

American Legislative Exchange Council Conference
November 27-30, 2023
Report from Councilmember Treyson Suemori

Tuesday, November 28 - Conference Day #1

12-2 pm - Conference Registration and Exhibit Hall

- Arrived at the event location, The Westin Kierlan Resort, and checked in to receive name badges and conference materials. The printed materials included 50 years of Trusted Policy Solutions 1973-2023; [Rich States, Poor States](#); Fighting crime or Raising Revenue, State Education Freedom: A 50-State Guide to Parental Empowerment; and 2024 Essential Policy Solutions.
- Was able to network with an analyst who evaluated model policy at the University of Georgetown.
- Learned about Switchpoint as well and their effort to end homelessness.

3:30-4:45 pm - First Time Attendee and New Member Orientation

- Introductions of new members and ALEC leadership team. Presentation on the purpose and principles of ALEC—a 501(c)(3) non-profit for accountable government. ALEC advances limited government, free markets and federalism by fostering efficient, effective, accountable and transparent government that respects taxpayers.
- There were legislators from all over the nation. It was an experience to see how professional some of these individuals were. Spoke very well, was very comfortable with the microphone, and were all very charismatic. That was my first impression of many of the ALEC members.

6:30-8:30 pm - Jefferson Awards Welcome Reception

- Working dinner to network with other conference attendees, including elected state and city leaders, and messages from ALEC leadership.
- Many members were recognized for their continued leadership in our communities. My main takeaway from the dinner was the interactions I had with legislators from other parts of the country. It was an effective opportunity to discuss the different ways our states and counties administer their government.

Wednesday, November 29 - Conference Day #2

8:30 am - General Session Breakfast

- The speakers were: Daniel Perez, ALEC National Chairman and Florida House Speaker Designate, Former Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey, ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson, U.S. Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (Video), Hon. David Walker,

American Legislative Exchange Council Conference
November 27-30, 2023
Report from Councilmember Treyson Suemori

Immediate Former Comptroller General of the United States, Utah State Rep. Ken Ivory.

- These individuals really focused on the fact that great policy comes from the inherent want to do good in our communities, as cliché as that sounds. The message I received was that policy originates from the intent to solve an issue.

9:15-10:15 am - Workshop: End Cash Bail - And Then What?

- Bail reform is a hot topic in America right now. I really appreciated this panel because it was very neutral. They had one party who truly did not believe bail reform had any benefits. They had one party who believed removing bail would allow public services to take over rehabilitation of criminals to reduce the rate of recidivism. Although the two people did not agree, they were cordial and able to facilitate an educational, thought-provoking discussion with respect.

10-11:00 am - Task Force Town Hall

- Meet-and-greet with the ALEC policy team and leadership. We spoke with a State Senator from Illinois and discussed the challenges in our districts and shared our ideas and potential solutions.

10:30-11:30 am - Workshop: ESG and the People's Republic of China: Protecting National Security

- This was a very interesting topic for me. I have always been someone who believes the natural resources are being exhausted and there is a need to reduce our strain on the environment. However, there is always a threat to our national security. I learned that a complete reduction in carbon emissions and fossil fuels would likely result in unsustainable results, leading to a weaker military.
- An issue of this magnitude would put the entire world in jeopardy as America tends to police the world with its military strength. It's almost as if we may not achieve our sustainability goals if other countries refuse to reduce their consumption of natural resources.

11:30 am-1:30 pm Wednesday General Session Lunch

- Former U.S. Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich discussed his ideas about federalism and limited government. He believes that public input is extremely important when it comes to policy and without the public's input, we are unable to refine our systems.

American Legislative Exchange Council Conference

November 27-30, 2023

Report from Councilmember Treyson Suemori

1:45-4:45 pm - American City Council Exchange (ACCE) Meeting

- Joel Coleman, former UT City councilmember, Amy Carney - mother, Jeremiah Galus - lawyer. They spoke about the importance of advocacy on the lowest community level. Something that I really thought about was whether or not each of our schools has a "community board." Every DOE school is supposed to have that so that it's not just the statewide school board where concerns are supposed to be heard. There's some important things happening at our schools and we need a community board at the school just like the neighborhood board at the city level.
- Carol Madewell, Serial Entrepreneur - Nonprofit called Switchpoint - "opportunity with accountability." I loved this presentation because of all the homeless work that we do. They talked about converting abandoned schools into housing. They talked about creating microbusinesses for homeless to work and generate income. I really loved the doggie day care idea.
- Kevin Byne of Putnam County, NY - addressing migrant crisis and immigration policy 170 homeless shelters created a shared service agreements between county and NY City. This situation was severe. The Governor of NY actually created an emergency proclamation and Kevin talked about what they did to make sure they had enough resources to handle the flux in their county.

3:45-4:45 pm - Media Training

- My main takeaway from this section was to always be professional, even if you have not had the best relationship with someone, it's important to maintain professionalism.

Thursday, November 30 - Conference Day #3

8:00 AM - Thursday Breakout Breakfast: Ranked Choice Voting Panel

- Ranked Choice Voting is a mechanism that states are looking at and some have adopted, but it seems there are some flaws because of how eliminated candidates' votes are tallied if they are ranked high on ballots.

9:15 AM - Media Training, interview practice

- Learned certain pointers from an experienced interviewer. She highlighted that it's important to avoid answering "yes" or "no" in an interview. When the interviewer asks a question, it's your opportunity to elaborate on the facts that you would like to discuss on that platform.
- Additionally, the interviewer taught the idea of diverting. Sometimes an interviewer will ask questions that are not ones we, as interviewees, would like to

American Legislative Exchange Council Conference
November 27-30, 2023
Report from Councilmember Treyson Suemori

answer. She taught a tactic of diverting the question by suggesting the interviewer should be asking another question, and continuing on from there. It was pretty clever in action.

9:15-11:45 am American City Council Exchange (ACCE) Meeting

- My main takeaway from this meeting was the “truth in taxation” angle. Earlier this year, a measure was introduced in the Honolulu City Council to codify a “truth in taxation” system here in the City. Unfortunately, the measure has not been moved. However, this meeting convinced me that this is a helpful mechanism for society. Tax payers want transparency when it comes to government spending, and the government owes them that. I believe this measure would be helpful for the City and will continue fostering this idea.

12:00 pm - Thursday General Session Lunch

- The [Children's Entrepreneur Market](#) was given an award at this luncheon for their work to pass legislation to allow children to sell their homemade products at open public markets. They shared a newsclip of the little children's market in Utah and how excited the kids were to showcase their products and make money.
- This system seems to help children understand an entrepreneurial mindset. It's an awesome opportunity for young ones to try something new and venture into an idea that is new to them. There were many examples, children selling baked goods, lemonade, and other knick knacks they created themselves.
- Children learn how to communicate in a professional setting as a provider of a good. They learn the transaction of currency. They also are exposed to the business side of society that is often introduced to people at a much later age.

2:30-4:30 pm - CARE Training

- CARE is the constituent management system available for legislative members. This seems like an effective tool of managing constituent requests. There's a queue that can be generated via information fed into the interface, keeping requests organized and prioritizing the requests that may have been sitting the longest.
-

City Council
City and County of Honolulu

CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: 2/1/2024

Traveler: Treyson Suemori

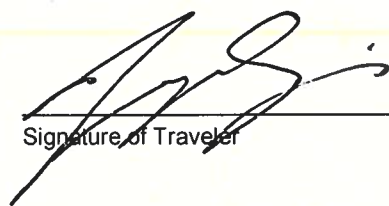
Event: ²⁰²³ American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) Conference *States + National Politics Summit*

Location: Scottsdale, AZ

Dates: From ²⁸ 11/27/23 To ¹¹³⁰ 12/1/23

Description	Amount	Notes
1. Registration Fee		
2. Airfare		
3. Hotel		
4. Meals		
5. Ground Transportation		
6. Tips		
7. Other		
Other		
Other		
8. Adjustment		
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	0	

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:



Signature of Traveler

02/07/24
Date