS produces white papers and economic studies on rural broadband issues, hosts an annual Youth Tour to Washington, DC for rural high school students, awards college scholarships and community grants, and offers educational events such as a Rural Broadband 101 briefing for Hill staff.

## Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

## Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

☒ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.

☒ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.

☒ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

None Entered

## Signature Page

The signature page is below.

## Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

Travel throughout eastern North Dakota and western Minnesota to visit local broadband providers and users, and highlight the geographic and financial challenges of providing rural broadband services.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

The mission of FRS is to sustain and enhance the quality of life in rural America through philanthropic and educational programs. FRS educates the public on the benefits and uses of rural broadband. The trip will showcase the challenges -- and critical importance -- of providing broadband to rural communities.

## Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

☒ Yes ☐ No

## Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

## With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

## Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

## Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- ☒ The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- ☒ No funds or in-kind contributions were 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.

## Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- ☒ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to 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
- ☐ The trip is limited to 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

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- ☐ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to 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
- ☐ The trip is limited to 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



## Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

## Invitees

**i** Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

## Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:  
08/15/2023 @ 07:45 AM



Trip End Date/Time:  
08/18/2023 @ 11:38 AM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

☐ Yes ☒ No

## Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$849.65 | Accompanying Family Member: \$0.00)

| Transportation Type | Class | Amount   |
|---------------------|-------|----------|
| Airfare             | Coach | \$639.65 |

### Note

Roundtrip DCA to FAR

|                       |       |          |
|-----------------------|-------|----------|
| Ground Transportation | Coach | \$210.00 |
|-----------------------|-------|----------|

### Note

Chartered coach bus to pick up participants at airport and travel to all stops for entirety of trip, including return to airport.

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$196.00 )

| Check-In   | Check-Out  | Facility               | City       | State        | Country       | Nights | Cost/Night | Cost Exceed Per Diem |
|------------|------------|------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|--------|------------|----------------------|
| 08/16/2023 | 08/17/2023 | Holiday Inn Alexandria | Alexandria | Minnesota    | United States | 1      | \$98.00    | No                   |
| 08/17/2023 | 08/18/2023 | Holiday Inn Fargo      | Fargo      | North Dakota | United States | 1      | \$98.00    | No                   |

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$150.00 )

| Date       | Breakfast | Lunch   | Dinner  | Incidentals | Total          | City                   | State        | Country       | Cost Exceeds Per Diem |
|------------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 08/15/2023 | \$0.00    | \$15.00 | \$26.00 | \$0.00      | <b>\$41.00</b> | Fargo and Grand Forks  | North Dakota | United States | No                    |
| 08/16/2023 | \$13.00   | \$15.00 | \$26.00 | \$0.00      | <b>\$54.00</b> | Bemidji and Alexandria | Minnesota    | United States | No                    |
| 08/17/2023 | \$13.00   | \$16.00 | \$26.00 | \$0.00      | <b>\$55.00</b> | Wahpeton and Fargo     | North Dakota | United States | No                    |

**Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$0.00 )**

| Expense Type | Amount | Notes |
|--------------|--------|-------|
|--------------|--------|-------|

There are no miscellaneous expenses.

**Additional Attachments**

| Document Name |
|---------------|
|---------------|

There are no additional attachments.

## PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

## SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: FRS 2023 Congressional Broadband Tour

Travel Date(s): August 15 -18, 2023

Travel Destination(s): Fargo, Grand Forks, Wahpeton, Colfax, and Kindred, ND; El  
Erskin, Bemidji, Park Rapids, Brandon, Alexandria, and Fergus Falls, MN

Sponsor: The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS)

Pamela Becker

*(printed name of sponsor representative)*

Executive Director

*(title)*



*(signature of sponsor representative)*

7/6/2023

*(date)*

| First Name | Last Name       | State | Party      | Title                                                  | Email                                     | Phone        | Issue Areas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------|-----------------|-------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Charles    | Adams           | ID    | Republican | Legislative Director                                   | charles_adams@risc.senate.gov             | 202-224-2752 | Appropriations; Commerce; Education; Families; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Government operations and politics; International affairs; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Rebecca    | Alcorn          | ID    | Republican | Policy Adviser Senior Policy Adviser                   | rebecca_alcorn@crapo.senate.gov           | 202-224-6142 | Arts, culture and religion; Commerce; Department of Health and Human Services; Department of the Treasury; Education; Families; Finance and financial sector; Health; Housing and community development; Labor and employment; Medicaid; Medicare; Social security and elderly assistance; State Children's Health Insurance Program; Taxation; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Women's issues |
| Collin     | Anderson        | CT    | Democratic | Privacy and Cybersecurity Policy Adviser               | collin_anderson@blumenthal.senate.gov     | 202-224-2823 | Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Ron        | Anderson        | LA    | Republican | Senior Policy Adviser                                  | ron_anderson@cassidy.senate.gov           | 202-224-5824 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Appropriations; Armed forces and national security; Emergency management; Housing and community development; Small business                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Erica      | Andeweg         | NE    | Republican | Senior Policy Adviser                                  | erica_andeweg@fischer.senate.gov          | 202-224-6551 | Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Commerce; Crime and law enforcement; Guns; Immigration; Law and judiciary; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Erica      | Anhalt          | NH    | Democratic | Senior Legislative Assistant                           | erica_anhalt@shaheen.senate.gov           | 202-224-2841 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Arts, culture and religion; Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Education; Families; Immigration; Native Americans                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Nathan     | Anonick         | AR    | Republican | Professional Staff Member Republican                   | nathan_anonick@ag.senate.gov              | 202-224-2035 | Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Housing and community development; Small business; Taxation; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Wesley     | Armstrong       | FL    | Republican | Legislative Correspondent                              | wesley_armstrong@rubio.senate.gov         | 202-224-3041 | Agriculture and food; Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Crime and law enforcement; Emergency management; Energy; Environmental protection; Government operations and politics; Guns; Immigration; Labor and employment; Law and judiciary; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                   |
| Aria       | Austin          | PA    | Democratic | Legislative Aide                                       | aria_austin@fetterman.senate.gov          | 202-224-4254 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Appropriations; Arts, culture and religion; Energy; Public lands and natural resources; Telecommunications; Veterans affairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Chris      | Avila           | DE    | Democratic | Legislative Aide                                       | chris_avila@coons.senate.gov              | 202-224-5042 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Energy; Environmental protection                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Mana       | Azarmi          | CA    | Democratic | Counsel                                                | mana_azarmi@judiciary-dem.senate.gov      | 202-224-6991 | Commerce; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Vernon     | Baker           | MI    | Democratic | Legislative Assistant                                  | vernon_baker@stabenow.senate.gov          | 202-224-4822 | Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Small business; Taxation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Micah      | Barbour         | VA    | Democratic | Senior Policy Adviser                                  | micah_barbour@warner.senate.gov           | 202-224-2023 | Agriculture and food; Energy; Environmental protection; Foreign trade and international finance; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Didier     | Barjon          | NY    | Democratic | Legislative Assistant                                  | didier_barjon@schumer.senate.gov          | 202-224-6542 | Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Julia      | Barry           | CO    | Democratic | Legislative Aide                                       | julia_barry@hickenlooper.senate.gov       | 202-224-5941 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Native Americans                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Serena     | Baserman        | OR    | Democratic | Legislative Correspondent                              | serena_baserman@merkley.senate.gov        | 202-224-3753 | Agriculture and food; Energy; Environmental protection; Science and technology                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Adam       | Battallo        | IN    | Republican | Legislative Assistant                                  | adam_battallo@braun.senate.gov            | 202-224-4814 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Energy; Public lands and natural resources; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| John       | Beezer          | CO    | Democratic | Senior Adviser                                         | john_beezer@commerce.senate.gov           | 202-224-0411 | Data privacy and security; Internet commerce                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Phillip    | Berenbroick     | NJ    | Democratic | Senior Counsel                                         | phillip_berenbroick@menendez.senate.gov   | 202-224-4744 | Crime and law enforcement; Government operations and politics; Guns; Law and judiciary; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Rick       | Berger          | MS    | Republican | Budget Director Republican                             | rick_berger@armed-services.senate.gov     | 202-224-3871 | Accounting and auditing; Budget process; Cloud computing; Global basing; Information technology business systems; Management, business and data; Military operations and strategy; Reprogramming; Software intensive systems; U.S. Indo-Pacific Command; Working Capital Fund                                                                                                                           |
| Craig      | Berning         | NE    | Republican | Legislative Assistant                                  | craig_berning@fischer.senate.gov          | 202-224-6551 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Environmental protection; Foreign trade and international finance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Andrew     | Bichmeier       | MS    | Republican | U.S. Coast Guard Fellow                                | andrew_bichmeier@wick.senate.gov          | 202-224-6253 | Commerce; Science and technology; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Mikayla    | Bodey           | MI    | Democratic | Senior Professional Staff Member                       | mikayla_bodey@ag.senate.gov               | 202-224-2035 | Appropriations; Biofuels; Broadband; Energy; Rural conditions and development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Chad       | Bolt            | OH    | Democratic | Legislative Assistant                                  | chad_bolt@brown.senate.gov                | 202-224-2315 | Commerce; Social welfare; Taxation; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Claire     | Borzner         | MI    | Democratic | Senior Professional Staff Member                       | claire_borzner@ag.senate.gov              | 202-224-2035 | Food security; Foreign aid and international relief; Nutrition and diet                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Jackie     | Bossman         | SD    | Republican | Legislative Assistant                                  | jackie_bossman@rounds.senate.gov          | 202-224-5842 | Abortion; Arts, culture and religion; Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Commerce; Crime and law enforcement; Families; Foreign trade and international finance; Immigration; International affairs; Law and judiciary; Women's issues                                                                                                                                                         |
| James      | Braid           | OH    | Republican | Legislative Director                                   | james_braid@vance.senate.gov              | 202-224-3353 | Appropriations; Government operations and politics; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Becca      | Branum          | WI    | Democratic | General Counsel/Health Care Adviser                    | becca_branum@baldwin.senate.gov           | 202-224-5653 | Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Crime and law enforcement; Education; Families; Guns; Immigration; Law and judiciary; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Michael    | Brooks          | SD    | Republican | Senior Adviser Agriculture Policy                      | michael_brooks@rounds.senate.gov          | 202-224-5842 | Women's issues                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Jen        | Brown           | NY    | Democratic | Banking Counsel                                        | jennifer_brown@schumer.senate.gov         | 202-224-6542 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Energy; Environmental protection; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Rosy       | Brummette       | CO    | Democratic | Policy Adviser                                         | rosy_brummette@bennet.senate.gov          | 202-224-5852 | Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Social welfare; Taxation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Cassie     | Brzezinski      | MD    | Democratic | Policy Adviser                                         | cassandra_brzezinski@vanhollen.senate.gov | 202-224-4654 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Caitlin    | Buchanan        | OR    | Democratic | Policy Adviser                                         | caitlin_buchanan@merkley.senate.gov       | 202-224-3753 | Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Housing and community development; Small business                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Brad       | Bunning         | WY    | Republican | Senior Adviser                                         | brad_bunning@barrasso.senate.gov          | 202-224-6441 | Agriculture and food                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Jen        | Burks           | HI    | Democratic | Senior Policy Adviser                                  | jen_burks@hirono.senate.gov               | 202-224-6441 | Commerce; Economics and public finance; Energy; Environmental protection; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Public lands and natural resources                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kaitlin    | Burt            | SC    | Republican | Legislative Assistant                                  | kaitlin_burt@graham.senate.gov            | 202-224-5934 | Resources                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| A.J.       | Burton          | HI    | Democratic | Senior Counsel Technology and Communications Pol       | aj_burton@schatz.senate.gov               | 202-224-5974 | Abortion; Arts, culture and religion; Commerce; Families; Small business; Women's issues                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Bennett    | Butler          | MA    | Democratic | Policy Adviser                                         | bennett_butler@markey.senate.gov          | 202-224-2742 | Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Erika      | Calderon        | OH    | Democratic | Professional Staff Member                              | erika_calderon@banking.senate.gov         | 202-224-7391 | Commerce; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Chloe      | Cantor          | MS    | Republican | Senior Legislative Assistant                           | chloe_cantor@wick.senate.gov              | 202-224-6253 | Consumer affairs; Consumer protection                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Steph      | Carlson         | IA    | Republican | Deputy Legislative Director/Agriculture Policy Adviser | stephanie_carlson@ernst.senate.gov        | 202-224-3254 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Energy; Environmental protection; Public lands and natural resources                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Callum     | Case            | KY    | Republican | Legislative Assistant                                  | callum_case@paul.senate.gov               | 202-224-4343 | Agriculture and food; Commerce; Education; Energy; Environmental protection; Public lands and natural resources; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Francesco  | Castella        | NC    | Republican | Senior Policy Adviser                                  | francesco_castella@budd.senate.gov        | 202-224-3154 | Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Housing and community development; International affairs; Small business; Taxation; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Dan        | Cheever         | IN    | Republican | Legislative Assistant                                  | dan_cheever@young.senate.gov              | 202-224-5623 | Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Housing and community development; Science and technology; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Annie      | Chestnut        | WI    | Republican | Legislative Assistant                                  | annie_chestnut@ronjohnson.senate.gov      | 202-224-5323 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Commerce; Energy; Environmental protection; Foreign trade and international finance; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology; Small business; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                   |
| Vivek      | Chilkuri        | CO    | Democratic | Legislative Director/Deputy Chief of Staff             | vivek_chilkuri@bennet.senate.gov          | 202-224-5852 | Government operations and politics; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Hart       | Clements        | WA    | Democratic | Deputy Legislative Director                            | hart_clements@murray.senate.gov           | 202-224-2621 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Labor and employment; Small business                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Brian      | Conlan          | WI    | Democratic | Deputy Legislative Director                            | brian_conlan@baldwin.senate.gov           | 202-224-5653 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Appropriations; Foreign trade and international finance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Andrew     | Cooper          | TX    | Republican | Legislative Assistant                                  | andrew_cooper@cornyn.senate.gov           | 202-224-2934 | Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Salvatore  | Corasanti       | ID    | Republican | Legislative Assistant                                  | salvatore_corasanti@crapo.senate.gov      | 202-224-6142 | Commerce; Science and technology; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Chance     | Costello        | SD    | Republican | Senior Legislative Assistant                           | chance_costello@thune.senate.gov          | 202-224-2321 | Crime and law enforcement; Emergency management; Government operations and politics; Guns; International affairs; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Colleen    | Costello        | RI    | Democratic | Associate Legislative Assistant                        | colleen_costello@whitehouse.senate.gov    | 202-224-2921 | Foreign trade and international finance; Labor and employment; Science and technology                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Anna       | Cullen          | GA    | Democratic | Senior Policy Adviser                                  | anna_cullen@ossoff.senate.gov             | 202-224-3521 | Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Thomas     | Culver          | MT    | Democratic | Legislative Assistant                                  | thomas_culver@tester.senate.gov           | 202-224-2644 | Agriculture and food                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Beatrice   | Dalton          | CT    | Democratic | Legislative Assistant                                  | beatrice_dalton@blumenthal.senate.gov     | 202-224-2823 | Works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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|                                            |                                                   |                            |                                                                    |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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| Ashley<br>Josh<br>Taja<br>James            | Higgins<br>Hillman<br>Hirata-Epstein<br>Hitchcock | OK<br>RI<br>HI<br>FL       | Republican<br>Democratic<br>Democratic<br>Republican               | Legislative Assistant<br>Counsel to Sen. Whitehouse<br>Legislative Correspondent<br>Senior Policy Adviser                 | ashley_higgins@lankford.senate.gov<br>joshua_hillman@judiciary-dem.senate.gov<br>taja_hirata-epstein@hiro.senate.gov<br>james_hitchcock@rubio.senate.gov          | 202-224-5754<br>Agriculture and food<br>202-224-7703<br>Telecommunications<br>202-224-3041<br>Commerce; Science and technology; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works<br>Agriculture and food; Animals; Armed forces and national security; Energy; Environmental<br>protection; Government operations and politics; Labor and employment; Native Americans;<br>Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology; Veterans affairs |
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| Susan<br>Macie<br>Corbin<br>Kirin<br>Megan | Keith<br>Kelly<br>Kenaley<br>Kennedy<br>Kenney    | MI<br>AR<br>HI<br>MI<br>NE | Democratic<br>Republican<br>Democratic<br>Democratic<br>Republican | Special Counsel<br>Legislative Assistant<br>Legislative Aide<br>Senior Professional Staff Member<br>Legislative Assistant | susan_keith@ag.senate.gov<br>macie_kelly@boozman.senate.gov<br>corbin_kenaley@schatz.senate.gov<br>kirin_kennedy@ag.senate.gov<br>megan_kenney@fischer.senate.gov | 202-224-6551<br>Commerce; Transportation and public works<br>Commerce; Education; Environmental protection; Government operations and politics;<br>Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Jesse Mahan              | Jesse      | Mahan          | OK    | Republican  | Tax Policy Adviser                                  | jesse_mahan@lankford.senate.gov            | 202-224-5754                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Nick Malatesta           | Nick       | Malatesta      | NH    | Democratic  | Policy Adviser                                      | nicholas_malatesta@hassan.senate.gov       | 202-224-3324                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Michael Marn             | Michael    | Marn           | TN    | Republican  | Legislative Aide                                    | michael_marn@blackburn.senate.gov          | 202-224-3344                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Rafi Martina             | Rafi       | Martina        | VA    | Democratic  | Senior Adviser to the Chair                         | rafi_martina@ssci.senate.gov               | 202-224-1700                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Nancy Martinez           | Nancy      | Martinez       | IN    | Republican  | Policy Adviser                                      | nancy_martinez@young.senate.gov            | 202-224-5623                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Nick Matrella            | Nick       | Matrella       | AZ    | Democratic  | Senior Legislative Assistant                        | nick_matrella@kelly.senate.gov             | 202-224-2235                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Gray Maxwell             | Gray       | Maxwell        | MD    | Democratic  | Floor Director                                      | gray_maxwell@cardin.senate.gov             | 202-224-4524                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Karen McCarthy           | Karen      | McCarthy       | AK    | Republican  | Senior Legislative Assistant                        | karen_mccarthy@murkowski.senate.gov        | 202-224-6665                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Trent McFadyen           | Trent      | McFadyen       | UT    | Republican  | Legislative Aide                                    | trent_mcfadyen@romney.senate.gov           | 202-224-5251                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Evan McWalters           | Evan       | McWalters      | VA    | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | evan_mcwalters@kaine.senate.gov            | 202-224-4024                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Mark Meador              | Mark       | Meador         | UT    | Republican  | Deputy Chief Counsel Antitrust and Competition Poli | mark_meador@judiciary-rep.senate.gov       | 202-224-5444                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Katrina Menard           | Katrina    | Menard         | VT    | Independent | Legislative Assistant                               | katrina_menard@sanders.senate.gov          | 202-224-5141                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Michael Mets             | Michael    | Mets           | ME    | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | michael_mets@collins.senate.gov            | 202-224-2523                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Jackie Miech             | Jackie     | Miech          | RI    | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | jackie_miech@reed.senate.gov               | 202-224-4642                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Austin Miller            | Austin     | Miller         | AR    | Republican  | Legislative Correspondent                           | austin_miller@cotton.senate.gov            | 202-224-2353                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Shannon Mills            | Shannon    | Mills          | HI    | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | shannon_mills@schatz.senate.gov            | 202-224-3934                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Rachel Mitnick           | Rachel     | Mitnick        | RI    | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | rachel_mitnick@reed.senate.gov             | 202-224-4642                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Hallee Morgan            | Hallee     | Morgan         | SC    | Republican  | Banking and Consumer Finance Counsel                | hallee_morgan@banking.senate.gov           | 202-224-7391                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Ryan Mowrey              | Ryan       | Mowrey         | SC    | Republican  | Legislative Aide                                    | ryan_mowrey@lgraham.senate.gov             | 202-224-5972                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Sean Mullin              | Sean       | Mullin         | CA    | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | sean_mullin@feinstein.senate.gov           | 202-224-3841                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Andrew Nam               | Andrew     | Nam            | NC    | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | andrew_nam@tilis.senate.gov                | 202-224-6342                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Kasandra Navarro         | Kasandra   | Navarro        | CT    | Democratic  | Legislative Aide                                    | kasandra_navarro@blumenthal.senate.gov     | 202-224-2823                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Dianne Nellor            | Dianne     | Nellor         | NM    | Democratic  | Clerk Democratic/Staff Director                     | dianne_nellor@appro.senate.gov             | 202-224-8090                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Ayla Neumeyer            | Ayla       | Neumeyer       | ID    | Republican  | Senior Legislative Assistant                        | ayla_neumeyer@risch.senate.gov             | 202-224-2752                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| John Newton              | John       | Newton         | AR    | Republican  | Chief Economist Republican                          | john_newton@ag.senate.gov                  | 202-224-2035                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Carina Nichols           | Carina     | Nichols        | AK    | Republican  | Adviser Fisheries and Oceans                        | carina_nichols@sullivan.senate.gov         | 907-271-5915                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Alex Noffsinger          | Alex       | Noffsinger     | MI    | Democratic  | Professional Staff Member Democratic                | alex_noffsinger@ag.senate.gov              | 202-224-2035                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Brian Oakes              | Brian      | Oakes          | OH    | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | brian_oakes@vance.senate.gov               | 202-224-3353                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Kennedy O'Dell           | Kennedy    | O'Dell         | PA    | Democratic  | Policy Adviser                                      | kennedy_odell@casey.senate.gov             | 202-224-6324                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Olivia Oo                | Olivia     | Oo             | MT    | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | olivia_oo@tester.senate.gov                | 202-224-2644                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Robert Ordway            | Robert     | Ordway         | IN    | Republican  | Senior Policy Adviser                               | robert_ordway@braun.senate.gov             | 202-224-4814                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Jordan Pakula            | Jordan     | Pakula         | IA    | Republican  | Professional Staff Member                           | jordan_pakula@budget.senate.gov            | 202-224-0642                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Josh Peaster             | Josh       | Peaster        | MS    | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | josh_peaster@hydesmith.senate.gov          | 202-224-5054                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Joycelyn Pigg            | Joycelyn   | Pickens        | PA    | Democratic  | Policy Adviser                                      | joycelyn_pickens@casey.senate.gov          | 202-224-6324                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Ian Pigg                 | Ian        | Pigg           | TN    | Republican  | Legislative Correspondent                           | ian_pigg@blackburn.senate.gov              | 202-224-3344                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| David Pigue              | David      | Pigue          | AK    | Republican  | Counsel                                             | david_pigue@sullivan.senate.gov            | 202-224-3004                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Lacy Pitts               | Lacy       | Pitts          | KS    | Republican  | Legislative Correspondent                           | lacy_pitts@marshall.senate.gov             | 202-224-4774                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Matthew Plaster          | Matthew    | Plaster        | WV    | Republican  | Broadband Policy Adviser                            | matthew_plaster@capito.senate.gov          | 202-224-6472                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Alex Porter              | Alex       | Porter         | ME    | Independent | Tax Counsel/Legislative Assistant                   | alex_porter@king.senate.gov                | 202-224-5344                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Katrina Potts            | Katrina    | Potts          | IL    | Democratic  | Legislative Director                                | katrina_potts@durbin.senate.gov            | 202-224-2152                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Kaitlynn Quafoio         | Kaitlynn   | Quafoio        | OK    | Republican  | Legislative Director                                | kaitlynn_quafoio@mullin.senate.gov         | 202-224-4721                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| John Quirk               | John       | Quirk          | HI    | Democratic  | Professional Staff Member Staff Lead Democratic/Pr  | john_quirk@armed-services.senate.gov       | 202-224-3871                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Andy Rezendes            | Andy       | Rezendes       | AR    | Republican  | General Counsel Republican                          | andrew_rezendes@ag.senate.gov              | 202-224-2035                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Kelly Riddle             | Kelly      | Riddle         | NV    | Democratic  | Deputy Legislative Director                         | kelly_riddle@rosen.senate.gov              | 202-224-6244                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|          |              |    |             |                                                     |                                            |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------|--------------|----|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Edgar    | Rivas        | CO | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | edgar_rivas@hickenlooper.senate.gov        | 202-224-5941 | Commerce; Foreign trade and international finance; Science and technology; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dylan    | Rogers       | WY | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | dylan_rogers@barrasso.senate.gov           | 202-224-6441 | Appropriations; Commerce; Economics and public finance; Housing and community development; Science and technology; Small business; Telecommunications                                                                                                                           |
| Jeff     | Rothblum     | MI | Democratic  | Senior Professional Staff Member                    | jeffrey_rothblum@hsgac.senate.gov          | 202-224-2627 | Cybersecurity; Elections voting and political campaign regulation; Intelligence activities surveillance and classified information; Supply chains; Technology                                                                                                                   |
| Joe      | Russell      | AZ | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | joe_russell@kelly.senate.gov               | 202-224-2235 | Appropriations; Government operations and politics; Science and technology; Small business; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                 |
| Molly    | Ryan         | ME | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | molly_ryan@collins.senate.gov              | 202-224-2523 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Arts culture and religion; Energy; Environmental protection; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology                                                                                                        |
| Alex     | Sachtjen     | SD | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | alex_sachtjen@thune.senate.gov             | 202-224-2321 | Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Mayra    | Salinas      | AZ | Democratic  | Counsel                                             | mayra_salinas@kelly.senate.gov             | 202-224-2235 | Armed forces and national security; Commerce; Crime and law enforcement; Economics and public finance; Emergency management; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Housing and community development; Immigration; Law and judiciary; Taxation |
| Josh     | Sanders      | NJ | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | josh_sanders@menendez.senate.gov           | 202-224-4744 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Arts culture and religion; Energy; Environmental protection; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology; Transportation and public works                                                                       |
| Maryana  | Sawaged      | WA | Democratic  | Legislative Aide/Mail Manager                       | maryana_sawaged@murray.senate.gov          | 202-224-2621 | Appropriations; Commerce; Social welfare                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Justin   | Schardin     | CA | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant/Economic Policy Adviser       | justin_schardin@feinstein.senate.gov       | 202-224-3841 | Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Labor and employment; Small business; Social welfare; Taxation                                                                                                   |
| Rebecca  | Schatz       | NJ | Democratic  | Legislative Director                                | rebecca_schatz@menendez.senate.gov         | 202-224-4744 | Commerce; Economics and public finance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Adam     | Schiff       | MN | Democratic  | Agriculture Legislative Assistant                   | adam_schiff@smith.senate.gov               | 202-224-5641 | Agriculture and food                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| James    | Schindler    | TX | Republican  | Counsel                                             | james_schindler@cruz.senate.gov            | 202-224-1251 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Energy; Environmental protection                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Blake    | Schindler    | LA | Republican  | Policy Adviser                                      | blake_schindler@cassidy.senate.gov         | 202-224-5824 | Commerce; Energy; Environmental protection; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                       |
| Sydney   | Scott        | WI | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | sydney_scott@baldwin.senate.gov            | 202-224-5653 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Energy; Environmental protection; Public lands and natural resources                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Baz      | Selassie     | MN | Democratic  | Deputy Legislative Director/Legislative Counsel     | baz_selassie@klobuchar.senate.gov          | 202-224-3244 | Appropriations; Commerce; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Science and technology; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                        |
| Kristina | Sesek        | IA | Republican  | Legislative Director                                | kristina_sesek@ernst.senate.gov            | 202-224-3254 | Abortion; Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Commerce; Crime and law enforcement; Government operations and politics; Guns; Immigration; Law and judiciary; Native Americans; Women's issues                                                                           |
| Hakan    | Seyaloglu    | NM | Democratic  | Technologist/Policy Adviser                         | hakan_seyaloglu@ujan.senate.gov            | 202-224-6621 | Animals; Finance and financial sector; Government operations and politics; Housing and community development; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                        |
| James    | Shea         | LA | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | james_shea@kennedy.senate.gov              | 202-224-4623 | Animals; Energy; Environmental protection; Public lands and natural resources; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Anthony  | Sidharta     | NY | Democratic  | Legislative Correspondent                           | anthony_sidharta@gillibrand.senate.gov     | 202-224-4451 | Commerce; Emergency management; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Science and technology; Taxation; Telecommunications                                                                                                                     |
| Marisa   | Silva        | NM | Democratic  | Economic Development and Strategic Initiatives Dir  | marisa_silva@heinrich.senate.gov           | 202-224-5521 | Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cody     | Sims         | SC | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | cody_sims@scott.senate.gov                 | 202-224-5521 | Appropriations; Commerce; Economics and public finance; Housing and community development; Small business                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Josh     | Sizemore     | MT | Republican  | Policy Adviser                                      | josh_sizemore@daines.senate.gov            | 202-224-6121 | Agriculture and food; Emergency management; Science and technology; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                         |
| Katie    | Skinner      | VT | Independent | Legislative Correspondent                           | katie_skinner@sanders.senate.gov           | 202-224-2651 | Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Commerce; Energy; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Shannon  | Smith        | CO | Democratic  | Counsel/Senior Consumer Adviser                     | shannon_smith@commerce.senate.gov          | 202-224-5141 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Emily    | Smith        | CT | Democratic  | Policy Adviser                                      | emily_smith@murphy.senate.gov              | 202-224-0411 | Consumer affairs; Consumer credit; Consumer electronic equipment; Consumer protection                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Chris    | Sogholian    | OR | Democratic  | Senior Technologist/Senior Adviser Privacy and Cybe | chris_sogholian@wyden.senate.gov           | 202-224-4041 | Agriculture and food; Appropriations; Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Families; Immigration; Social welfare                                                                                                                                                         |
| Aaron    | Stanislowski | DE | Democratic  | Counsel                                             | aaron_stanislowski@coons.senate.gov        | 202-224-4515 | Cybersecurity; Data privacy and security; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Clayton  | Stein        | FL | Republican  | Legislative Correspondent                           | clayton_stein@rickscott.senate.gov         | 202-224-5042 | Crime and law enforcement; Emergency management; Guns; Law and judiciary; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Tucker   | Stewart      | KS | Republican  | Senior Adviser Agriculture Policy                   | tucker_stewart@marshall.senate.gov         | 202-224-5274 | Animals; Commerce; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Kaitlin  | Stoddard     | AL | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | kaitlin_stoddard@tuberville.senate.gov     | 202-224-4774 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Commerce; Public lands and natural resources; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Mike     | Stoevoer     | MI | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | mike_stoevoer@peters.senate.gov            | 202-224-4124 | Commerce; Emergency management; Foreign trade and international finance; Government operations and politics; Immigration; Veterans affairs                                                                                                                                      |
| Benjamin | Strand       | HI | Democratic  | Senior Policy Adviser                               | ben_strand@hirono.senate.gov               | 202-224-6221 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Commerce; Energy; Environmental protection; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources                                                                                                                                                 |
| Jimmy    | Stringer     | MS | Republican  | Deputy Legislative Director                         | jimmy_stringer@hydesmith.senate.gov        | 202-224-6361 | Arts culture and religion; Commerce; Economics and public finance; Education; Families; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Science and technology; Small business; Taxation                                                                 |
| Jamie    | Susskind     | TN | Republican  | Policy Adviser                                      | jamie_susskind@blackburn.senate.gov        | 202-224-6361 | Appropriations; Armed forces and national security; Commerce; Foreign trade and international finance; International affairs                                                                                                                                                    |
| Katie    | Sutton       | MS | Republican  | Professional Staff Member Staff Lead Republican     | katherine_sutton@armed-services.senate.gov | 202-224-5054 | Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Kevin    | Swanson      | AK | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | kevin_swanson@murkowski.senate.gov         | 202-224-3871 | Artificial intelligence; Cybersecurity; Military spectrum management; Science and technology; U.S. Cyber Command                                                                                                                                                                |
| Sean     | Sweeney      | VA | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | sean_sweeney@warner.senate.gov             | 202-224-6665 | Appropriations; Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Foreign trade and international finance; Small business; Taxation; Telecommunications                                                                                                     |
| Matt     | Swint        | TX | Republican  | Professional Staff Member                           | matthew_swint@cruz.senate.gov              | 202-224-2023 | Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Omar     | Taher        | MN | Democratic  | Economic Policy Adviser                             | omar_taher@smith.senate.gov                | 202-224-5922 | Commerce; Emergency management; Immigration; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Barrett  | Tenbarge     | LA | Republican  | Senior Counsel Health                               | barrett_tenbarge@help.senate.gov           | 202-224-5641 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Commerce; Environmental protection; Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                              |
| Megan    | Thompson     | WA | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | megan_thompson@cantwell.senate.gov         | 202-224-5375 | Food and Drug Administration; Health                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Sally    | Thompson     | MS | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | sally_thompson@wicker.senate.gov           | 202-224-3441 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Environmental protection; Native Americans                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Zane     | Tolchinsky   | CA | Democratic  | Legislative Correspondent                           | zane_tolchinsky@feinstein.senate.gov       | 202-224-6253 | Arts culture and religion; Education; Emergency management; Immigration; Labor and employment; Native Americans; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                             |
| Connor   | Tomlinson    | FL | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | connor_tomlinson@rubio.senate.gov          | 202-224-6253 | Energy; Environmental protection; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Ted      | Trippi       | NH | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | ted_trippi@shaheen.senate.gov              | 202-224-3841 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Energy; Environmental protection; Public lands and natural resources                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Daniel   | Ulmer        | MS | Republican  | Deputy Chief of Staff Policy                        | daniel_ulmer@hydesmith.senate.gov          | 202-224-3041 | Government operations and politics; Labor and employment; Social welfare; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                                                                   |
| E.J.     | Valentine    | FL | Republican  | Policy Adviser                                      | ej_valentine@rickscott.senate.gov          | 202-224-2841 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Appropriations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Jeff     | Van Oot      | VT | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | jeff_vanoot@welch.senate.gov               | 202-224-5054 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Commerce; Energy; Environmental protection; Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology; Small business; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                      |
| Kyle     | Varner       | MI | Democratic  | Senior Professional Staff Member                    | kyle_varner@ag.senate.gov                  | 202-224-5274 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Commerce; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Small business                                                                                                                                                             |
| Max      | Virkus       | GA | Democratic  | Senior Adviser Economic Policy Staff Director Demo  | max_virkus@warnock.senate.gov              | 202-224-4242 | Agricultural insurance; Agricultural prices subsidies and credit; Agricultural trade; Animal health and welfare; Animals; Commodities markets; Commodity policy; Dairy industry; Livestock                                                                                      |
| Stephen  | Vojavec      | TN | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | stephen_vojavec@blackburn.senate.gov       | 202-224-2035 | Commerce; Consumer affairs; Consumer protection; Economics and public finance; Finance and financial sector; Housing and community development; Small business; Taxation                                                                                                        |
| Harrison | Walker       | NC | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | harrison_walker@tilis.senate.gov           | 202-224-3643 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Arts culture and religion; Commerce; Energy; Environmental protection; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources; Transportation and public works                                                                                     |
| Annie    | Wang         | GA | Democratic  | Counsel/Deputy Legislative Director                 | annie_wang@warnock.senate.gov              | 202-224-3344 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Emergency management; Energy; Environmental protection; Public lands and natural resources                                                                                                                                                       |
| Aaron    | Weber        | ND | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | aaron_weber@hoeven.senate.gov              | 202-224-6342 | Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Crime and law enforcement; Government operations and politics; Guns; Law and judiciary; Native Americans; Science and technology; Telecommunications                                                                                |
| Henson   | Webre        | LA | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | henson_webre@kennedy.senate.gov            | 202-224-3643 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Foreign trade and international finance                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Braxton  | Wenk         | AR | Republican  | Administrative Director                             | braxton_wenk@cotton.senate.gov             | 202-224-2551 | Agriculture and food; Appropriations; Emergency management; Public lands and natural resources; Science and technology; Telecommunications; Transportation and public works                                                                                                     |
| Jake     | Wessel       | KS | Republican  | State Agriculture Representative                    | jake_wessel@moran.senate.gov               | 202-224-4623 | Agriculture and food; Guns                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Holmes   | Whalen       | OK | Republican  | Senior Counsel                                      | holmes_whelen@mullin.senate.gov            | 202-224-2353 | Agriculture and food; Government operations and politics                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Anna     | Whitney      | NJ | Democratic  | Legislative Aide                                    | anna_whitney@booker.senate.gov             | 785-539-8973 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Economics and public finance; Energy; Environmental protection; Guns; Housing and community development; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources; Small business; Transportation and public works                                   |
| Nathan   | Williams     | LA | Republican  | Chief Counsel Chief Counsel Republican              | nathan_williams@kennedy.senate.gov         | 202-224-4721 | Agriculture and food; Animals                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Andrew   | Williams     | ID | Republican  | Deputy Legislative Director                         | andrew_williams@crapo.senate.gov           | 202-224-3224 | Abortion; Arts culture and religion; Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Commerce; Emergency management; Government operations and politics; Guns; Immigration; Law and judiciary; Native Americans; Science and technology                                             |
| Tara     | Wilson       | MA | Democratic  | Legislative Assistant                               | tara_wilson@markey.senate.gov              | 202-224-5225 | Agriculture and food; Animals; Emergency management; Energy; Environmental protection; Native Americans; Public lands and natural resources                                                                                                                                     |
| Jeremy   | Witte        | AR | Republican  | Professional Staff Member                           | jeremy_witte@ag.senate.gov                 | 202-224-6142 | Abortion; Agriculture and food; Families; Health; Women's issues                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Katie    | Wood         | IA | Republican  | Legislative Assistant                               | katie_wood@ernst.senate.gov                | 202-224-2742 | Agri-security; Agricultural research and extension; Biosecurity; Biotechnology; Dairy industry; Homeland security; National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility; Specialty crops                                                                                                      |
|          |              |    |             |                                                     |                                            | 202-224-2035 | Arts culture and religion; Education; Emergency management; Families; Health; Science and technology; Social welfare; Telecommunications                                                                                                                                        |
|          |              |    |             |                                                     |                                            | 202-224-3254 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|        |            |    |            |                         |                                 |              |                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------|------------|----|------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kevin  | Wu         | OR | Democratic | Domestic Policy Adviser | kevin_wu@wyden.senate.gov       | 202-224-5244 | Agriculture and food; Civil rights and liberties minority issues; Commerce; Education; Government operations and politics; Health; Labor and employment; Social welfare |
| Lauren | Wustenberg | MI | Democratic | Counsel                 | lauren_wustenberg@ag.senate.gov | 202-224-2035 | Agricultural conservation and pollution; Environmental protection; Land use and conservation; Local food systems; Organic crops; Pesticides; Specialty crops            |



**From:** [Pam Becker](#)  
**To:** [Lang, Rachel \(Finance\)](#)  
**Subject:** You're invited: FRS Broadband Tour in North Dakota and Minnesota  
**Date:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 4:22:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear Rachel,

Want to better understand how federal broadband programs impact community-based broadband providers and rural Americans? Join the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) in August as we tour eastern [North Dakota](#) and western [Minnesota](#) and learn about the significance of rural broadband in supporting education, health, commerce, agriculture, and public safety.

The trip will leave from Washington, DC on Tuesday, August 15 and return on Friday, August 18. After landing in Fargo, we will visit rural broadband providers, construction areas for fiber deployment, broadband-enabled farms, telehealth facilities, business opportunity hubs, and have opportunities to learn about a wide variety of rural broadband issues, all while enjoying a beautiful part of the country. A detailed itinerary will be available in the next few weeks.

The trip includes the cost of airfare, transportation within North Dakota and Minnesota, hotel, and food (within federal *per diem* rates) and will comply with all House and Senate ethics rules on privately sponsored travel for Hill staff. We will also follow all local, state, and federal CoVid-19 safety guidelines.

For more information or to reserve a space on the trip, please contact me at [pbecker@frs.org](mailto:pbecker@frs.org) or (703) 351-2044. **SPACE IS LIMITED to 20 PARTICIPANTS.** I will also keep a wait list.

Visit <https://www.frs.org/programs/congressional-broadband-tour> for videos and descriptions of past FRS tours to Montana, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Vermont.

The Foundation for Rural Service is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Arlington, Virginia. As the philanthropic arm of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association and its members, FRS seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life in rural America by advancing an understanding of rural issues. Through scholarships, grants, and a variety of educational programs, FRS focuses on educating rural youth, encouraging community development, and introducing policymakers to challenges unique to rural communities.

Thank you for your interest and I look forward to hearing from you.

-- Pam

**Pam Becker, CFRE**

*Executive Director*

**Foundation for Rural Service**

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**FOUNDATION FOR  
RURAL SERVICE**

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## **FRS Congressional Broadband Tour Minnesota and North Dakota August 15-18, 2023**

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) is a 501c3 non-profit dedicated to enhancing quality of life in America by promoting a better understanding of rural issues. The vision of FRS is to harness the power of the rural communications industry to enrich lives in America.

The purpose of this trip is to educate Capitol Hill staff on the geographic and financial challenges of providing robust broadband service to remote rural areas, as well as to highlight the role rural telecom companies play in providing these essential services that support education, commercial activity, agriculture, health, and public safety. Attendees will meet with a range of small, rural telecommunications companies in North Dakota and Minnesota as well as companies that rely on broadband to provide essential services to their communities. The group will also visit rural community leaders and discuss ways in which the state has been enhanced by broadband applications. Drive times will provide an opportunity for educational sessions on the bus, as well as illustrate the difficulty of serving "last mile" areas in rural states.

No registered federal lobbyists will attend this trip. All expenses will be paid in full by the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) and will be subject to the daily per diem allowances for Senate and House employees—all meals, lodging, and transportation for staffers will be covered by FRS within these allowance rates.

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### **ITINERARY**

#### **Tuesday, August 15, 2023**

|          |                                                                                  |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:45 am  | Depart Washington, DC (DCA) on American Airlines #2304 to Chicago                |
| 10:01 am | Depart Chicago (OHD) on American Airlines #3385 to Fargo, ND                     |
| 11:55 am | Arrive Fargo (FAR)                                                               |
| 12:15 pm | Bus to Dakota Carrier Network (DCN)<br>3901 Great Plains Dr S<br>Fargo, ND 58104 |

12:30 – 2:00 pm

**Lunch, Broadband 101, and tour of DCN** – Over lunch attendees will receive a basic overview to better understand the historical, technical, geographic, and financial issues surrounding rural broadband infrastructure in the United States and especially North Dakota and Minnesota. Attendees will also tour DCN which is owned by 13 independent rural broadband service providers in North Dakota. DCN and its owners have 65,000 miles of fiber deployed across North Dakota. Collectively, DCN employs more than 1,000 people that live and work in North Dakota. DCN owners have a collective total plant investment worth more than \$1.4 billion in North Dakota, and they have invested more than \$100 million per year in fiber construction for each of the past five years. DCN owners represent all the major local independent broadband service providers and serve customers in nearly 400 communities – more than 85 percent of all the exchanges in the state.

*Speakers:*

- Seth Arndorfer, Chief Executive Officer, DCN
- Carissa Swenson, Executive Director, Broadband Association of North Dakota
- Brent Christensen, President and Chief Executive Officer, Minnesota Telecom Alliance

2:00 – 3:00 pm

**Discussion about the Metro Flood Diversion Project.** The Red River is unique due to its low gradient and northward flow. These features also lead to a high flooding risk. Ice melt comes earlier in southern regions, causing ice jams and other conditions that result in flooding nearly every year. This makes the Red River Valley one of the most flood-prone areas in the U.S. Extreme precipitation, two inches or more, has increased in frequency since 1990 and has worsened further since 2015.

Red River flooding in 1997 demonstrated the devastating effects a disaster can have on a single metro area. Damages in Grand Forks, North Dakota and East Grand Forks, Minnesota amounted to \$3.5 billion (over \$6.4 billion when adjusted for inflation). Knowing that a 100-year or 500-year flood event would likely cause even greater damage to the more-developed Fargo-Moorhead metro area puts flood protection measures in perspective as a worthwhile investment.

The Metro Flood Diversion Authority is responsible for ensuring the safe and timely construction of the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion. The public-private partnership, or P3 approach, is the first of its kind for flood management projects in North America, with the working together of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Red River Valley Alliance (RRVA), cities of

Fargo and Moorhead and Cass and Clay counties to drive construction. The target for delivering permanent, reliable flood protection is 2027.

Discussion will include how broadband providers in both North Dakota and Minnesota must contend with the current and projected construction of the flood diversion project as well as potential flood damage from future storms.

*Speaker:*

- Joel Paulsen, Executive Director, Metro Flood Diversion Authority

3:00 pm

Bus to Polar Communications construction site  
Evanger Lutheran Church  
1311 16th St NE  
Grand Forks, ND 58201

4:00 – 5:00 pm

**Tour fiber installation construction project** underway by Polar Communications. Polar Communications provides telecommunications services to more than 8,000 subscribers in North Dakota and Minnesota. The company also provides advanced business services such as phone systems, video surveillance, and advanced networking. At the site attendees will see the installation of fiber optic cable and have the opportunity to splice fiber optic cable. Polar Communications has used a variety of federal and local funding sources to expand broadband to underserved locations.

*Speakers:*

- Karl Blake, General Manager, Polar Communications
- Tim Olson, Field Operations Supervisor, Polar Communications

5:00 pm

Bus to hotel  
Sleep Inn and Suites  
1350 S 42nd Street  
Grand Forks, ND 58201

5:15 pm

Check in at hotel

5:45 pm

Bus to Flood Memorial Monument  
Third Street and First Avenue North  
Grand Forks, ND 58203

6:00 – 6:30 pm

**Tour Grand Forks Flood Memorial Park and Monument** to see the location of the Red River Flood of 1997 that resulted in the creation of the Metro Flood Diversion Project presented earlier in the day. Carissa Swenson will continue the discussion about how flooding and the construction project impacts local broadband companies' ability to

maintain and expand services.

*Speaker:*

- Carissa Swenson, Executive Director, Broadband Association of North Dakota

6:30 pm                      Walk to Dinner  
Ely's Ivy  
22 S 3rd Street  
Grand Forks, ND 58201

8:00 pm                      Bus to hotel

### **Wednesday, August 16, 2023**

8:00 am                      Breakfast at hotel

8:30 a.m.                      Bus to Rice Lake Community Center  
13830 Community Loop  
Bagley, MN 56621

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.        **Tour Rice Lake Community Center**, owned by the White Earth Reservation which offers several programs including an elder nutrition program, Boys & Girls Club, Head Start, Recovery services, Elder Advocates, counselors, nurses, chemical dependency and more. Garden Valley Technologies, a member-owned Cooperative that has been around for 118 years, began installing fiber-to-the-home in 2005, and now provides fiber service to 100% of its members, including those who live on the White Earth Reservation. The fiber service at the community center is critical for the facility to provide necessary educational, nutritional, and health care services.

*Speakers:*

- Tim Brinkman, CEO and General Manager, Garden Valley Technologies
- Henry Fox, White Earth Ojibwa Tribal Council Member

11:00 am                      Bus to Launch Pad Bemidji  
102 1st Street W  
Bemidji, MN 56601

12:00 – 2:00 pm            **Lunch and panel discussion about economic development, tribal communities, and the importance of broadband in rural areas** -- With innovative manufacturers, aspiring entrepreneurs and growing retail and services sector, the greater Bemidji region serves as the center for economic development for all of northern Minnesota.



The Red Lake Indian Reservation (Ojibwe: *Miskwaagamiwi-zaaga'iganing*) covers 1,260.3 sq mi (806,600 acres) in parts of nine counties in northwestern Minnesota. It is made up of numerous holdings but the largest section is an area about Red Lake, in north-central Minnesota, the largest lake in the state. This section lies primarily in the counties of Beltrami and Clearwater. Land in seven other counties is also part of the reservation. The reservation population was 5,506 in the 2020 census. Home to the federally recognized Red Lake Band of Chippewa, it is unique as the only “closed reservation” in Minnesota. In a closed reservation, all land is held in common by the tribe and there is no private property. As of 2011, the Ojibwe language is the official language of Red Lake. Red Lake is among the most isolated reservations in the United States.

Serving the area since 1952, Paul Bunyan Communications is a member-owned broadband cooperative providing fiber optic Internet up to 10 Gig, television, voice, and IT services. Attendees will learn about Paul Bunyan Communication’s partnership with the Red Lake Nation, especially in outreach about the FCC’s Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). Paul Bunyan Communications has also placed a focus on promoting esports and gaming to attract young people to the telecommunications workforce. (See video about Paul Bunyan Communications signing up people for ACP: <https://www.nbcnews.com/fbbb37b7-e235-480e-8440-2e546563704b>)

*Speakers:*

- Dave Hengel, Executive Director, Greater Bemidji
- Glenda Martin, District Representative, Red Lake Nation Tribal Council
- Gary Johnson, CEO and General Manager, Paul Bunyan Communications

2:00 – 2:30 pm

**Visit Paul Bunyan and Babe statues and Visitors Center**

300 Bemidji Ave N

Bemidji, MN 56601

As early as the 1890s, Bemidji enjoyed a modest tourist trade. When rail connections were constructed to Bemidji in 1898, promoters began the development of lakeshore sites for cottages, hotels, and resorts. Most of these resorts catered to hunters and anglers. In the 1920s the rise in automobile popularity and affordability contributed to a significant boom in Bemidji's tourist industry, but it suffered during the Great Depression. As a means of stimulating tourism in Bemidji, local civic organizations sponsored a winter carnival meant to promote the city's resources for winter sports. Due to Bemidji's once prominent status as a logging and

lumbering center, the celebrations focused on Paul Bunyan, the larger-than life lumberjack who is an American folk hero. On January 14, 1937 the carnival opened with two giant statues to serve as mascots: one of Bunyan and the other of his giant blue ox, Babe. Paul Bunyan Communications provides the broadband service to the Visitors Center to facilitate sales of items and the live webcam that can be accessed by anybody around the world.

Speaker:

- Gary Johnson, CEO and General Manager, Paul Bunyan Communications

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|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2:30 pm        | Bus to Visitors Center Itasca State Park<br>36750 Main Pk Dr<br>Park Rapids, MN 56470                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 3:15—3:30 pm   | <b>Visit the headwaters of the Mississippi River.</b> The mighty Mississippi River begins its winding journey to the Gulf of Mexico as a mere 18-foot-wide knee-deep river in Itasca State Park. From here the river flows north to Bemidji, where it turns east, and then south near Grand Rapids. It will flow a total of 694 miles before working its way out of Minnesota.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 3:30 pm        | Bus to <b>Gardonville Cooperative Telephone Association</b><br>800 Central Avenue North<br>Brandon, MN 56315                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 5:30 – 6:30 pm | <b>Visit Gardonville Cooperative Telephone Association to learn about the unusual role they play in their community.</b> Gardonville provides service for four exchanges in west central Minnesota, servicing the towns of Garfield, Brandon, Evansville, Millerville, Erdahl, Leaf Valley and Melby. The cooperative also provides competitive services to the Alexandria, Minnesota area, and in conjunction with Minnesota and Federal grants have built fiber-optic networks in many previously under-served areas. In addition to providing telecommunication services, the company provides a variety of other services including healthcare, public safety, childcare, and a butter creamery.<br><i>Speaker:</i><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dave Wolf, General Manager, Gardonville Cooperative Telephone Association</li> </ul> |
| 6:30 pm        | Bus to The Depot Smokehouse and Tavern<br>104 Broadway Street<br>Alexandria, MN                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

7:00 – 9:00 pm

**Dinner and Panel Discussion about State Broadband Funding and Planning.** The Minnesota Office of Broadband Development was created by the Minnesota Legislature in 2013 at the same time one of the nation's first broadband grant program was established. The Minnesota Border-to-Border Broadband grant program was established in 2014 to help achieve the State's goal of true border to border broadband for all Minnesotans. Dubbed "the Minnesota Model", Minnesota's grant program has been used as a model by several other states and federal programs. The FCC made Minnesota's definition of Unserved (less than 25Mbps download, 3 Mbps upload) and Underserved (25Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload, but less than 100Mbps download and 20Mbps upload) the national standard.

On June 28, 2023 Minnesota was awarded \$652 million as part of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program. It is the intention of Minnesota's administration to run those funds through the existing, proven Border-to-Border Broadband grant program.

*Speakers:*

- Bree Maki, Executive Director, Office of Broadband Development. Bree is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Director appointed by Governor Walz in October of 2022. Prior to that she was a state staffer for Senators Franken and Smith with a primary focus on Broadband. She has long been an advocate for rural Minnesota serving on the Lewiston-Altura School Board for many years, currently serving as Board Chair. Bree also chairs the Southeast Service Coop, which provides services to school districts in southeastern Minnesota.
- Sen. Torrey Westrom, businessman and member of the Minnesota Senate. A Republican, he represents District 12, which includes all or parts of Big Stone, Douglas, Grant, Pope, Stearns, Stevens, Traverse and Wilkin Counties. He is the first known blind person to be elected to the Minnesota Legislature.
- Rep. Mary Franson, is currently serving her 7<sup>th</sup> term in the Minnesota House of Representatives. She represents Douglas and part of Stearns Counties. She was first elected in 2010. She currently serves on the Sustainable Infrastructure policy, Capital Investment, and Human Service Finance Committees.

9:00 pm

Bus to Hotel  
Holiday Inn Alexandria  
5637 Highway 29 S  
Alexandria, MN 56308

**Thursday, August 17, 2023**

- 8:00 am Breakfast at the hotel
- 8:30 am Bus to Park Region Mutual Telephone Company TV Studio  
230 W Lincoln Ave  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
- 9:30 – 11:00 am **Discussion of Broadband and TV Services** at Park Region Mutual Telephone Company. Founded in 1906 to offer telephone services to Dalton and the surrounding area, the company has gone through tremendous technology transformations and continues to place a priority on the technology needs of its customers. The company has expanded over the last 25 years to include Otter Tail Telcom, Valley Telephone, and Rothsay Telephone Company. Park Region has robust TV Operations which play an important role with the local Chamber of Commerce and schools. This stop will also have another opportunity to learn about construction methods and challenges when laying fiber optic cable.  
*Speaker:*
- Dave Bickett, GM and CEO, Park Region
- 11:00 am Bus to Wahpeton, ND  
86 Dabill Drive  
Wahpeton, ND 58075
- 11:15 – 11:30 am **Visit Wahpper, the World's Largest Catfish sculpture.** Wahpper is on the banks of the Red River within the Kidder Dam Recreation Area. The sculpture is 40 feet long, 12 feet tall (including its pedestal) and weighs more than 5,000 pounds. The Red River is formed by the Bois de Sioux and Otter Tail Rivers, and the headwaters is in Wahpeton; people come from multiple states to fish the river's abundant channel catfish. The fish's name, "Wahpper," is a playful nod towards a very big fish, or a "whopper," combined with the town's name. During the river's spring flooding, the sculpture is surrounded by water, giving the impression the fish is swimming.
- 11:30 am Bus to City Brew Hall  
120 4th St N  
Wahpeton, ND 58075
- 11:45 – 12:45 p.m. **Lunch and presentation about Red River Communications,** its service area, broadband in North Dakota, and how Red River supports local



businesses. Tom will accompany the tour on the bus to Giants Snacks, pointing out Red River Communications' service territories and current expansion projects along the way.

*Speaker:*

- Tom Steinolfson, CEO and General Manager, Red River Communications

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|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12:30           | <p>Bus to Giant Snacks<br/>17950 State Rte 13<br/>Wahpeton, ND 58075</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 12:45 – 2:00 pm | <p><b>Tour of Giant Snacks packaging facility</b> -- Family-owned and operated for nearly two decades, Giant Snacks' history travels all the way back to 1958 when sunflowers were first brought to the Red River Valley. Approximately 75% of the sunflowers raised in the United States are grown in the states of South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota. Giant Snacks are currently in 28 out of 30 major league baseball dugouts although convenience store sales account for up to 90% of Giant Snacks sales. Broadband is a critical component of the company's success, due to their significant on-line purchasing and distribution operations across the country.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jason Schuler, Co-owner, Giant Snacks</li> <li>• Robert Schuler, Vice President of Marketing, Giant Snacks</li> </ul> |
| 2:00 pm         | <p>Bus to Kindred High School<br/>225 Dakota Street<br/>Kindred, ND 58051</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 2:30 – 3:30 pm  | <p><b>Tour Kindred High School</b> – Kindred Public School District #2 includes both the high school (grades 7-12) and elementary school (K-6) with a combined total of 885 students and 136 teachers and staff. Attendees will tour the school and discuss how broadband is assisting remote learning for students in rural communities.</p> <p><i>Speaker:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gina Musland, Technology Coordinator</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 3:30 pm         | <p>Bus to Grand Farm<br/>3729 153rd Ave SE<br/>Wheatland, ND 58079</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 4:00 – 6:00 pm  | <p><b>Tour Grand Farm Innovation Campus.</b> The tour will explore how Grand Farm hopes to advance agriculture technology by creating a robust ecosystem, deploying technology in real world environments and build a</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

world-class facility for working with partners. Discussion will include work being done by agricultural corporations and startups, learning about the vision for Grand Farm's campus, and all the ways robust broadband assists both small- and large-scale agriculture operations. Grand Farm is creating the prototype for the first fully autonomous farm.

The Grand Farm Education and Research Initiative capitalizes on the region's potential and expertise in the agriculture and technology industries. The Grand Farm Initiative will accelerate the research and innovation into technology which will be present on the farm of the future – impacting North Dakota, the United States, and the World by solving challenges in the agriculture industry and developing new opportunities.

Grand Farm is building a facility where growers, industry, and educators will collaborate on projects to deliver innovative agriculture solutions. Partner organizations of all sizes utilize their test plot land to perform hundreds of research projects every single year. This process is managed by the Grand Farm Program Management Office.

*Speakers:*

- Brian Carroll, Grand Farm Director, Grand Farm
- Andrew Jason, Ecosystems Director, Grand Farm
- Ann Nobriga, Program Manager of Field Operations, Grand Farm
- William Aderholdt, Director, Program Management Office, Grand Farm

|         |                                                                       |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6:00 pm | Bus to BrewHalla<br>1666 1st Ave N,<br>Fargo, ND 58102                |
| 6:30 pm | Dinner at BrewHalla                                                   |
| 8:00 pm | Bus to hotel                                                          |
|         | <b>Holiday Inn Fargo</b><br>3803 13th Avenue South<br>Fargo, ND 58103 |

### Friday, August 18, 2023

|         |                                                          |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:45 am | Bus to Fargo airport                                     |
| 5:27 am | Depart Fargo (FAR) on American Airlines #3352 to Chicago |

8:47 am Depart Chicago (ORD) on American Airlines #1023

11:38 am Arrive Washington, DC (DCA)