

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

July 30, 2020

Dear Congressional Leaders,

We represent three of the leading innovative corporate travel technology companies in the United States, and along with many others in the travel industry, we strongly believe that restoring confidence in domestic and international travel is crucial to re-opening the U.S. economy safely and effectively. As Congress and the Administration consider additional policy options to respond to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we urge you to include robust funding, clear guidance, and coordination support for a national testing and tracing program, with standardized data reporting that is available to the public.

In the current pandemic environment, it is more important than ever for employers to have the information and tools they need to meet their duty of care to their traveling employees. Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, corporate travel management companies have been building innovative products and services to meet this need, by integrating health advisories, travel restrictions, and key data (including infection rates and trends) with additional administrative tools and controls. The goal of these innovations is to help businesses determine safer travel routes and itineraries, and ensure business travel can recover in a targeted way without endangering traveler safety or contributing to further spread of COVID-19. However, these tools are only as good as the data that powers them: the availability and integrity of infection data is crucial for companies and their travelers to feel confident and safe to get on an airplane, stay in a hotel, visit a new city, or cross the ocean.

We strongly support a coordinated COVID-19 data program that fully funds the following three priorities:

- Support at the federal, state, and local level to offer robust testing and contact tracing;
- Support for the timely reporting of all testing and tracing data to a central clearinghouse of information in a standardized format; and
- Making relevant infection data available to scientists, researchers, and businesses, in open format, to support innovation and increase our knowledge of the pandemic.

We firmly believe that clear, consistent, reliable information about COVID-19 spread is critical to restart the business travel that helps power the U.S. economy. With it, innovative American companies like ours can continue building the tools the country needs to get back to business. Without it, travelers (and the businesses responsible for their safety) are more likely to remain fearful and to make decisions based on opinion or politics, rather than facts. We urge you to take this opportunity to invest in a national COVID-19 data program, including coordinated testing and tracing across communities, to rebuild confidence and promote safe, informed economic recovery.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ariel Cohen
Chief Executive Officer



Scott Case
Chief Executive Officer



Duke Chung
Chief Executive Officer



cc: The Honorable Anna Eshoo, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Michael Burgess, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Deb Fischer, United States Senate
The Honorable Tammy Duckworth, United States Senate
The Honorable Nydia Velazquez, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Steve Chabot, United States House of Representatives