



February 26, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Republican Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Leader Thune, and Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the Global Business Travel Association (GBTA), the world's largest business travel association representing thousands of corporate travel managers, travel suppliers, and industry stakeholders across the United States and around the globe, I write to respectfully urge bipartisan action to end the current suspension of the Global Entry program and ensure its prompt restoration. GBTA has long been a strong proponent of Global Entry because it advances the very goals Congress identified when authorizing trusted traveler programs: strengthening border security through risk-based screening, improving efficiency at ports of entry, and facilitating legitimate travel that supports U.S. economic competitiveness. Our [research shows](#) that for every \$1.00 spent on business travel within the United States, \$1.15 is returned to destinations and communities where those business meetings take place.

Congress has already authorized the legal and policy foundation for Global Entry as part of U.S. law, doing so for clear and compelling reasons tied to border security, operational efficiency, and modernized screening. Restoring the program is not the creation of new policy — it is the continuation of a framework Congress deliberately established.

### **Congress Built the Statutory Framework for Trusted Traveler Programs**

Although Congress did not enact a standalone “Global Entry Act,” it expressly directed the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to implement biometric entry and exit systems and an “international registered traveler program.” Under 8 U.S.C. § 1365b, DHS is required to establish a biometric entry/exit data system incorporating biometrics and threat assessments to facilitate expedited travel for vetted travelers entering and departing the United States. This statutory directive forms the legal foundation for Global Entry and similar Trusted Traveler Programs.

These provisions were enacted as part of Congress’s post-9/11 reforms to strengthen screening while improving efficiency at U.S. ports of entry.

### **Global Entry Advances Congress’s Stated Policy Goals**

Congress supported trusted traveler programs to achieve three principal objectives:

1. **Strengthen Border Security Through Risk-Based Screening**

Global Entry requires rigorous background checks, biometric enrollment, and in-person interviews. By pre-vetting low-risk travelers, CBP can concentrate personnel and enforcement resources on higher-risk or unknown travelers — enhancing national security while maintaining vigilance at ports of entry.

2. **Improve Efficiency and Facilitate Legitimate Travel**

As international travel volumes increase, inspection systems face growing demands. Trusted traveler programs reduce congestion, shorten wait times, and allow officers to allocate resources more effectively while maintaining robust security standards.

3. **Support Economic Competitiveness and International Engagement**

Efficient border processing strengthens U.S. economic performance, supports business travel and tourism, and reinforces reciprocal trusted traveler arrangements with international partners. For the business travel community GBTA represents, Global Entry is an essential tool that enables productive global commerce while maintaining strong security safeguards while facilitating the safe and efficient movement of travelers through airport passenger screening operations

**Global Entry Operates Under Clear Congressional Authority**

Under existing law, DHS and CBP administer Global Entry as a voluntary program for pre-approved, low-risk travelers who undergo thorough vetting and biometric enrollment. Automated kiosks and digital verification systems enhance both accuracy and efficiency. Program fees and enrollment procedures are governed by regulations derived from authority granted by Congress.

Suspending Global Entry undermines a statutorily grounded, security-enhancing, efficiency-driven program that Congress has already authorized and supported on a bipartisan basis. Restoring operations would reaffirm Congress’s longstanding commitment to smart border management, risk-based screening, and the facilitation of lawful travel.

We respectfully urge congressional leadership to work across party lines to ensure the prompt resumption and continuity of Global Entry. Doing so advances national security, strengthens economic competitiveness, and upholds the legislative framework Congress established.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Neufang  
Chief Executive Officer  
Global Business Travel Association (GBTA)