



TO: ABA Members

FROM: President & CEO Peter Pantuso, CTIS

DATE: March 1, 2010

RE: Write Congress Urging Passage Of TRIP Pro-Tourism Bill

Rep. Sam Farr (D-Calif.) has just introduced a new bill that would provide \$50 million worth of matching federal funds for U.S. attractions and destinations to market themselves to prospective tourists. ABA encourages all members to support its passage.

H.R. 4676, the Travel Regional Investment Partnership (TRIP) Act, which focuses on domestic travel, dovetails nicely with the Senate passage last week of the Travel Promotion Act to encourage more inbound international travel to the United States.

ABA and other travel and tourism groups have been working diligently with officials in both the White House and on Capitol Hill to focus on the economic vitality that tourism and travel stimulates across the country. Your House member and Senators need to know how important this legislation is to the motorcoach, tourism and travel industry, so we encourage all ABA members to customize **our sample letter** and send it now. Please take a few moments to do so using ABA's easy system.

TRIP directs the Commerce Department to create a grant program promoting domestic regional tourism growth and new domestic tourism market creation, and authorizes \$10 million in competitive grants ranging in value from \$100,000-\$1 million each.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 202-218-7229.