

together government and industry officials from Europe and North America to discuss practical, effective means for developing and promoting two-way travel across the Atlantic. My firm also prepared one of the studies for the Outdoor Recreational Resources Review Commission. The Commission's full report led to the creation in 1962 of Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Based on this experience and these studies—in the interest of maintaining and improving our Nation's leading position in international tourism—I urge this committee (1) promptly to reject the negative travel expenditure tax proposals and restrictions now under consideration, and (2) simultaneously to recommend the early enactment by the Congress of a dynamic, positive, and greatly expanded program to attract hundreds of thousands of additional foreign visitors to the United States each year.

I. THE PENDING ADMINISTRATION TRAVEL EXPENDITURE TAX PROPOSALS AND RESTRICTIONS ARE SELF-DEFEATING, UNNECESSARY, CONTRARY TO THE OVERALL INTERNATIONAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THEY WILL NOT SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE OUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS POSITION.

In November 1966, the General Assembly of the United Nations unanimously passed a resolution which designated 1967 as "International Tourist Year." That resolution recognized that "tourism is a basic and most desirable human activity deserving the praise and encouragement of all peoples and all governments"; and that international travel brings about "a better appreciation of the inherent values of different cultures, thereby contributing to the strengthening of peace in the world." Finally, the U.N. resolution stated that such travel makes "a vital contribution to the economic growth of developing countries" and it plays a most important role "in the educational, cultural, economic, and social fields."

The U.S. Government endorsed the U.N. resolution and on September 25, 1967, President Johnson issued the following statement, a copy of which is attached hereto as exhibit 1.

As International Tourist Year draws to a close, it is fitting that we rededicate ourselves to the important task of promoting international goodwill through travel.

This is no small undertaking. And it is worthy of our highest efforts and the unqualified cooperation of all nations. International travel helps satisfy a basic urge in man to learn more about his neighbor in a world which the jet age is making increasingly smaller.

For the first time in history, millions of people have the opportunity to visit distant lands and examine other societies and cultures. World travel lights the way to world understanding. As we advance toward a new decade in which once-distant travel becomes commonplace, let us always hope that our journeys to faraway lands are journeys to a more peaceful, friendly world.

Since the end of World War II, the United States, as leader of the free world, has stood for freedom of travel in contrast to the restrictive policies of the Iron Curtain countries. In line with the basic precepts of our Constitution, the U.S. Government has upheld that freedom of its citizens to travel abroad and it has sought to attract visitors to this country. In fact, in 1958, the Supreme Court of the United States