


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

	ELECTED PUBLIC EMPLOYEE INFORMATION
Name of elected public employee:	Joanne M. Comerford
Title/ Position	State Senator
Agency/ Department	Massachusetts State Senate
Agency address:	24 Beacon Street Room 410 Boston, MA 02133
Office phone:	(617) 722-1532
Office e-mail:	Jo.Comerford@masenate.gov
Write an X to confirm each statement.	<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 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>
	ACTIVITY THAT SERVES A LEGITIMATE PUBLIC PURPOSE
Describe the activity which is the reason for traveling.	The Eastern Regional Conference of the Council of State Governments (CSG East) will be hosting is East Policy Summit 2025 in Portland Maine on April 3 and April 4, 2025, titled "Pathways to Rural Prosperity and Small Town Resilience."
Describe your participation in the activity.	I have been invited by the CSG East to attend this event.
Date, time and location of activity.	April 4-5, 2025 Portland Regency Hotel & Spa 40 Milk Street Portland, Maine 04101
Please explain how the activity will promote the interests of the Commonwealth, a county or a municipality.	My attendance at this conference will enable me to learn and engage with experts and other legislators on issues affecting rural communities, including population loss, economic development, housing, rural health challenges, and public transit. My attendance at this conference will inform my work as a Senator and specifically my representation of rural communities in my district in Western Massachusetts.

	TRAVEL EXPENSES
Identify the person or organization that offered to reimburse, waive or pay your travel expenses.	The Council of State Governments, Eastern Regional Conference
Address of person or organization.	22 Cortlandt Street, 22nd Floor New York, NY 10007
Provide information in as much detail as possible:	<i>Itemization and explanation of amounts offered:</i>
Transportation:	<i>Air, train, bus, and taxi fare and rental car hire, etc.</i> I do not have this information at this time but will submit a reconciliation form once I have the final amount.
Lodging:	<i>Overnight accommodations.</i> CSG East will cover the cost of one night of lodging. I will submit a reconciliation form once I have the final amount.
Meals:	<i>Breakfast, lunch, dinner, special events.</i> I do not have this information at this time but will submit a reconciliation form once I have the final amount.
Admission:	<i>Registration, admission, tickets, etc.</i> I do not have this information at this time but will submit a reconciliation form once I have the final amount.
Other (please list):	<i>Refreshment, instruction, materials, entertainment, etc.</i> I do not have this information at this time but will submit a reconciliation form once I have the final amount.
Total:	I will file a reconciliation form once I get the final amounts from CSG East.
Write an X beside any relevant statement.	<input type="checkbox"/> I have attached the relevant itinerary. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have attached the relevant agenda.
For the exemption to apply, check off both statements.	Having disclosed the facts above, I determine that: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 <input type="checkbox"/> 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:	April 3, 2025

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.



EAST

Pathways to Rural Prosperity and Small Town Resilience

CSG East Policy Summit: Portland, Maine 2025

Friday, April 4, 2025

0:00	Morning Travel
2:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Registration at Portland Regency Hotel & Spa <i>20 Milk St., Portland, ME 04101</i>
2:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Rural Population Loss and Revitalization <i>Discover responses and solutions to declining populations in rural communities, the impact on economic development, and pathways to revitalization.</i>
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Housing Solutions for Rural America <i>Discuss the unique housing challenges facing rural towns and the solutions policymakers are exploring to bring forth better affordability and opportunity.</i>
5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Reception
6:00 p.m.	Dinner on your own

Saturday, April 5, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	The Rural Healthcare Crisis <i>Discuss ways states are approaching healthcare challenges in rural areas, including access, quality, and availability.</i>
9:30 – 9:45 a.m.	15-minute Break
9:45 – 11:15 a.m.	Public Transit in Rural Communities <i>Explore obstacles to expanding transit in rural communities, and the innovative policies and funding mechanisms states use to serve these vital areas.</i>
11:15 – 12:00 p.m.	Pack and Checkout
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch and Plenary Speaker

1:00 – 1:15 p.m. **15-minute Break**

1:15 – 2:15 p.m. **Regional Roundtable Discussion**

Conclude the summit with an open discussion on where policymakers go from here, and the legislative agendas in various states.