



March 26, 2019

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Chairman
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Leahy:

We represent the sponsors, businesses, and industries that recruit, host, and support Exchange Visitor Program participants every year. We thank Congress for protecting the U.S. Department of State's Exchange Visitor Programs in Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 appropriations bills that were signed into law. Specifically, the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations directive Sec. 7034(e)(5) supports exchange programs that are vital to U.S. national security and economy. We support retaining this directive in Fiscal Year 2020.

The directive contains specific requirements that Exchange Visitor Programs must remain the same as enacted by the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, unless the U.S. Department of State goes through a transparent, formal rulemaking process, actively consults with Congress, and conducts and reports publicly on the impact of any modification on our public diplomacy goals and our economy. Such a regulatory process would allow stakeholders to comment on proposed changes and its impact on our national security and regional economies. Given the published Fall 2018 federal regulatory agenda includes pending regulations impacting the Exchange Visitor Program, it continues to be important that a transparent and consultative process exists.

For 50 years, the Exchange Visitor Program has created rich cultural experiences for young people from around the world, expanding America's people-to-people diplomacy at virtually no cost to U.S. taxpayers. This results in lasting diplomatic and national security benefits by improving the perception of the United States. The benefit to U.S. communities is significant as well – for example, a study conducted by EurekaFacts validated that Summer Work Travel participants contributed \$509 million to the U.S. economy in 2016.

As organizations and companies representing industries that value the Exchange Visitor Program, we support Summer Work Travel, Intern, Trainee, Camp Counselor, and Au Pair programs, as well as other cultural exchange programs. We urge you to ensure that these programs are not eliminated or restricted by retaining Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 appropriations directive in Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations bill.



Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alliance for International Exchange

Adventureserve Ministries, Wilmore, KY

AFS Intercultural Programs, USA

Agassiz Village Summer Camp, Poland, ME

Alliance Abroad Group

American Hospitality Academy

American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS)

American Secondary Schools for
International Students and Teachers
(ASSIST)

American Work Adventures

Amity Institute

Appel Farm Arts Camp, Elmer, NJ

Aramark, Philadelphia, PA

Aspen Skiing Company, Aspen, CO

ASSE International Student Exchange
Programs

Association of Pool and Spa Professionals

AstroCamp, Idyllwild, CA

B&M Story, LLC, El Paso, TX

Bandanas Restaurant, Wildwood Crest, NJ

Beach Mart Inc., Kitty Hawk, NC

Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce
and Convention & Visitors Bureau, Branson,
MO

Brant Lake Camp, Brant Lake, NY

Brass Balls Saloon, Ocean City, MD

Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, VA

California Ski Industries Association

Camp Akeela, Thetford Center, VT

Camp Blue Ridge, Mountain City, GA

Camp Cedar, Casco, ME

Camp Champions, Marble Falls, TX

Camp Cobbossee for Boys, Monmouth, ME

Camp Counselors USA (CCUSA)

Camp Danbee, Peru, MA

Camp Encore-Coda, Brookline, MA

Camp Farwell, Newbury, VT

Camp Granite Lake, Golden, CO

Camp Hillcroft, Lagrangeville, NY

Camp IHC, Equinunk, PA

Camp Kabeyun, Alton Bay, NH

Camp Kinder Ring, Hopewell Junction, NY

Camp Kinneret, Agoura Hills, CA

Camp Kippewa, Monmouth, ME

Camp Kohut, Oxford, ME

Camp Kupugani, Leaf River, IL

Camp Lenox, Otis, MA

Camp Mah-Kee-Nac, Lenox, MA

Camp Matoaka, Wellesley, MA

Camp Nakanawa, Inc., Crossville, TN

Camp Nashoba, Raymond, ME

Camp Newaygo, Newaygo, MI

Camp Northwood, Remsen, NY

Camp Nor'wester, Edmonds, WA

Camp Ocean Pines, Cambria, CA

Camp Pillsbury, Owatonna, MN

Camp Quinebarge, Moultonborough, NH

Camp Ramaquois, Pomona, NY

Camp Shohola for Boys, Greeley, PA

Camp Sloane YMCA, Lakeville, CT

Camp Starfish, Stow, MA

Camp Starlight, Starlight, PA

Camp Thunderbird, Bemidji, MN

Camp Towanda, Honesdale, PA

Camp Vega, Fayette, ME

Camp Walden, Cheboygan, MI

Camp Walt Whitman, Piermont, NH

Camp Watitoh, Becket, MA

Camp Weequahic, Lakewood, PA

Camp Wicosuta, Hebron, NH

Camp Winadu, Pittsfield, MA

Camp Winaukee, Moultonborough, NH

Camp Winnebago, Fayette, ME

Camps Kenwood and Evergreen, Wilmot, NH

Canoe Island French Camp, Orcas, WA

Cape Cod Canal Region Chamber, Buzzards Bay, MA

Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce and Convention & Visitors Bureau, Cape Cod, MA

Cape May County Chamber, Cape May, NJ

Capitol Debate Summer Camps, Carlsbad, CA

Carmel Valley Tennis Camp, Carmel Valley, CA

Carousel Hotel Group, Ocean City, MD

Carowinds, Charlotte, NC

Carroll County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Carrollton, OH

Catalina Island Camps, Inc., Avalon, CA

Cedar Fair Entertainment Company, Sandusky, OH

Cedar Point, Sandusky, OH

Cenet

Cheley Colorado Camps, Estes Park, CO

Children of All Nations, Austin, TX

Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI

Colorado Ski Country USA

Colvig Silver Camps, Durango, CO

Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE)

Cultural Care Au Pair

Cultural Homestay International

Cultural Vistas

Day Camp Sunshine, Liberty Corner, NJ

Deer Crossing Camp, Redwood City, CA

Deer Valley Resort, Park City, UT

Dorney Park, Allentown, PA

Dutch Soccer School, Columbia, MD

Eddie's Café, Essex, MT

EF High School Exchange Year

Erie County Visitors & Convention Bureau, Sandusky, OH

Face the World Foundation

Falcon Camp, Carrollton, OH

Fernwood Cove, Harrison, ME

Food Marketing Institute

Four Winds Camp, Deer Harbor, WA

Galilee Episcopal Camp and Retreat Center, Glenbrook, NV

Gold Arrow Camp, Lakeshore, CA

Gordon Lodge, Baileys Harbor, WI

Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI

Grand Teton Lodge Company, Jackson, WY

Greenheart International

High Cascade Snowboard Camp, Sandy, OR

High Rock Adventures, Rockbridge, OH

HospitalityMaine

Hostelling International USA

Idaho Ski Areas Association

Institute for International Education and Exchange (IIEEX)

InterExchange	Kingswood Camp for Boys, Piermont, NH
International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA)	Lafayette Hotels, ME and NH
International Culture & Career Exchange (ICCE)	Lake Erie Shores & Islands Convention & Visitors Bureau, Port Clinton and Sandusky, OH
International Exchange of North America (IENA)	Lake of the Woods and Greenwoods Camps, Decatur, MI
Intrax Cultural Exchange	Lakeview Day Camp, East Brunswick, NJ
Island Bike Rental, Put-in-Bay, OH	Logan County Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau, Bellefontaine, OH
Izaak Walton Inn, Essex, MT	Long's Retreat Family Resort, Latham, OH
Jack Rouse Associates, Inc., Cincinnati, OH	Marietta-Washington County Convention and Visitor Bureau, Marietta, OH
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Jackson, WY	Midwest Ski Areas Association
Jameson Ranch Camp, Glennville, CA	Morey Resorts, Wildwood, NJ
Janus International Hospitality Student Exchange	Morey's Piers, Wildwood, NJ
JMA Ventures LLC, Homewood, CA	National Park Hospitality Association
Keewaydin Foundation, Salisbury, VT	National Ski Areas Association
Kieve Wavus Education, Nobleboro, ME	New Jersey Amusement Association
Killooleet Camp, Hancock, VT	North Star Camp for Boys, Hayward, WI
Kings Dominion, Doswell, VA	Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association
Kings Island, Warren, OH	Ohio Travel Association
Kingsley Pines Camp, Raymond, ME	Ohio Valley Opry, McConnelsville, OH
Kingsmill Resort, Williamsburg, VA	

Ojai Valley School Summer Camp, Ojai, CA

Old Orchard Beach Chamber of Commerce,
Old Orchard Beach, ME

Orleans Chamber of Commerce, Orleans, MA

Ottawa County Visitors Bureau, Port Clinton,
OH

Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association

Pali Adventures Summer Camp, Running
Springs, CA

Pan American Hotel, Wildwood, NJ

Pan Atlantic Exchanges

Pan Atlantic Foundation

Perry's Cave, Put-in-Bay, OH

Portsmouth-Scioto County Visitors Bureau,
Portsmouth, OH

Provincetown Chamber of Commerce,
Provincetown, MA

River Way Ranch Camp and Champ Camp
Burn Survivors Camp, Sanger, CA

Rogue Valley Family YMCA, Medford, OR

Roughing It Day Camp, Lafayette, CA

Seapointe Village, Wildwood Crest, NJ

Ski Areas of New York

Ski New Hampshire

Ski Utah

Smaller Earth, Inc., Austin, TX

Society for Human Resource Management
(SHRM)

Southeast Ski Areas Association

States' 4-H International Exchange Programs,
Seattle, WA

The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, CO

The Grand Hotel, Grand Canyon, AZ

The International Student Company

The Suites Hotel, Duluth, MN

The Susquehannock Camps, Brackney, PA

Tocaloma Summer Day Camp, Tocaloma, CA

Tom Sawyer Camps, Inc., Altadena, CA

TVRC Education Foundation, Jackson, WY

U.S. Travel Association

Valleyfair, Shakopee, MN

Vermont Ski Areas Association

Village Green Motel, South Yarmouth, MA

Virginia Beach Hotel Association

Water Safari Resort, Old Forge, NY



Waves Oceanfront Resort & Sea View Inn, Old Orchard Beach, ME

Western Association of Independent Camps

White Birch Village Resort, Boulder Junction, WI

Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI

Windells Camp, Sandy, OR

Windridge Tennis & Sports Camp, Roxbury, VT

Wisconsin Dells Visitors & Convention Bureau, Wisconsin Dells, WI

World Wide Cultural Exchange (WWCE)

Worlds of Fun, Kansas City, MO

Wy'east Mountain Academy, Sandy, OR

WYSE Travel Confederation

Xanterra Travel Collection, Greenwood Village, CO

YMCA Camp Carson, Princeton, IN

YMCA Camp Eberhart, Three Rivers, MI

YMCA Camp Weaver, Greensboro, NC

YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, CO

Yogi Bear's Camp-Resort & Water Playground, Wisconsin Dells, WI