

RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building. **This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Date/Time Stamp
RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS
2025 SEP 19 PM 12:39

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):
Technology Policy Institute

Travel Dates:
08/17/2025 to 08/20/2025

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
\$1,126.38	\$843.66	\$821.52	\$1,500.00

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.

9/18/2025
Date

EDGAR RIVAS
Printed Name of Traveler


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.

9/18/2025
Date


Signature of Supervising Member/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
Meals	\$821.52	Primary Travel Sponsor exact costs versus the estimated expenses submitted in the initial travel sponsor submission.
Transportation	\$1,126.38	Primary Travel Sponsor incurred elevated airline ticket expenses due to the limited four-day window available to secure travel arrangements
Lodging	\$843.66	Primary Travel Sponsor's actual cost for lodging.

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.



TECHNOLOGY
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April 10, 2025

Edgar Rivas
374 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5941
edgar_rivas@hickenlooper.senate.gov

Dear Edgar,

The Technology Policy Institute will host its 16th annual summer Aspen Forum on August 17-19, 2025 at the St. Regis Hotel in Aspen, Colorado. It is our pleasure to invite you to participate.

We anticipate this being among the most important TPI Forums to date given new developments domestically and abroad. We will cover artificial intelligence, space, competition, tariffs, broadband, the government's role in promoting science and technology, spectrum regulation, conflicts with China, and much more.

The TPI Forum sets the stage for a wide range of policy debates in Washington in the fall and winter Congressional sessions. Nobel Laureates, tech sector titans, commissioners from U.S. and international agencies, congressional staffers, top academics, and industry leaders routinely attend—often year after year.

We hope you can join us. Please contact us if we can be helpful in any way. We hope to see you in Aspen.

Best Regards,

Scott Wallsten, Ph.D.
President and Senior Fellow
swallsten@techpolicyinstitute.org
202.730.9441

The Technology Policy Institute is an independent, non-partisan think tank that focuses on the economics of innovation, technological change, and related regulation. TPI is a 501(c)(3) research and educational foundation. This conference is well attended and open to the public.

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:
Edgar Rivas

Employing Office/Committee:
HICKENLOOPER, JOHN

Private Sponsor(s):
Technology Policy Institute

Destination(s):
ASPEN, Colorado

Travel Dates:

08/17/2025 to ~~08/20/2025~~ 8/19/2025

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.

The Technology Policy Institute Aspen Forum hosts timely dialogue with leading thought leaders on fields related to my official duties serving in U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper's office. Discussions will cover a range of issues under my legislative portfolio, including artificial intelligence, telecommunications, and antitrust policy.

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.

07/16/2025

Date


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)

I U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper

(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize

Edgar Rivas

(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)

07/16/2025

Date


Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

Technology Policy Institute: TECHNOLOGY POLICY INSTITUTE ASPEN FORUM 2025

EDGAR RIVAS

Title:
None

Employing Office/Committee:
HICKENLOOPER, JOHN

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON, DC

Destination(s):
ASPEN, Colorado

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

The Technology Policy Institute Aspen Forum hosts timely dialogue with leading thought leaders on fields related to my official duties serving in U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper's office. Discussions will cover a range of issues under my legislative portfolio, including artificial intelligence, telecommunications, and antitrust policy.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
Technology Policy Institute

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

Yes No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
Private Foundation

Address
2001 L Street, NW

Address 2 (Optional)
Suite 500

City, State Zip
Washington, District Of Columbia 20036 United States

Phone Number
(202) 495-7722

Organization URL
WWW.TECHPOLICYINSTITUTE.ORG

History of Congressional Travel

The TPI Aspen Forum is in its 16th year of bringing, coordinating, & executing this policy forum and has complied with all congressional ethics rules for member and staff participation. This is the only event hosted outside of Washington DC that includes congressional-sponsored travel and is done without regard to congressional participation. TPI's annual summer Aspen Forum brings together policymakers, academics & industry to explore various issues related to technology & tech policy. TPI's role in organizing and conducting the trip involves creating a balanced agenda that addresses various technology-related issues and incorporates diverse perspectives.

Educational Activities

TPI's mission is to advance knowledge & inform policymakers by producing independent, rigorous research & scholarship, by sponsoring educational programs & conferences on major issues affecting information technology and communications policy. We elevate policy discussions in tech and telecom matters with rigorous, independent economic analysis. Educational and research activities to further this goal are policy outputs (i.e. popular economics podcast Two Think Minimum, webinars, white papers, conference papers, research presentations, economic analysis, regulatory filings & commentary). We produce digital tools that include a cloud-based national broadband map, as well as generative AI chatbots that answer questions about broadband grants. Our scholars publish their work in peer-reviewed economics journals, law reviews & contribute to machine learning knowledge in the software development community.

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 to Aspen, Colorado to participate in the Technology Policy Institute's annual conference, the TPI Aspen Forum 2025. The 2025 program is curated to include diverse discussions by experts on economic growth, national security, free speech, content moderation, artificial intelligence, copyright, antitrust, the major questions doctrine, broadband deployment/regulation, spectrum & space governance/policy, & the future of media.

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

The Technology Policy Institute (TPI) is a 501(c)3 educational think tank that examines the role of economics & emerging technologies. The 16th annual Aspen Forum brings together policymakers, academics, and industry to explore a myriad of issues relating to technology and technology policy. We have found the forum to be an important opportunity for relevant stakeholders to meet for candid discussions that will advance economics and technology policy in domestic and international arenas.

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 without 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

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

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

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

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
08/17/2025 @ 12:53 PM

Trip End Date/Time:
08/19/2025 @ 11:17 PM

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: \$858.00 | Accompanying Family Member: \$0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	\$758.00

Note

Roundtrip, economy-class, airfare is provided

Ground Transportation

N/A

\$100.00

Note

We will reimburse rideshare and/or cab fare to/from airports

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$758.00)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
08/17/2025	08/19/2025	THE MOLLIE ASPEN	ASPEN	Colorado	United States	2	\$379.00	Yes

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason								
Lodging is slightly above the GSA rate. TPI planned to provide complimentary lodging to all government participants at the St Regis Aspen Resort, however, a negotiated rate of \$489 per night significantly exceeds the government per diem rates for lodging. The MOLLIE Aspen was selected for Senate staff because it is less expensive than the St Regis Aspen Resort and other nearby hotels. As the host venue for the forum, the vast majority of the conference attendees and speakers will be staying at the St Regis Aspen Resort. TPI will arrange for only congressional staff to stay at the Aspen Mountain Lodge. Efforts are made to contain costs for all aspects of this event.								

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$762.30)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
08/17/2025	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$44.10	\$0.00	\$44.10	Aspen	Colorado	United States	No
08/18/2025	\$94.50	\$126.00	\$189.00	\$88.20	\$497.70	Aspen	Colorado	United States	Yes

Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason

Attachment C Meals are the same provided to all attendees and are included in the registration fee. We were not able to negotiate a less expensive meal option that complies with GSA per diem rate. Efforts are made to contain costs with respect to all aspects of this event.

08/19/2025	\$94.50	\$126.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$220.50	Aspen	Colorado	United States	Yes
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Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason

Attachment C Meals are the same provided to all attendees and are included in the registration fee. We were not able to negotiate a less expensive meal option that complies with GSA per diem rate. Efforts are made to contain costs with respect to all aspects of this event.

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$1,500.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes
Conference Fees	\$1,500.00	Conference registration fees help offset the costs of providing meals, lodging, and travel expenses. TPI extends complimentary registration to government participants and speakers, subject to compliance with their respective office or agency ethics guidelines.

Additional Attachments All additional attachments are below.

Document Name

Attachment A - Invitees

Attachment B - Background

Attachment C - Travel and Meals

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: Technology Policy Institute Aspen Forum 2025
Travel Date(s): August 17-19, 2025
Travel Destination(s): Aspen, Colorado

Sponsor: Technology Policy Institute

Jane Creel
(printed name of sponsor representative)

Corporate Secretary
(title)

Jane Creel
(signature of sponsor representative)

Digitally signed by Jane Creel
Date: 2025.07.01 10:26:52 -04'00'

July 1, 2025
(date)

Attachment A – U.S. Senate Private Sponsor Travel Certification
TPI Aspen Forum 2025 – August 17-19, 2025

Invitations to TPI Aspen Forum from Dr. Sarah Oh Lam, Senior Fellow, Technology Policy Institute		
Last, First Name	Title	Chamber
DeMatteo, Thomas	Gen. Counsel	Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT)
Murphy, Phil	Policy Coordinator	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Pappas, Peter-Anthony	IP Director	Senate Judiciary, IP Subcommittee, Sen. Tillis (R-NC)
Rivas, Edgar	Senior Policy Adviser	Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-CO)
Susskind, Jamie	Leg. Director	Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)
Westbrook, Coy	Counsel	Judiciary Committee
Wilbanks, Garrett	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Aguelakakis, Nicolas	Sr. Economist	Joint Economic Committee
Andeweg, Erica	Senior Policy Adviser	Sen. Deb Fischer (R-NE)
Bjoerkheim, Markus	Senior Economist	Joint Economic Committee
Brown, Conner	Counsel	Sen. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY)
Carter, Tess	Senior Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Ceja, Hannah	Senior Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Dealy, Jaxson	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
DiSalvo, Richard	Senior Economist	Joint Economic Committee
El-Sahn, Adam	Senior Counsel	Judiciary Committee
Fucile, Tamara	Senior Adviser	Joint Economic Committee
Gray, Ian	Policy Adviser	Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ)
Hagen, Hannah	Professional Staff Member	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Hahn, Cecily	Senior Legislative Counsel	Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
Hendricks, Ben	Chief Counsel	Judiciary Committee (Senate)
Holman, Elise	Counsel	Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
Hostager, Jack	Senior Adviser	Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
Knight, Travis	Chief Counsel	Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
Kumar, Rohan	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Leathard, Scott	Legislative Counsel	Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AK)
LePage, Brooke	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Maestas, Mason	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Miller, Andrew	Professional Staff Member	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Nichols, Kole	Economist	Joint Economic Committee
Perez, Cirilo	Senior Professional Staff Member	Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC)
Roth, Arielle	Policy Director	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Schlagenhauf, Jeff	Senior Adviser	Joint Economic Committee
Schunk, Alexander	Policy Adviser	Joint Economic Committee

Simpson, Alex	Counsel	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Slais, Gigi	Professional Staff Member	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Smith, Shannon	Counsel	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Stefanovich, Lia	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Turner, David	Senior Professional Staff Member	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Velchik, Michael	Legislative Director/Senior Counsel	Sen. Josh Hawley (R-MO)
Winfrey, Jade	Federal Programs Adviser	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Connolly, John	Chief Counsel	Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)



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**TPI ASPEN FORUM
AUGUST 17-19, 2025
ST REGIS ASPEN RESORT**

Sunday, August 17th

12:50 pm – 4:54 pm Depart Dulles International Airport (12:50 pm EDT), United Airlines Flight 1587, Arrive Denver International Airport (2:42 pm MDT), Depart Denver International Airport (3:55 pm MDT), United Flight 5773, Arrive (4:54 pm MDT), Pitkin County Airport, Aspen, Colorado

5:00 pm – 5:15 pm Shuttle to Lodging

5:15 pm – 5:45 pm Lodging Check-in

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Welcome Networking Reception
Fountain Courtyard

The purpose of the welcome reception is to allow attendees to collect conference credentials and meet fellow conference attendees. Attendance is optional and remarks will be brief.

Scott Wallsten, Senior Fellow & President, Technology Policy Institute

7:00 pm – 7:30 pm View From the States
Fountain Courtyard

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser will highlight the state's latest enforcement activities, executive priorities, and anticipated policy developments for Fall 2025. From tackling consumer protection and antitrust issues to advancing criminal justice reform and environmental initiatives, AG Weiser will share insights on Colorado's proactive legal strategies and their impact on residents and businesses. Discover how the Attorney General's office is navigating emerging challenges and shaping the state's policy agenda.

Phil Weiser, Attorney General, State of Colorado

Monday, August 18th

7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast
Prefunction Area

8:00 am – 8:10 am Welcome Remarks
Astor Ballroom 1

Scott Wallsten, Senior Fellow & President, Technology Policy Institute

Dr. Wallsten, TPI President, will welcome all attending the event and give an overview of the program.

Monday, August 18th continued

8:10 am – 8:50 am
Astor Ballroom 1

Keynote Address: Innovation, Ideas and Economic Growth in the Digital Age

Professor Charles "Chad" Jones, STANCO 25 Professor of Economics at Stanford University's Graduate School of Business and co-recipient of the 2021 Robert E. Lucas Jr. Prize will discuss "Innovation, Ideas, and Economic Growth in the Digital Age" in this keynote address. Jones' research addresses the most pressing economic questions of our time, such as why achieving Moore's Law now requires far more researchers than in the early 1970s, balancing potential enormous AI-driven economic growth with investments to mitigate associated risks, and how population decline in developed nations could fundamentally alter economic development trajectories. At a time when nations grapple with slowing productivity growth, rapid AI advancement, and demographic transitions, Jones' models and data-driven insights offer crucial guidance for policymakers seeking to harness AI's transformative potential while managing its risks.

Chad Jones, STANCO 25 Professor of Economics, Graduate School of Business,
Stanford University

8:55 am - 9:30 am
Astor Ballroom 1

Fireside Chat: The Future of Quantum Computing

This fireside chat with the Chief Operating Officer and Global Policy Lead of Quantum AI at Google will dive into cutting-edge advancements in quantum computing and quantum AI. Discover how these transformative technologies are reshaping global competition, driving innovation, and raising critical questions for AI policy and investment. Our speaker will share insights on the latest breakthroughs, the strategic implications for industries and governments, and the evolving regulatory landscape surrounding quantum technologies.

James Goeders, Head of Products, Google Quantum AI
Edward Parker, Physical Scientist, RAND Corporation (moderator)

9:30 am – 9:45 am

Break

9:45 am – 10:40 am
Astor Ballroom 1

Panel Discussion: Current Developments in Antitrust Policy (0.75 hours CLE credits)

This session will explore the latest developments in antitrust policy, including allegations of collusion in big tech censorship, the evolving process of merger review, and significant ongoing litigation by the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission. Expert panelists will discuss the implications for competition in the tech and telecom sectors, industry practices, and the broader regulatory landscape.

Dennis Carlton, David McDaniel Keller Professor of Economics Emeritus, University of Chicago

Carl Shapiro, Distinguished Professor of the Graduate School, Haas School of Business and the Department of Economics, University of California at Berkeley

Howard Shelanski, Joseph and Madeline Sheehy Chair in Antitrust Law and Trade Regulation; Professor of Law, Georgetown Law

Christopher Yoo, Imasogie Professor in Law and Technology; Professor of Communication; Professor of Computer and Information Science; Founding Director, Center for Technology, Innovation & Competition, Penn Carey Law, University of Pennsylvania

Thomas Lenard, Senior Fellow and President Emeritus, Technology Policy Institute (moderator)

Monday, August 18th continued

10:45 am – 11:35 am
Astor Ballroom 1

Panel Discussion: Digital Trade in a Fractured World

Digital markets are increasingly shaped by a patchwork of regulatory approaches, such as Europe's DMA, DSA, and AI Act, as well as comparable policies emerging in Brazil, Korea, and Turkey. This panel will examine how international digital trade policy can promote innovation while addressing legitimate concerns such as privacy, security, and competition. Panelists will discuss how to distinguish protectionism from necessary regulation and whether diverse regional approaches can inform a more coherent global framework.

Andrew DeVore, Vice President and Associate General Counsel, Amazon
Steven Lang, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Information and Communications Policy, US Department of State
Alan Raul, Lecturer, Harvard University Law School and Board Chair and President, Future of Privacy Forum
David Gross, Partner, Wiley Rein LLP (moderator)

11:40 am - 12:20 pm
Astor Ballroom 1

Fireside Chat: The Future of Wireless & Global Connectivity

The Technology Policy Institute's annual Aspen Forum will feature a fireside chat with Börje Ekholm, President and CEO of Ericsson, a global leader in wireless technology and innovation. With telecom infrastructure increasingly at the center of global trade discussions, security considerations, and national competitiveness, Mr. Ekholm offers rare insights into how technology giants navigate complex international dynamics while building the networks that power our connected world. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from one of the industry's most strategic thinkers on the forces reshaping both technology and global relations.

Börje Ekholm, President and Chief Executive Office, Ericsson Group
Bryan Tramont, Managing Partner, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP (moderator)

12:20 pm – 12:45 pm

Break for Lunch

12:45 pm – 1:30 pm
Fountain Courtyard

Courtyard Luncheon Chat: Science, Policy & Public Trust

This fireside chat features Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, Director of the National Institutes of Health and co-author of the Great Barrington Declaration and is moderated by acclaimed journalist Joe Nocera. Dr. Bhattacharya will discuss his vision for NIH's policy priorities, restoring public trust in science, and fostering open scientific debate. Explore how NIH is navigating pandemic prevention and response, emphasizing rigorous regulation of risky research and innovative strategies to prepare for future health crises.

Jay Bhattacharya, Director, National Institutes of Health of the United States
Joe Nocera, Author and Deputy Managing Editor, The Free Press

1:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Afternoon Break

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Astor Ballroom 2

Networking Reception & Tech Hub Experience

The purpose of this networking reception is to allow attendees to meet with other conference attendees. Attendance is optional.

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Ballroom Level

Concurrent Breakout Session Dinner (Chatham House Rule Applies & Participants Self-Select One Session to Attend)

Monday, August 18th continued**Session I – Spectrum Policy**

This dinner session will explore critical issues shaping the future of spectrum management, including allocation strategies and their economic implications, innovative auction models to enhance efficiency and competition, and the pivotal role of flexible licenses to advance 5G and beyond. Discussions will also cover the growing demands for unlicensed spectrum from Wi-Fi and wearables, alongside challenges in spectrum valuation, national spectrum strategy, and the balance between licensed and unlicensed use. Attendees will discuss the impact of emerging technologies, global competition, and standards-setting, as well as preparations for the World Radiocommunication Conference, international policy harmonization, spectrum reauthorization, and recent legislative activity.

Traci Biswese, Vice President & Associate General Counsel, NCTA – The Internet & Television Association
Shawn Bone, Senior Director, Public Policy, Verizon
Scott Blake Harris, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, Crest Hill Advisors
Dale N. Hatfield, Executive Fellow, Silicon Flatirons, University of Colorado, Boulder
Umair Javed, General Counsel and Senior Vice President, CTIA
Evan Kwerel, Senior Economic Advisor, Office of Economics and Analytics, US Federal Communications Commission (invited)
Arpan Sura, Chief AI Officer, Federal Communications Commission
Jennifer Warren, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs & Public Policy, Lockheed Martin
Scott Wallsten, President and Senior Fellow, Technology Policy Institute (moderator)

Session II – Content Moderation and Free Speech

This dinner session will focus on the complex landscape of content moderation, First Amendment protections, and platform policies to moderate digital discourse. Our expert panel will discuss recent enforcement priorities, including high-profile FTC and FCC inquiries into alleged censorship practices, and unpack the latest developments in state and federal legislation aimed at regulating online speech. The panelists will discuss the balance between combating misinformation and preserving free expression, given the increasing volumes of digital speech today.

Clay Calvert, Professor of Law and Brechner Eminent Scholar Emeritus, University of Florida Levin College of Law
Steve DelBianco, President and Chief Executive Officer, NetChoice
Thomas DeMatteo, General Counsel, Office of US Senator Mike Lee, US Senate
Ashkhen Kazaryan, Fellow for the First Amendment, Freedom Forum
Berin Szoka, President and Founder, TechFreedom
Thomas Lenard, Senior Fellow and President Emeritus, Technology Policy Institute (moderator)

Session III – Economics of the New Space Race

This dinner session will explore the economic drivers and policy challenges shaping the rapidly evolving space industry, with discussions spanning satellite spectrum policy, the economics of satellite and space launch, and advancements in space manufacturing. Attendees will discuss critical topics such as managing orbital debris, enabling supplemental coverage from space, and addressing power limits for satellite networks. The session will also examine global competition, the rise of low Earth orbit (LEO) networks, and the interplay between geosynchronous and non-geosynchronous orbit networks, offering a unique opportunity to gain insights into the economic and strategic forces propelling the space race.

Peter Davidson, Vice President of Global Affairs and Policy, Intelsat
David Goldman, Vice President of Satellite Policy, SpaceX
Thomas Hazlett, H.H. Macaulay Endowed Chair in Economics, Clemson University
Julie Kearney, Partner and Co-Chair of the Space Exploration and Innovation Group, DLA Piper
Jennifer Manner, Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and International Strategy, AST Space Mobile
Svetlana Matt, Director of Public Policy, EchoStar
Robert McDowell, Partner & Chair, Global Communications Practice Group, Cooley LLP
Jay Schwarz, Chief, Space Bureau, US Federal Communications Commission
Shane Tews, Principal, Logan Circle Strategies (moderator)

Monday, August 18th continued**Session IV – Video Competition**

This dinner group session will discuss developments in the media industry, where video competition, AI innovation, and copyright concerns are reshaping the landscape. Our expert panel will explore the latest trends in streaming video as well as the impact of AI on content creation, personalization, and distribution. This dinner group will discuss the forces driving the future of media, from pressing copyright issues and legal battles over generative AI and fair use in the digital age.

Joe Di Scipio, Senior Vice President, FCC Legal and Business Affairs, and Assistant General Counsel, Fox Corporation
 Joni Lupovitz, Vice President and Associate General Counsel, NCTA – The Internet & Television Association
 Greg Saphier, Senior Vice President, Head of Public Affairs, Motion Picture Association (MPA)
 Michael Smith, Professor of Information Technology and Public Policy, Heinz College and Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University
 Laura Martin, Senior Entertainment and Internet Analyst, Needham and Company (moderator)

Tuesday, August 19th

7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast
 Prefunction Area

8:00 am – 8:45 am Panel Discussion: Universal Service in a Post-BEAD World: What's Next
 Astor Ballroom 1

This panel discussion will explore the future of universal service amid transformative changes in federal broadband policy. The panel will examine the implications of the Supreme Court's ruling in *Consumers' Research v. FCC* (2025) on the FCC's authority to administer the \$8 billion Universal Service Fund (USF), NTIA's new BEAD program rules, and alternative approaches to funding universal service. It will also discuss what the future of USF should look like in this evolving policy landscape.

Wayne Brough, Resident Senior Fellow, Technology and Innovation, R Street Institute
 David Don, Senior Vice President, Public Policy, Comcast
 Janice Hauge, Professor of Economics, University of North Texas
 James Prieger, Professor, School of Public Policy, Pepperdine University
 Brandy Reitter, Executive Broadband Officer, State of Colorado
 Scott Wallsten, President and Senior Fellow, Technology Policy Institute
 (moderator)

8:50 am – 9:35 am Panel Discussion: Privacy and Governmental Surveillance
 Astor Ballroom 1

As governments around the world expand their surveillance capabilities, strong encryption remains a cornerstone for protecting personal privacy, securing business data, and preserving digital rights. For consumers, it guards against identity theft and intrusive monitoring; for businesses, it protects intellectual property and builds trust across global markets. Yet, as governmental pressure to weaken encryption intensifies, critical questions arise: How do we preserve strong encryption standards while addressing legitimate security concerns? Can privacy, innovation, and human rights truly coexist with national security imperatives? And how do we resist the false choice between security and privacy that authoritarian regimes often present? This panel will explore these tensions and the global stakes of encryption policy.

Jeff Greene, Founder, Salty Coffee Consulting and Distinguished Fellow, Aspen Institute
 Jim Kohlenberger, President, JK Strategies
 Heather West, Senior Director, Cybersecurity and Privacy Services, Venable LLP
 Shane Tews, Principal, Logan Circle Strategies (moderator)

Tuesday, August 19th continued

9:40 am – 10:20 am
Astor Ballroom 1

Panel Discussion: Global Telecom Regulatory Perspectives

This panel features current and former Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulators alongside international telecommunications authorities. This distinguished panel will explore the latest developments in policy, regulation, and transformative industry changes reshaping the global telecom landscape. From 5G deployment and spectrum allocation to cross-border regulatory harmonization, our experts will unpack the challenges and opportunities driving connectivity in the digital age.

Anna Gomez, Commissioner, US Federal Communications Commission
Nathan Simington, Visiting Fellow, Hudson Institute
Bryan Tramont, Managing Partner, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP (moderator)

10:20 am – 10:30 am

Break

10:30 am – 11:15 am
Astor Ballroom 1

Panel Discussion: AI and Energy Markets

This panel will examine how artificial intelligence intersects with our evolving energy landscape. Panelists will explore how power grids must adapt to AI's growing computational demands, whether generation capacity can scale to meet AI's energy needs, what regulatory frameworks and market mechanisms are needed to balance supply with demand, and how AI itself can revolutionize grid management, energy trading, and storage deployment. The discussion will address whether our energy infrastructure can support AI advancement while leveraging AI's potential to accelerate the transition to a more efficient, responsive energy ecosystem.

Tanya Das, Director, AI & Energy Technology Policy, Bipartisan Policy Center
Marsden Hanna, Head of Sustainability and Energy Policy, Google
Marty Hopkins, Partner, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP
Frank Wolak, Holbrook Working Professor of Commodity Price Studies, Department of Economics, Stanford University
Scott Wallsten, President and Senior Fellow, Technology Policy Institute (moderator)

11:20 am – 12:00 pm
Astor Ballroom 1

Panel Discussion: Geopolitics and AI

Competition and cooperation in AI coexist in complex ways across multiple levels of governance. While nations race to secure AI advantages, they simultaneously benefit from technological spillovers that transcend borders, creating a paradox where competitors are also inadvertent collaborators. This session examines AI geopolitics as a multi-layered phenomenon spanning international rivalries, federal policies, and state-level initiatives ranging from the US-China technology competition to EU governance frameworks to safety regulations and competition for talent and investment.

Victoria Jeffries, Director of AI Policy, Meta Platforms, Inc.
Matt Perault, Head of Artificial Intelligence Policy, Andreessen Horowitz
Emelia (Emmy) Probasco, Senior Fellow, Center for Security and Emerging Technology (CSET), Georgetown University
Xiaomeng Lu, Director, Geo-technology, Eurasia Group

Tuesday, August 19th continued

12:05 pm – 12:35 pm
Astor Ballroom 1

Fireside Chat: Antitrust Brief from the US Department of Justice

This fireside chat with Roger Alford, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General will examine the Trump Administration's antitrust agenda, including its policy toward big tech and the major ongoing enforcement actions, emerging AI markets, merger review, and the role of antitrust in content moderation.

Roger Alford, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, US Department of Justice
Thomas Lenard, Senior Fellow and President Emeritus, Technology Policy Institute (moderator)

12:35 pm – 12:45 pm

Break for Lunch

12:45 pm – 1:20 pm
Astor Ballroom 2

Panel Discussion: Supreme Court and Other Legal Developments (0.75 hours CLE credits)

This session will feature legal experts and scholars who will analyze recent Supreme Court and significant appellate court cases impacting administrative law, technology, telecommunications, separation of powers, and federal agency review. Topics will include landmark rulings affecting regulatory authority, tech policy, and telecom frameworks, as well as their implications for federal agencies and the balance of powers.

James Speta, Elizabeth Froehling Horner Professor of Law, Pritzker School of Law, Northwestern University
Cate Stetson, Partner and Co-Director of Appellate Practice Group, Hogan Lovells US LLP
Jonathan Nuechterlein, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Technology Policy Institute and Adjunct Professor, Georgetown Law School (moderator)

1:20 pm – 1:55 pm
Astor Ballroom 2

Fireside Chat: A View from Capitol Hill

The panel discussion, "View from the Hill," features senior staffers from key congressional member offices and the majority and minority offices of the primary subcommittees overseeing technology and telecommunications policy. This panel will provide a rare glimpse into the legislative priorities and agenda for the fall congressional term. Panelists will share perspectives on critical tech and telecom issues, including spectrum policy, broadband deployment, data privacy, and emerging technology regulations, while discussing the political dynamics and strategic considerations shaping Capitol Hill's approach.

Thomas DeMatteo, General Counsel, Office of US Senator Mike Lee, US Senate (majority)
Parul Desai, Chief Counsel, Committee on Energy and Commerce, US House of Representatives (minority)
Kate Harper, Chief Counsel, Communications and Technology, Committee on Energy and Commerce, US House of Representatives (majority)
Edgar Rivas, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of US Senator John Hickenlooper, US Senate (minority)

1:55 pm – 2:00 pm
Fountain Courtyard

Closing Remarks

Scott Wallsten, President and Senior Fellow, Technology Policy Institute

Tuesday, August 19th continued

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm Depart St Regis Aspen Resort via Complimentary Shuttle
Arrive Pitken County Airport, Aspen, Colorado

3:25 pm – 11:17 pm Depart Aspen, Colorado, United Airlines Flights 5776/2408
Arrive Dulles International Airport (11:17 pm EDT)

*Program times noted are U.S. Mountain Daylight Saving Time (UTC-06:00) unless otherwise indicated.

ATTACHMENT B**U.S. Senate Private Sponsor Travel Certification****TPI Aspen Forum 2025 – August 17-19, 2025**

The Aspen Forum is wholly planned, organized and executed by the staff and Directors of the Technology Policy Institute. TPI receives general support from a variety of organizations but none is earmarked for specific activities, including the Aspen Forum.

The Technology Policy Institute receives its funding in the form of general support & in-kind contributions from the following organizations:

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The Technology Policy Institute funds the TPI Aspen Forum with sales of registration fees for the forum as well as general support donations. None of the donors listed above participated in the planning or organization of the policy forum, nor have they earmarked funds for this Congressional trip.

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Attachment A – U.S. Senate Private Sponsor Travel Certification
TPI Aspen Forum 2025 – August 17-19, 2025

Invitations to TPI Aspen Forum from Dr. Sarah Oh Lam, Senior Fellow, Technology Policy Institute		
Last, First Name	Title	Chamber
DeMatteo, Thomas	Gen. Counsel	Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT)
Murphy, Phil	Policy Coordinator	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Pappas, Peter-Anthony	IP Director	Senate Judiciary, IP Subcommittee, Sen. Tillis (R-NC)
Rivas, Edgar	Senior Policy Adviser	Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-CO)
Susskind, Jamie	Leg. Director	Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)
Westbrook, Coy	Counsel	Judiciary Committee
Wilbanks, Garrett	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Aguelakakis, Nicolas	Sr. Economist	Joint Economic Committee
Andeweg, Erica	Senior Policy Adviser	Sen. Deb Fischer (R-NE)
Bjoerkheim, Markus	Senior Economist	Joint Economic Committee
Brown, Conner	Counsel	Sen. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY)
Carter, Tess	Senior Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Ceja, Hannah	Senior Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Dealy, Jaxson	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
DiSalvo, Richard	Senior Economist	Joint Economic Committee
El-Sahn, Adam	Senior Counsel	Judiciary Committee
Fucile, Tamara	Senior Adviser	Joint Economic Committee
Gray, Ian	Policy Adviser	Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ)
Hagen, Hannah	Professional Staff Member	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Hahn, Cecily	Senior Legislative Counsel	Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
Hendricks, Ben	Chief Counsel	Judiciary Committee (Senate)
Holman, Elise	Counsel	Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
Hostager, Jack	Senior Adviser	Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
Knight, Travis	Chief Counsel	Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
Kumar, Rohan	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Leathard, Scott	Legislative Counsel	Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AK)
LePage, Brooke	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Maestas, Mason	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Miller, Andrew	Professional Staff Member	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Nichols, Kole	Economist	Joint Economic Committee
Perez, Cirilo	Senior Professional Staff Member	Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC)
Schlagenhauf, Jeff	Senior Adviser	Joint Economic Committee
Schunk, Alexander	Policy Adviser	Joint Economic Committee
Simpson, Alex	Counsel	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee

Slais, Gigi	Professional Staff Member	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Smith, Shannon	Counsel	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Stefanovich, Lia	Policy Analyst	Joint Economic Committee
Turner, David	Senior Professional Staff Member	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Velchik, Michael	Legislative Director/Senior Counsel	Sen. Josh Hawley (R-MO)
Winfree, Jade	Federal Programs Adviser	Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
Connolly, John	Chief Counsel	Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)