



KAKEHASHI Project (United States of America) Inbound program for Congressional Leaders the 1st slot Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 7 Congressional Leaders from the U.S. visited Japan from August 4 to August 11, 2019 to participate in the program aimed at promoting their understanding of Japan with regard to Japanese politics, economy, society, culture, history, and foreign policy. Through the lectures, observations and interactions with Japanese people, etc., the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of Japan.

[Participating Countries and Numbers of Participants]

United States of America: 7 participants

[Prefectures Visited]

Tokyo, Kyoto, Shiga, Kanagawa

2. Program Schedule

8/4(Sun)	【Arrival】
8/5(Mon)	【Observation】 Kappabashi, Asakusa 【Lecture】 Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare 【Lecture】 Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications 【Lecture】 Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) Headquarters at the Cabinet Secretariat Office
8/6(Tue)	【Courtesy Call】 U.S. Embassy in Japan 【Observation】 National Diet Building 【Lecture】 National Security Secretariat 【Lecture】 Ministry of Defense Move to Kyoto from Tokyo
8/7(Wed)	【Observation】 Horiba Biwako E-Harbor 【Observation】 Kyoto Yaoichi Group Keihoku Farm (Strawberry Farm)
8/8(Thu)	【Cultural Experience】 Meditation (Shunkoin Temple) 【Observation】 Gion, Yasaka-Jinja Shrine, Shijō Kawaramachi
8/9(Fri)	Move to Tokyo from Kyoto 【Observation】 Yokota Air Base 【Observation】 Baseball Game (Tokyo Dome City)
8/10(Sat)	【Observation】 Toyosu Market, Ginza 【Observation】 Kirin Brewery Yokohama Plant

	【Observation】 Jingu Gaien Fireworks Festival
8/11(Sun)	【Departure】

3. Program Photos



8/5 **【Observation】** Kappabashi, Asakusa



8/5 **【Lecture】** Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (at MOFA)



8/6 **【Observation】** National Diet Building



8/7 **【Observation】** Horiba Biwako E-Harbor



8/7 **【Observation】** Kyoto Yaoichi group (Keihoku Farm)



8/8 **【Cultural Experience】** Meditation (Shunkoin Temple)

4. Voice from Participants (abstract)

◆The in-depth and frank conversations with government officials were very useful. Hearing the thoughts of Japanese officials was very valuable. Also, the visits to Shunkoin Temple, Horiba, Kyoto and Keihoku Farm were very interesting.

◆I was very impressed with the Japanese culture of punctuality, cleanliness, and quality of work. The care they devote to the smallest details in society was truly impressive.