



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 488

January Session, 2005

Senate Joint Resolution No. 31

Senate, April 21, 2005

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the joint resolution ought to be adopted.

**RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO MAKE THE
REPUBLIC OF POLAND ELIGIBLE FOR THE VISA WAIVER
PROGRAM.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 WHEREAS, the Republic of Poland is a free, democratic and
2 independent nation; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1999, the United States and the Republic of Poland
4 became formal allies when Poland was granted membership in the
5 North Atlantic Treaty Organization; and

6 WHEREAS, the Republic of Poland has proven to be an
7 indispensable ally in the global campaign against terrorism; and

8 WHEREAS, the Republic of Poland has actively participated in
9 Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Iraqi Reconstruction, shedding blood
10 alongside American soldiers; and

11 WHEREAS, the President of the United States and other high
12 ranking officials have described the Republic of Poland as one of our
13 closest friends; and

14 WHEREAS, on April 15, 1991, the Republic of Poland unilaterally
15 repealed the visa origination to United States citizens traveling to
16 Poland; and

17 WHEREAS, the United States Department of State's Visa Waiver
18 Program currently allows approximately twenty-three million citizens
19 from twenty-seven countries to travel to the United States for tourism
20 or business for up to ninety days without having to first obtain visas
21 for entry; and

22 WHEREAS, the countries that currently participate in the visa
23 waiver program include: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei,
24 Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan,
25 Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, The Netherlands, New Zealand,
26 Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden,
27 Switzerland and the United Kingdom; and

28 WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the Republic of Poland be made
29 eligible for the United States Department of State's Visa Waiver
30 Program.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut
32 General Assembly calls upon the Congress of the United States to take
33 action to make the Republic of Poland eligible for the United States
34 Department of State's Visa Waiver Program; and

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the Senate and the
36 House cause copies of this resolution to be sent to the presiding
37 officers of each house of Congress and to each member of the
38 Connecticut congressional delegation.

GAE *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This resolution, which urges Congress to make Poland eligible for the United States Department of State's Visa Waiver Program, has no fiscal impact to the state.

OLR Bill Analysis

SJ 31

***RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO MAKE THE
REPUBLIC OF POLAND ELIGIBLE FOR THE VISA WAIVER
PROGRAM***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Resolutions.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 15 Nay 5