RE-3 Senators and Officers Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp
RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS
2026 JUN 22 PM 2:57

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit form 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.**

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):

James Beard Foundation

Travel Dates:

6/11/2026-6/16/2026

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Total Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
$369.90	$757.23	$125	

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

- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

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.

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.

6/17/20	Senator Ben Ray Luján	Ben Ray Luján
Date	Printed Name of Senator/Officer	Signature of 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

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

○ Yes ◉ No

Explanation:

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

○ Yes ◉ No

Explanation:

Trip Name:

Organization Information

Organization Name:
James Beard Foundation

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
(●) Yes ( ) No

If Yes, §501(c)(3) Organization Type:
[✔] Private Foundation [ ] Public Charity

Address:
49 W 27th St.

City, State, Zip:
New York, NY 10001

Phone Number:
212.627.2308

Organization URL:
jamesbeard.org/

History of Congressional Travel

Describe your organization's history of sponsoring congressional travel.

No history of sponsoring congressional travel.

Educational Activities

Describe the educational activities performed by your organization other than sponsoring congressional travel.

- The Women's Entrepreneurial Leadership (WEL) flagship program is an advanced educational, training, and networking program for owners of brick-and-mortar food and beverage businesses in the United States. /Each cohort comprises /20 participants. WEL alumnae form a strong and broad community, with regular opportunities to connect with each other and the Foundation. JBF invests in this group of established women entrepreneurs to ensure the success and increase of women-owned businesses and foster a growing network of female entrepreneurs across the country.

- Legacy Network: This 12-week virtual program enables selected advisors and advisees to expand their network and consult and receive support from fellow POC (people of color) industry professionals. Each week, led by an executive leadership coach, features leadership and mentoring sessions with all participants and specialty groups to explore how to advance professional goals and seek the necessary support to do so. Additional educational sessions vary per cohort and might include topics such as financial literacy and business marketing.

- The James Beard Foundation's Chef Bootcamp for Policy and Change provides a unique opportunity for civically and politically minded chefs to become more effective leaders for industry and food-system change. During thematic retreats around the country, participants receive advocacy and media training while learning about important issues, policies, challenges, and opportunities facing the food system.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status (Select one):

( ) I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.

(●) I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist but does retain or employ one or more federally registered lobbyists.

Foreign Agent Registration Status (Select one):

(●) I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and does not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.

( ) I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal but does retain or employ one or more agents of a foreign principal.

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status (Must select all):

[✔] 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.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

The Impact Awards recognize achievements by individuals and/or organizations who are actively working to push for standards that create a more equitable, sustainable, and economically viable restaurant industry and food system for producers, workers, and consumers alike. The 2026 Impact Award honorees will be acknowledged at a ceremony in Chicago on Sunday, June 14, as well as on stage at the Restaurant and Chef Awards ceremony on Monday, June 15 at the Lyric Opera of Chicago. This esteemed honor recognizes leaders and organizations making a significant difference in the food industry through initiatives focused on creating business, staffing, and operational practices that set the standard for our industry, nurturing inclusion in the workforce, creating systemic support for immigrant food system workers, strengthening the farm-to-restaurant supply chain, and mitigating extreme weather impact.

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

(Also attached in larger font) The James Beard Impact Awards are the representation of the Foundation's impact work and priorities. The Impact Awards recognize achievements by individuals and/or organizations who are actively working to push for standards that create a more equitable, sustainable, and economically viable restaurant industry and food system for producers, workers, and consumers alike. The Impact Awards, one of the James Beard Foundation' s three Achievement Award programs, are administered by the Impact Committee of the Foundation' s Board of Trustees and reflect the past year's programmatic priorities. For the 2026 Impact Awards, reflecting the areas where the Foundation did the most work in 2025, this includes:

- Creating business, staffing, and operational practices that set the standard for our industry, particularly around improving the economic structure and resilience of independent restaurants
- Nurturing inclusion in the workforce
- Creating systemic support for immigrant food system workers
- Strengthening the farm-to-restaurant supply chain (regenerative farming practices, private and public programs, etc.)
- Mitigating extreme weather impact (legislation advances, disaster preparedness/relief,structural or operational processes at larger scale, etc.)
- Business and staffing practices that set new standards for the independent restaurant industry

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

(●) Yes ( ) No

If No, describe your organization's role in planning the trip.

If there are multiple sponsors, each sponsor must submit Organization Information (Page 1 of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form) and a Signature Page Form.

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

If you have a Grantmaking Organization, you must attach a Grantmaking Organization Certification Form.

1.

2.

3.

With or Without Regard to Congressional Participation (Select one):

- (●) The trip is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation.
- ( ) The trip is arranged or organized 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 (Must select all):

- [✔] 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 (Select one):

- (●) 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 (Select one):

- ( ) No sponsor retains or employs a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principle, 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

Required if selecting the third option in either column - Please explain why the second overnight stay is practically required and necessary to accomplish the purpose of the trip.

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol (Must select all):

- [✔] 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 list

- [✔] A list of all Senate invitees is attached to this form (required).
- [ ] Members and staff from the House of Representatives will also receive invitations.

Travel Details (Submit additional pages as needed)

Trip Start Date/Time:	⇄	Trip End Date/Time:
6/11/26/3:30 PM		6/16/11:01 AM

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

○ Yes ◉ No

Transportation (Member/Officer/Employee: $_____ Accompanying Family Member: $_____)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
RoundtripFlight	Economy	$369.80

Details (optional)

Lodging (Member/Officer/Employee: $_____ Accompanying Family Member: $_____)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country
6/13/26	6/16/26	Hilton Chicago	Chicago	IL	USA

Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem (Yes/No)	If Yes, please explain why expenses over the per diem rate are reasonable and necessary.
3	$252.41		

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country

Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem (Yes/No)	If Yes, please explain why expenses over the per diem rate are reasonable and necessary.

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country

Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem (Yes/No)	If Yes, please explain why expenses over the per diem rate are reasonable and necessary.

Meals (Member/Officer/Employee: $125 Accompanying Family Member: $_____)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem (Y/N)
6/14/26		$125			$125	Chicago	IL	USA	Y

If costs exceed the federal per diem, please explain why expenses over the per diem rate are reasonable and necessary.

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses

(Member/Officer/Employee: $_____ Accompanying Family Member: $_____)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes

Additional Details (optional)

Notes on hotel accomodations:
- Rate is $219/night without tax, $252.41
- (3) nights will be paid for by the James Beard Foundation for Senator Luján

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: James Beard Foundation Impact Awards

Travel Date(s): 6/11/26-6/16/26

Travel Destination(s): Chicago, Illinois

Sponsor: James Beard Foundation

Anna Magnuson
(printed name of sponsor representative)

Manager of Network and Institu
(title)

Anna Magnuson Digitally signed by Anna Magnuson Date: 2026.04.29 11:34:35 -04'00'
(signature of sponsor representative)

4/29/26
(date)

0000000006945 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: June 22, 2026

2026 JAMES BEARD AWARDS

Dear Senator Luján,

We invite you to attend our 2026 Impact Awards in Chicago to receive your Impact Award. You can check out the announcement on our website and read the full press release here.

We encourage you to **share the news** of your achievement on your website, social media channels, and wherever else you connect with your community. To this end, we have attached our **Awards Toolkit,** which includes social media tools, sample copy, and guidelines. All graphics for social posts can also be found here. We are also linking the digital seal to use on marketing materials and the Awards marks usage guidelines. Please let us know if you have any questions. Congratulations again!

Kind Regards,
Dawn Padmore
Vice President of Awards

James Beard Foundation Impact Awards 2026

Itinerary:

Thursday June 11

4:52pm Senator arrives in Chicago and starts his extension (United Flight 1325)

Sunday June 14

11:15am-2:30pm Impact Award Luncheon

- The James Beard Foundation's Impact Awards acknowledge the achievements of individuals and organizations, who are actively pushing for standards that create a more equitable, sustainable, and economically viable restaurant industry and food system – for producers, workers, and consumers alike. The Senator is being honored for his legislative and advocacy efforts in this area.
- Senator Lujan will accept his James Beard Foundation Impact award here, including a tribute video and a few minutes of remarks on stage.
- The luncheon is a separate event from the Restaurant and Chef Award ceremony and specifically honors the 5 impact awardees.
- The event is hosted the Dalcy in Chicago and the menu is created by James Beard Award Semifinalist David Viana and chef Shante Dorsett of Lita, NJ; with host chefs CJ Jacobson and Eric Santoyo of Aba and The Dalcy, Chicago.

Monday June 15

4-9pm Restaurant and Chef Awards

- The James Beard Restaurant and Chef Awards are the larger award ceremony for restaurants and chefs that have been nominated for a 2026 James Beard Award. Unlike the Impact Awards, these awardees are announced at the ceremony from the each group of nominees (across the various categories), are not public ahead of time.
- The James Beard Impact Awardees, including the Senator, will be called on stage for acknowledgment of their award during the ceremony.

9-12am Post Ceremony Walk Around Tasting

- This is an opportunity to connect with the Restaurant and Chef awardees following the ceremony as well as an opportunity to sample bites from nominees, previous award winners, and many of the country's best chefs.

Tuesday June 16

8:00am Senator Departs Chicago (United Flight 1705)

Invitee List:

Senator Ben Ray Lujan

Continued from Page 2: Purpose of the trip section

The James Beard Impact Awards are the representation of the Foundation's impact work and priorities. The Impact Awards recognize achievements by individuals and/or organizations who are actively working to push for standards that create a more equitable, sustainable, and economically viable restaurant industry and food system for producers, workers, and consumers alike. The Impact Awards, one of the James Beard Foundation's three Achievement Award programs, are administered by the Impact Committee of the Foundation's Board of Trustees and reflect the past year's programmatic priorities. For the 2026 Impact Awards, reflecting the areas where the Foundation did the most work in 2025, this includes:

– Creating business, staffing, and operational practices that set the standard for our industry, particularly around improving the economic structure and resilience of independent restaurants

– Nurturing inclusion in the workforce

– Creating systemic support for immigrant food system workers

– Strengthening the farm-to-restaurant supply chain (regenerative farming practices, private and public programs, etc.)

– Mitigating extreme weather impact (legislation advances, disaster preparedness/relief, structural or operational processes at larger scale, etc.)

– Business and staffing practices that set new standards for the independent restaurant industry

0000000006948 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: June 22, 2026

JAMES LANKFORD, OKLAHOMA, CHAIRMAN
CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, DELAWARE, VICE CHAIRMAN

JAMES E. RISCH, IDAHO
DEB FISCHER, NEBRASKA
BRIAN SCHATZ, HAWAII
JEANNE SHAHEEN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SHANNON HAMILTON KOPPLIN, CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR
WILLIAM B. CABLE, CHIEF CLERK

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 220
SECOND AND CONSTITUTION AVENUE, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6425

TELEPHONE: (202) 224-2981
FACSIMILE: (202) 224-7416

United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

June 8, 2026

The Honorable Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lujan:

This responds to your recent correspondence requesting approval from the Select Committee on Ethics (the Committee) to accept an invitation you received to travel to the *2026 James Beard Impact Awards* in Chicago, Illinois, on June 14–16, 2026, sponsored by the James Beard Foundation. Provided that you adhere to the guidance set forth below, it is permissible for you to accept necessary expenses from the James Beard Foundation for this trip.

Background

Based on your communication with the Committee, the background in this matter is as follows.[1] You are employed as a Senator in the United States Senate. The James Beard Foundation invited you to travel to *2026 James Beard Impact Awards* in Chicago, Illinois, on June 14–16, 2026. You will be accepting an Impact Award for your legislative and advocacy efforts to create a more equitable, sustainable, and economically viable restaurant industry and food system. The James Beard Foundation certified to the Committee that it will pay the necessary expenses related to the travel,[2] the James Beard Foundation is not a lobbyist, lobbying firm, agent of a foreign principal, or otherwise acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government. Although the James Beard Foundation retains or employs a federally registered lobbyist or foreign agent, the James Beard Foundation certified that it is an organization designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code[3] and that no registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal will accompany you at any point throughout your trip.[4]

Additionally, you inform the Committee that you plan to extend your trip for a personal purpose. Based on the information you submitted, the Committee understands that, for a personal purpose, you intend to extend your trip in Chicago for more than 2 days before the beginning of officially related events. You must personally pay the cost of any additional expenses incurred as a result of extending your trip.

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[1] If this letter does not correctly recite the facts, contact the Committee immediately.

[2] The term "necessary expenses" has a specific definition. *See Select Committee on Ethics Regulations and Guidelines for Privately Sponsored Travel* at 10-13.

[3] 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3).

[4] The term "any point throughout your trip" has a specific definition. *See Select Committee on Ethics Regulations and Guidelines for Privately Sponsored Travel* at 15.

Discussion

Privately sponsored travel includes any gift of travel and travel-related expenses for travel outside the Senate duty station, including transportation, lodging, food and refreshments, and conference fees and materials, whether paid for directly, reimbursed, or provided directly, from a private individual or entity, in connection with a Member's, officer's, or employee's official Senate duties. Incorporating reforms from the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007 (HLOGA), Pub. L. 110–81 (2007), Senate Rule 35.2 permits Members, officers, and employees to accept privately sponsored travel only with the prior written approval of the Committee.

The Committee's approval process is governed by the *Regulations and Guidelines for Privately Sponsored Travel* (*Travel Regulations*). The *Travel Regulations* contain detailed requirements regarding who may sponsor travel; time limits for trips; and the type and amount of expenses that can be reimbursed.

Entities that do not retain or employ a lobbyist or foreign agent and all non-profit organizations designated as tax-exempt organizations under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, regardless of whether they retain or employ a lobbyist or foreign agent, may sponsor domestic trips for up to three days. The three-day limitation means three 24-hour periods, calculated from the time of arrival in the trip location to the time of departure from the trip location. With very limited exception, lobbyists and foreign agents are prohibited from accompanying a Senate invitee at any point throughout the trip.[5] This means that neither lobbyists nor foreign agents may accompany Senate invitees at any point to and from the event, at the event itself, or at the location being visited.[6]

Under Senate Rule 35, a Senator or officer who receives payment or reimbursement for necessary expenses related to fact-finding travel must disclose those expenses to the Secretary of the Senate by filing the completed *Senators and Officers Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses* (Form RE-3), along with a copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and all relevant attachments (e.g., the private sponsor's invitation and itinerary) **within 30 days of the conclusion of Privately Sponsored Travel.**[7]

Also, under Senate Rule 35, a Senator, officer, or employee may accept a non-monetary award that is presented in recognition of public service. In addition, the Senator, officer, or employee may accept food or refreshments provided as part of the presentation of the award along with reimbursement for travel expenses in connected with the presentation of the award.

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[5] The term "*de minimis*" has a specific definition. *See Select Committee on Ethics Regulations and Guidelines for Privately Sponsored Travel* at 6-8.

[6] *See Select Committee on Ethics Regulations and Guidelines for Privately Sponsored Travel* at 6-10 for a discussion on the de minimis contact exception.

[7] Trip extensions for any purpose do not extend this deadline.

Consistent with these standards and Committee precedent, the James Beard Foundation's factual representations, and the guidance contained in this letter regarding extending your trip for a personal purpose, it is permissible for you to accept necessary expenses from the James Beard Foundation in connection with this trip, provided that the actual travel and travel-related expenses conform to the information you provided, and the travel and all required documents are disclosed to the Secretary of the Senate (Office of Public Records).

Finally, federal law and Senate Rule 34 require a Member on their financial disclosure report, to make an annual disclosure of the receipt of payments or reimbursements under Senate Rule 35 from a private sponsor for officially-related travel expenses where, in the aggregate, travel expenses exceed $525 from that sponsor during a calendar year. However, if a Member, officer, or employee properly reports the receipt of necessary expenses for such travel to the Secretary of the Senate within 30 days of the travel, as discussed above, the travel expenses need not be disclosed a second time on their financial disclosure report. Accordingly, if the value of the non-monetary award exceeds $525, the award must be disclosed on the financial disclosure report.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee.

Sincerely,

Shannon Hamilton Kopplin
Chief Counsel and Staff Director

Enclosure: Member and Officer Privately Sponsored Travel Checklist