

(Mr. Frankel's prepared statement and appended material follow:)

STATEMENT OF IRVIN M. FRANKEL, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TRAVEL AGENTS, INC.

Chairman Mills and members of the committee, my name is Irvin M. Frankel. I am the owner of the Travel Mart, a travel agency in Atlanta, Georgia. I am the immediate past president of the American Society of Travel Agents, Inc. (ASTA) and Chairman of its Governmental Affairs Committee. I also am Chairman of the Technical Committee of the Universal Federation of Travel Agents' Associations (UFTAA), composed of the travel agency associations of the world.

ASTA, a trade association with headquarters at 360 Lexington Avenue in New York City, is the world's largest organization representing the industry of travel and tourism with more than 7,500 members composed of active travel agents, tour operators, air, sea and surface carriers, hoteliers and all of the other elements involved in travel and tourism.

Thus, I not only appear before you to speak on behalf of the United States travel agent but of the industry and, at the risk of appearing somewhat presumptuous, also on behalf of our clients, those Americans who have the most at stake in proposed travel restrictions—the average American traveler.

ASTA is fully aware that the balance of payments deficit creates a serious problem for our economy. An early solution is our national goal. Our objective, therefore, is the same as that of Secretary Fowler, but our solution is a positive one while his proposals are negative.

Where he would discourage travel by U.S. citizens, we would encourage travel by residents of foreign countries to the United States. This is the only sound solution—both immediate and long range.

It is our conviction that the proposals to restrict tourism by U.S. citizens outside the Western Hemisphere currently pending before this Committee are not only highly undesirable, but are unnecessary. Moreover, it is only in the absence of these restrictions that a positive solution can be effective.

I will attempt to develop for the Committee the following points:

1. Severe restrictions of the inherent right of our citizens to travel to destinations of their choosing are repugnant to the very essence of a free society.
2. Tourism is one of the most important single items in international world trade and there is widespread misunderstanding and misinformation as to the nature and extent of the so-called "travel gap."
3. The Administration's travel restriction proposals would be so costly and complex that they would effectively prevent the great majority of our citizens from traveling outside the Western Hemisphere.
4. The sharp curtailment of travel which would result would be self-defeating and would adversely affect the economies of this country and many of our friendly allies.
5. Our common goal can be achieved through diligent and imaginative programs of cooperation between industry and government to promote tourism to and within the United States and we will outline specific proposals which have been made and are being implemented.

1. *Severe restrictions of the inherent right of our citizens to travel to destinations of their choosing are repugnant to the very essence of a free society.*

The recognition of an individual's right to travel emerged in Anglo-Saxon law as early as the adoption of the Magna Carta in the eleventh century. A long line of United States Supreme Court cases specifically recognizes that this right has the protection of our Constitution. In 1957, writing for the Court, Mr. Justice Douglas stated:

"The right to travel is a part of the 'liberty' which the citizen cannot be deprived of without due process of law under the Fifth Amendment. . . . Freedom of movement across frontiers in either direction, and inside frontiers as well, was a part of our heritage. Travel abroad, like travel within the country may be necessary for a livelihood. It may be as close to the heart of the individual as the choice of what he eats, or wears or reads. Freedom of movement is basic in our scheme of values."¹

In 1964, the then Mr. Justice Goldberg, now United States Ambassador to the United Nations, stated:

¹ *Kent, et al. v. Dulles*, 357 U.S. 116, 125-126.