


**DISCLOSURE BY ELECTED PUBLIC EMPLOYEE  
OF TRAVEL EXPENSES SERVING A LEGITIMATE PUBLIC PURPOSE  
AS REQUIRED BY 930 CMR 5.08(2)(d)2.**

	<b>ELECTED PUBLIC EMPLOYEE INFORMATION</b>
Name of <b>elected</b> public employee:	Karen E. Spilka
Title/ Position	Senate President
Agency/ Department	Massachusetts Senate
Agency address:	Massachusetts State House 24 Beacon St., Room 332 Boston, MA 02133
Office phone:	(617) 722-1500
Office e-mail:	Karen.Spilka@masenate.gov
<b>Write an X to confirm each statement.</b>	<p>I am filing this disclosure because:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am going to engage in an activity that serves a legitimate public purpose, i.e., it is intended to promote the interests of the Commonwealth, a county or a municipality; and</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A non-public entity (but not a lobbyist) has offered to reimburse, waive or pay travel expenses and costs worth more than \$50.</p>
	<b>ACTIVITY THAT SERVES A LEGITIMATE PUBLIC PURPOSE</b>
Describe the activity which is the reason for traveling.	The National Conference of State Legislatures' (NCSL) 2023 Assembly Speakers, Senate Presidents, and Senior State Legislators' Delegation trip to Israel.
Describe your participation in the activity.	I will travel to Israel with other elected officials to meet with Israeli government officials, community leaders, and other political and cultural experts to discuss issues of importance to both Israel and the Commonwealth, including, but not limited to, conflict resolution, community building, education, immigration, and commerce.
Date, time and location of activity.	June 24 – July 1, 2023 Israel
Please explain how the activity will promote the interests of the Commonwealth, a county or a municipality.	The trip will strengthen the Commonwealth's partnership with Israel on a number of topics that are important to Massachusetts and its residents, including, but not limited to, tourism, entrepreneurship, technology, and higher education. The trip's focus on conflict resolution and community building among different religious and ethnic groups is particularly relevant to the Commonwealth and will help inform future policy.

	<b>TRAVEL EXPENSES</b>
Identify the person or organization that offered to reimburse, waive or pay your travel expenses.	The National Conference of State Legislatures
Address of person or organization.	7700 E. First Place Denver, CO 80230
<b>Provide information in as much detail as possible:</b>	<b><i>Itemization and explanation of amounts offered:</i></b>
Transportation:	<i>Air, train, bus, and taxi fare and rental car hire, etc.</i>  Airfare: \$1650  I have not received the final cost amount for transportation and will submit a reconciliation form with the final cost amount once I have received it.
Lodging:	<i>Overnight accommodations.</i>  \$1630
Meals:	<i>Breakfast, lunch, dinner, special events.</i>
Admission:	<i>Registration, admission, tickets, etc.</i>
Other (please list):	<i>Refreshment, instruction, materials, entertainment, etc.</i>
Total:	\$3280  I have not received the final cost amount and will submit a reconciliation form with the final cost amount once I have received it.
Write an X beside any relevant statement.	____ <b>I have attached the relevant itinerary.</b>  <u>  X  </u> <b>I have attached the relevant agenda.</b>
<b>For the exemption to apply, check off both statements.</b>	<b>Having disclosed the facts above, I determine that:</b>  <u>  X  </u> Acceptance of the reimbursement, waiver or payment of travel expenses will serve a legitimate public purpose i.e., it will promote the interests of the Commonwealth, a county or a municipality; AND  <u>  X  </u> Such public purpose outweighs any special non-work related benefit to me or to the person providing the reimbursement, waiver or payment.
Employee signature:	

Date:	6/23/2023
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**Attach additional pages if necessary.**

**Elected state or county employees – file with the State Ethics Commission.**

**Members of the General Court – file with the House or Senate clerk or the State Ethics Commission.**

**Elected municipal employee – file with the City Clerk or Town Clerk.**

**Elected regional school committee member – file with the clerk or secretary of the committee.**



in cooperation with



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**2023 ASSEMBLY SPEAKERS, SENATE PRESIDENTS AND  
SENIOR STATE LEGISLATORS' DELEGATION**

**Program June 24 – July 1, 2023**

**\*Not Final\***

**Saturday, June 24, 2023**

**4:30 PM      Depart US United 84**

**Sunday, June 25, 2023**

**9:55 AM      Arrival in Israel**

- Welcome by Daniella Rilov, Executive Director and Tali Koren, Delegations Coordinator, AIFL Israel Office

**12:00 PM      Tour of Tel Aviv**

2:00-3:30 PM **Tour of [Asif](#) with lunch**

- Asif Café is a culinary center in Tel Aviv dedicated to cultivating and nurturing Israel's diverse and creative food culture, a joint venture of the New York City-based Jewish Food Society and Tel Aviv's Start-Up Nation Central.

4:00-5:30 PM **Visit [DI-D](#) in Tel Aviv**

- The Israeli company that digitally de-identifies faces in videos and still images: [DI-D](#)

**Check in: [Herods Hotel](#), Tel Aviv**

- Rest and refresh.

7:00 PM **Welcome Dinner with Professor Yossi Shain**

- Professor Shain is a Romulo Betancourt Professor of Political Science at Tel Aviv University, the Head of the Aba Eben Program of Diplomacy and Co-Chair of the MA Program in Political Leadership, Professor of Comparative Government and Diaspora Politics at Georgetown University, the Founding Director of the Program for Jewish Civilization, and a former Member of the Knesset .

**Overnight: [Herods Hotel](#), Tel Aviv**

### **Monday, June 26, 2023**

9:00 AM **Meeting with IDF Colonel Roni Katzir, Head International Law Department, Military Advocate Generals Corps**

- Colonel Katzir has served in the MAG Corps since 2001. During his service, he has held several positions, including Senior Legal Advisor in the Legislation and Legal Advice Department, Senior Aide to the Military Advocate General, Head of the Operational Law Branch and later Head of the International Affairs Branch in the International Law Department.

11:45 AM **Visit at IsraAID with CEO Yotam Politzer**

- IsraAID is an Israel-based non-governmental organization that responds to emergencies all over the world with targeted humanitarian help.

1:00 PM **Lunch with Amb. Dan Gillerman**

- AIFL Israel Chairman of the Board, Dan Gillerman, was Israel's 13th Permanent Representative to the United Nations. He was appointed in July 2002 and assumed his post on January 1, 2003, serving through 2008.

**3:30 PM Visit the Peres Center for Peace and Innovation**

- The Peres Center for Peace and Innovation, founded in 1996 by the late President of Israel, Shimon Peres, develops and implements impactful and meaningful programs with a focus on promoting a prosperous Israel, nurturing and highlighting Israeli innovation, and paving the way for shared living between all of Israel's citizens and lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors.

**7:00 PM Dinner with Mehereta Baruch-Ron**

- Former Deputy Mayor of Tel Aviv, Mehereta Baruch-Ron is the first Ethiopian to be elected to serve on the Tel Aviv-Yafo city council, and the first to serve as Deputy Mayor.

**Overnight: Herods Hotel, Tel Aviv**

**Tuesday, June 27, 2023**

**8:00 AM Departure to Northern Israel**

**11:00 AM Overview on Syrian border accompanied by member of Alma Research and Education Center**

- The Alma Research and Education Center is a non-profit and bipartisan organization with the mission of making in-depth geopolitical knowledge about the Middle East and Israel's security challenges on the Northern Border.

**1:30 PM Lunch and visit at Dalton Winery**

- The Dalton Winery was founded in 1995 by members of the Haruni family who moved to Israel from England.

**3:30 PM Visit the Holy Sites on the Sea of Galilee Tour of the Northern Border of Israel**

**Overnight: Hotel Magdala**

### **Wednesday, June 28, 2023**

8:00 AM **Depart for Jerusalem.**

1:00 PM **Meeting at the Knesset (*Israeli Parliament*) with Speaker of the Knesset, Amir Ohana**

- Speaker Ohana an Israeli lawyer, former Shin Bet official and politician who has served as the Speaker of the Knesset since 2022, and as a member of the Knesset for Likud. He previously held the posts of Minister of Justice, Minister of Public Security, and Head of the Law and Justice Committee of the Knesset.
- Meetings with other public officials TBC
- Tour of the Knesset

**Check in: Leonardo Plaza Hotel, Jerusalem**

6:30 PM **Webinar with Natan Sharansky**

- Natan Sharansky is the former Chairman of the Jewish Agency, one of the most famous former Soviet refuseniks and an Israeli politician, author and human rights activist.

8:00 PM **Dinner Location TBD**

**Overnight: Leonardo Plaza Hotel**

### **Thursday, June 29, 2023**

8:30 AM **Tour of the Old City Holy Sites**

10:45 AM **Arrival at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

11:00 AM **Briefing with Mr. Aviv Ezra, Deputy Head of MASHAV**

- MASHAV is Israel's agency for International Development Cooperation.

11:45 AM **Briefing with Mr. Uri Rothman, Head of Bureau, Middle East and Peace Process Division**

12:40 PM **Briefing with Ambassador David Roet Deputy Director General, North America Division**

1:20 PM **Lunch at the Foreign Ministry**

3:00 PM **Visit Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial**

5:30 PM **Tour of Western Wall Tunnels**

Dinner on your own

Overnight: Leonardo Plaza Hotel

**Friday, June 30, 2023**

8:00 AM **Departure for Masada and the Dead Sea**

- Tour of Masada (*King Herod's palace-fortress and the last refuge of Jewish rebels against Rome a century later*)

6:30 PM **Farewell with AIFL Staff**

7:45 PM **Shabbat Dinner hosted by Rabbi Ian and Rachel Pear** (*daughter of Bob Abrams, former Attorney General of New York*) and their children Gavriela, Michaela, Darya, Eliyahu and Benjamin Jacob)

Overnight: **Leonardo Hotel**

**Saturday, July 1, 2023**

9:00 AM **Departure to the Airport**

12:00 PM **Depart Israel UA 85**