

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 13, 2026

The Honorable Kristi Noem  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE  
Washington, D.C., 20528

Commissioner Rodney S. Scott  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20229

Secretary Noem and Commissioner Scott:

We write in opposition to the Department of Homeland Security's (the Department) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) regarding Arrival and Departure Record (Form I-94) and the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA), published in the Federal Register on December 10, 2025.

Travel and tourism support millions of jobs and generating billions of dollars in economic activity across the United States each year. In Nevada, where the economy is deeply reliant on domestic and international visitors, even modest changes to travel policies can have outsized economic consequences. Policies affecting the ease, accessibility, and perception of lawful travel must be carefully evaluated to ensure they do not unintentionally undermine the economic stability of states relying heavily on a strong and predictable travel ecosystem. The Department's proposal would impact nearly every foreign traveler entering the United States and would substantially expand the personal data collected during that process.

Among the most concerning elements of the proposal is ESTA applicants would be required to disclose all social media identifiers used over the previous five years as a mandatory component of their application. If finalized, the proposal would fundamentally alter the ESTA process by requiring travelers, in addition to five years of social media identifiers, to submit telephone numbers used over the previous five years; email addresses used over the previous ten years; detailed personal information about immediate family members – including names, dates and places of birth, residences, and contact information; and expanded biometric identifiers.

We support the Department's efforts to enhance identity verification, threat detection, and border security. However leading hospitality industry groups and international travel advocates have raised serious concerns that the breadth of this data collection could deter lawful, international visitors and impose significant new barriers to travel.<sup>1</sup> These concerns are particularly acute for Nevada, where international tourism, business travel, conventions, and hospitality are foundational to the state's economy. In fact, international travelers account for 12 percent of all visitations<sup>2</sup> and 26 percent of overall visitor spending<sup>3</sup>, even small declines in international travel would have an outsized and disproportionate impact on Nevada's economy. Major events such as the Consumer Electronics Show (CES), the Electric Daisy Carnival Music Festival, Formula 1 Las Vegas Grand Prix and the National Finals Rodeo attract millions of visitors each year, generate substantial economic activity, and support stable, middle-class jobs for Nevadans.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Department to rescind and revise this proposal to fully account for its potential impacts on lawful travel, tourism, and the broader economy. Any changes to entry and exit

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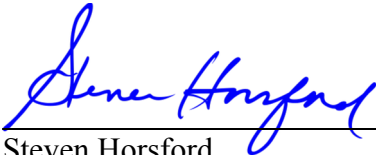
<sup>1</sup><https://lasvegassun.com/news/2025/dec/17/nevada-resorts-fear-social-media-checks-could-dete/>


<sup>2</sup> <https://x1075lasvegas.com/2025/03/24/las-vegas-tourism-hits-41-7-million-visitors-in-2024-satisfaction-rates-soar/>

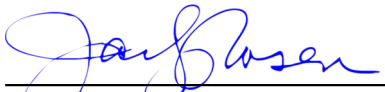
<sup>3</sup> <https://camperchamp.com/usa/las-vegas-tourism-statistics/>

requirements should be carefully calibrated to strengthen security without creating unnecessary barriers for visitors or imposing burdens that deter travel altogether. We further request the Department meaningfully engage with relevant stakeholders – including state and local leaders and representatives of the travel and hospitality industry – to ensure any final policy strikes an appropriate balance between safeguarding national security and preserving the economic vitality of states like Nevada.

Respectfully,

  
Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress

  
Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator

  
Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator

  
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress

  
Susie Lee  
Member of Congress