



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative David Cook (R-7)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Thursday, August 24, 2023
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arizona House International Trade Committee Embarking on Bipartisan Mission to UK and Romania to Strengthen and Enhance Trade Opportunities to Bolster State's Economic Growth

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – The Arizona House International Trade Committee, led by its chairman, State Representative David Cook, is set to embark Monday on a 12-day trade mission to the United Kingdom and Romania that seeks to open pathways for expanded economic collaboration, enable Arizona to tap into emerging markets, and attract foreign investment to boost the state's economic growth and diversification.

Chairman Cook emphasized the importance of forging international relationships: **"This trade mission is a strategic step toward securing Arizona's position as an international hub for business and innovation. By connecting with partners in the UK and Romania, we hope to open doors for foreign direct investment and expand our trade networks, paving the way for economic growth and prosperity that will benefit the citizens of our state and increase job opportunities, establishing Arizona as a leader in the global economy."**

With its unanimous adoption of a [comprehensive trade plan](#) earlier this year, the bipartisan committee's mission aligns with a strategic vision to bolster Arizona's economic growth through international collaboration and builds upon extensive collaboration with key stakeholders such as the Greater Phoenix Economic Council, the Arizona Commerce Authority, and the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

"As the Vice Chairman of the International Trade Committee, and as the House Commerce Chairman, I'm thrilled to be part of this mission and champion Arizona's economic interests on the global stage," said Representative Justin Wilmeth. **"It is a prime opportunity to promote the incredible potential of Arizona to the international community in order to strengthen our economic ties, bring innovation to our workforce, and contribute to a brighter future for all Arizonans."**

The trade mission to the United Kingdom encompasses several crucial objectives. These include engaging with the US Embassy in London for an insightful trade brief, fostering discussions with Members of Parliament and economic leaders to explore substantial trade and investment prospects. The mission holds significance as both Arizona and the UK seek to collaborate on the formulation of a Memorandum of Understanding that outlines priority sectors for enhanced bilateral trade.

In Romania, the delegation plans to attend and meet with all 12 participating member nations at the prestigious Three Seas Summit being hosted by the Romanian government. The members will also hold a series of meetings, including with the US Embassy in Bucharest, Romanian Parliamentarians, and the Minister of Energy. These exchanges will focus on amplifying trade and investment opportunities, spanning sectors such as aerospace, defense, information technology and communications, energy, and high-tech manufacturing. This multifaceted engagement underscores Arizona's commitment to strengthening ties with Romania and Eastern Europe on a broader scale, a region that has been seeing exponential growth over past few years.

“As Arizona’s economy experiences remarkable growth, it’s vital that we capitalize on opportunities in sectors like the semiconductor industry and transportation,” Chairman Cook added. **“By forging alliances and establishing trade offices, we can enhance economic ties and showcase Arizona’s potential as an international hub for trade, innovation, and economic prosperity. I’m grateful for our committee staff, the Phoenix Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Arizona Commerce Authority who have all done an outstanding job to make this mission possible.”**

The bipartisan delegation members include International Trade Committee Chairman David Cook (R-7), Vice Chairman Justin Wilmeth (R-2), and committee members Tim Dunn (R-25), Melody Hernandez (D-8), Mariana Sandoval (D-23), and Stacey Travers (D-12). The delegation will also be joined by Representative Julie Willoughby (R-13).

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