

BY: Senator KENNEDY

COMMEMORATING 100 years of United States and
Poland relations

WHEREAS, The United States and Poland share common ideals and a clear vision for the 21st Century, where freedom and democracy are the foundation for peace, prosperity, and progress; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate 100 years of United States and Poland relations; and

WHEREAS, Poland began diplomatic relations with the United States in 1919, while it regained its independence on November 11, 1918, the same day World War I ended; previously, Poland was partitioned for 123 years by Russia, Austria, and Prussia; and

WHEREAS, The United States was an early supporter of Poland's independence, solidifying its role as an ally, which culminated in the opportunity to celebrate a 100 year anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Poland and the United States have been allies for over 240 years; and

WHEREAS, Historical figures who played a key role in the establishment of this bilateral diplomatic relation, include both past Polish Prime Minister Ignace Jan Paderewski and past U.S. President Woodrow Wilson; and

WHEREAS, President Wilson played a key role in helping Poland's independence be restored; it was one of the points in his famous "fourteen points" on what the world should look like after the First World War, presented in Congress on January 8, 1918; and

WHEREAS, The first United States envoy sent to Poland was Hugh S. Gibson, who presented his credentials to then Polish Chief of State, Jozef Pilsudski; this was an example of a solidified relationship between the two places; and

WHEREAS, In 1920, the first Polish ambassador to the United States, Prince Kazimierz Lubomirski, presented his credentials to the aforementioned US President Woodrow Wilson; and

WHEREAS, The current Prime Minister of Poland, Mateusz Morawiecki, recalls and asserts that America was, and still is, our friend at the time when Poland was making its first steps towards freedom; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Embassy released a statement commenting on how these types of anniversaries provide opportunities for both countries to celebrate, renew, and strengthen people-to-people ties by highlighting their shared histories and values; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate 100 years of United States and Poland relations; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mateusz Morawiecki, Prime Minister of Poland.