WASHINGTON (March 10, 2020)—A coalition of 150 travel-related organizations issued the following statement on the latest developments around coronavirus (signatories below):

"For the travel and hospitality industry, the safety of the traveling public, our guests and our employees is of the utmost importance. We are in daily contact with public health authorities and are acting on the most up-to-date information on the evolving coronavirus situation.

"Health and government officials have continually assured the public that healthy Americans can 'confidently travel in this country.' While it's critically important to remain vigilant and take useful precautions in times like these, it's equally important to make calm, rational, and fact-based decisions.

"Though the headlines may be worrisome, experts continue to say the overall coronavirus risk in the U.S. remains low. At-risk groups are older individuals and those with underlying health conditions, who should take extra precautions.

"The latest expert guidance indicates that for the overwhelming majority, it's OK to live, work, play and travel in the U.S. By seeking and heeding the latest expert guidance—which includes vigorous use of good health practices, similar to the preventive steps recommended for the seasonal flu—America's communities will stay strong and continue to thrive. The decision to cancel travel and events has a trickle-down effect that threatens to harm the U.S. economy, from locally owned hotels, restaurants, travel advisors and tour operators to the service and frontline employees who make up the backbone of the travel industry and the American economy.

"We are mindful of a guiding principle that long predates this current public health situation: without the safety and security of travelers, there can be no travel. The travel industry will maintain lines of contact with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Departments of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services and will remain vigilant for any changes. Collectively, we are taking enhanced steps to ensure both the safety of travelers, guests and our own employees."

Signatories:

Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA)  American Bus Association
ADARA  American Car Rental Association
Airlines For America  American Gaming Association
Airports Council International - North  American Hotel & Lodging Association
America (ACI-NA)  American Resort Development Association
American Association of Airport Executives  American Society of Association Executives
American Society of Travel Advisors
North Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association
Northstar Travel Group
NYC & Company
Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association
OHLA - Greater Akron Lodging Council
OHLA - Greater Cincinnati Lodging Council
OHLA - Greater Cleveland Lodging Council
OHLA - Greater Columbus Lodging Council
OHLA - Northwest Ohio Lodging Council
OHLA - Greater Dayton Lodging Council
Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association
Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association
Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau
PRA
Reno Tahoe
Resonance Consultancy
San Diego County Lodging Association
San Diego Tourism Authority
San Francisco Hotel Council
San Francisco Travel
Simpleview
Society of Government Meeting Professionals
Society of Independent Show Organizers (SISO)
South Carolina Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
South Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association
South Dakota Department of Tourism
Southeast Tourism Society
St. Louis Area Hotel Association
Student & Youth Travel Association
Tampa International Airport
Tennessee Hospitality & Tourism Association
The Broadway League
The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau
The Shubert Organization
The Travel Technology Association
Travel Nevada
Travel Oregon
Travel Portland
Travel South USA
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Travel Association
United States Tour Operators Association
Utah Office of Tourism
Virginia Restaurant, Lodging, and Travel Association
Visit Austin
Visit Buffalo Niagara
VISIT DENVER
Visit Fort Worth
Visit Franklin
Visit Lake Charles
Visit Napa Valley
Visit North Carolina
Visit Philadelphia
Visit Seattle
Visit Tampa Bay
Visit Wichita
VisitDallas
West Virginia Hospitality and Travel Association
Wisconsin Hotel & Lodging Association
Wyoming Lodging & Restaurant Association