

WASHINGTON — Today, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05) testified before the House Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement in favor of expanding the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) to include Poland and other U.S. allies.

“This is an issue of fairness and equity for a longstanding friend and partner, Poland,” said Rep. Quigley. “Expansion of the Visa Waiver Program will improve our international diplomatic relationships, create jobs, stimulate the economy and strengthen national security. It’s time to expand outdated travel standards to include our proven allies.”

Expansion of the VWP would bring increased revenue to the travel industry at a time when America’s economy needs it most. In 2008, the countries in the VWP generated more than 16 million visits to the U.S., accounting for 65 percent of all overseas arrivals that year. VWP travelers spent more than 51 billion dollars in the U.S. , which generated an estimated 512,000 jobs, 13 billion dollars in payroll and 7.8 billion dollars in taxes for the U.S. economy.

“This nation must keep its doors open. Foreign travelers who come to America gain an understanding of what makes America great, and they share these positive experiences with their neighbors,” said Rep. Quigley.

PHOTO: Rep. Quigley testifies before Congress in favor of expanding the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) to include Poland and other U.S. allies.



Embassy of the United States in Warsaw, Poland, December 7, 2011. U.S. Ambassador to Poland, Christopher Quigley, calls for Poland's inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program. [Read more here](#)