**THE VISA WAIVER PROGRAM**

**This is our call to arms - The time for a final battle has come!**

The inclusion of Poland in the Visa Waiver Program is what we in the Polish American Congress (PAC) have been working to achieve for a decade.

Polish Americans created PAC to represent Polish community interests to the government, but in this case the resolution of the problem cannot be achieved by PAC alone.

An old truth is: **W JEDNOSCI SILA!**

**Millions of us, Polish Americans** continue to be disappointed that our relatives in Poland can’t travel to the U.S. visa free, as do virtually all the other countries of the European Union. This exclusion has caused grave hardship and excessive expenses for so many. The nearly **over ten million people of Polish descent** living in America will greatly benefit from increased ties and reduced travel restrictions between our two countries.

**There are no valid arguments** why it should be otherwise. The practice of using refusal rates, generated in an arbitrary way, and influenced by factors that have no impact on the U.S. security, law enforcement, or contribution to rates of illegal immigration, is unacceptable.

It is beyond doubt that our boundaries will no less be secure because of Polish visitors to U.S., but to the contrary: our alliance will be only more secure with rewarding **a supportive, American-friendly, and most loyal ally** by extending the Visa Waiver Program. It would be **unworthy of the United States** to further delay resolution of this problem that is highly upsetting to the citizens of Poland and us, the Polish Americans.

For us, it is also **a matter of prestige** **– it is a test of our standing in this country as citizens of Polish heritage**. ARE WE GOING TO FAIL IT? This time we cannot leave it to chance. **This calls for action on part of all of us!**

***Everybody must be involved*** – every group, organization, every family and your friends. We have to start **pressure our California senators, Diana Feinstein and Barbara Boxer**, to firmly support the legislation, which covers the inclusion of Poland in Visa Waiver Program, all the way through in the legislative process.

Polish American Congress was started as an umbrella organization with other Polish organizations to help coordinate efforts, to stimulate initiatives, to work together on common goals, and that is what we must try to do again with all our strength.

**But we can’t act alone - only together with you all we will achieve our aim. MUSIMY DZIALAC WSZYSCY RAZEM! To jest imperatyw naszego sukcesu!**

***Andrzej Prokopczuk, President***

 **Please call or write, as soon as possible, to:**

**Senator Diane Feinstein**, 331 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.20510, ph. 202-224-3841;

**Senator Barbara Boxer**, 112 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510, ph. 202- 224-3553

This might be a useful sample, or use enclosed ready forms:

*As one of my two United States Senators, it is important that you vote favorably for passage of S.744 that will enable Poland, a loyal friend and ally of the United States, to be admitted to our nation’s Visa Waver Program. Your Polish American voting constituents will welcome and remember your support. Thank you.*

Contact both of your senators and identify yourself by name and address. MOST IMPORTANT! Calling at their Washington, DC phone numbers is more compelling and effective because your calls will be recorded on a daily basis in their Capitol Hill offices directly, no local office being involved. The staff on Capitol Hill should be impress with a flood of phone calls/letters on a frequent daily basis.