

was wrong. If it were a President of his own party, let it be.

While in the Senate, Senator HOLLINGS has served on the Senate's Budget and Appropriations Committees, served as chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, served as chairman of a number of Senate subcommittees. Just as he had been a loyal and proud servant of his own State of South Carolina, he has been a loyal and proud servant of our country. In the Senate, he has been a forceful advocate of a responsible energy policy. In fact, as early as 1967, Senator HOLLINGS was warning that our country faced a future of energy crises, and he was calling for a national energy policy.

He authored legislation to create the Department of Energy and the Automobile Fuel Economy Act that requires the miles-per-gallon sticker on new cars.

He has been a determined advocate of a cleaner and healthier environment. In this effort, he formulated legislation to protect our marine environment, sponsored legislation to prevent the dumping of polluting materials in the ocean, and authored the Coastal Zone Management Act to protect our coastal waters and tidelands. He is the recognized legislative "father" of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA.

In the Senate, Senator HOLLINGS continued promoting technical training as he fought to establish trade schools that specialize in retraining workers and offer alternatives for people who choose not to pursue a university degree.

In the Senate, Senator HOLLINGS has tenaciously opposed trade deals that threaten American jobs. Oh, if there were more like him. His fights in this area have involved opposing Presidents, opposing Presidents whom he charged were "giving away the store" in our trade treaties. He has fought to protect and increase Social Security benefits for our elderly Americans.

Concerned about the widespread poverty across the South, in 1968, he undertook a series of "hunger tours" that highlighted the issue. He later authored a powerful study, "The Case Against Hunger: A Demand for a National Policy" that advocated programs to address the persistence of abject poverty in the United States. Putting his words into action, he helped lead the congressional effort to establish the Women, Infants, and Children—WIC—nutritional assistance program, and he helped to advance the Nation's community health centers, which provide primary and preventive health services in underserved communities.

Long before the Bush administration's record-breaking budget deficits, long before today's incredible \$7 trillion national debt, Senator HOLLINGS was an eloquent and powerful advocate of budget discipline. I did not always agree with his efforts, such as the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings law, but I

never questioned Senator HOLLINGS's dedication to trying to restore fiscal sanity to America's deficit addictions.

Although he has long been a Senator of power and influence, during the great majority of his time in this Chamber, he remained the junior Senator from his State. Even after serving 36 years in the Senate, he was still out-ranked by his colleague from South Carolina, Senator Strom Thurmond, making Senator HOLLINGS the longest serving junior Senator in history, whatever that means. I have often wondered, having been a junior Senator and being a senior Senator now, what we mean by "junior Senator"? Well, we know what it means, but that is all.

It was at the age of 80 that Senator HOLLINGS finally became the senior Senator from South Carolina. He had earned it. He had earned it just as he has earned the respect and the gratitude of the people of South Carolina and the men and the women in this Chamber.

Now, unfortunately, my friend and colleague is leaving us. Again, I will not say farewell to him. I will only thank him for his service and wish him well in his private life.

I will always remember and cherish our years of working together on the Appropriations Committee and for the best interests of our great country.

It isn't enough that we say in our hearts  
That we like a man for his ways;  
And it isn't enough that we fill our minds  
With psalms of silent praise;  
Nor is it enough that we honor a man  
As our confidence upward mounts;  
It's going right up to the man himself  
And telling him so that counts.

Then when a man does a deed that you really  
admire,

Don't leave a kind word unsaid,  
For fear to do so might make him vain  
Or cause him to lose his head;  
But reach out your hand and tell him, "Well  
done",

And see how his gratitude swells;  
It isn't the flowers we strew on the grave,  
It's the word to the living that tells.

Now, unfortunately, my friend and colleague—a strong colleague on the Appropriations Committee, where we two have served all these many years—is leaving us. Again, I will not say farewell to Senator HOLLINGS. I will only thank him for his service and wish him well in his private life. I will always remember and cherish our years of working together.

I shall always remember, too, that loyal, dedicated, devoted helpmate, Peatsy, who stood always at his side, always there to be his best confidant. Yes, Erma and I will miss Peatsy.

In closing, then, let me speak just a few words from the "Character of the Happy Warrior" by William Wordsworth, because I think they represent my feelings toward ERNEST FRITZ HOLLINGS:

Who is the happy Warrior? Who is he  
That every man in arms should wish to be?

\* \* \* \* \*  
'Tis, finally, the Man, who, lifted high,  
Conspicuous object in a Nation's eye,

Or left unthought-of in obscurity,—  
Who, with a toward or untoward lot,  
Prosperous or adverse, to his wish or not—  
Plays, in the many games of life, that one  
Where what he most doth value must be won:  
Whom neither shape or danger can dismay,  
Nor thought of tender happiness betray;  
Who, not content that former worth stand  
fast,

Looks forward, persevering to the last,  
From well to better, daily self-surpass:  
Who, whether praise of him must walk the  
earth

For ever, and to noble deeds give birth,  
Or he must fall, to sleep without his fame,  
And leave a dead unprofitable name—  
Finds comfort in himself and in his cause;  
And, while the mortal mist is gathering,  
draws

His breath in confidence of Heaven's applause:

This is the happy Warrior; this is he  
That every man in arms should wish to be.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.  
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I am happy to yield to the Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at the conclusion of the remarks of the junior Senator from Pennsylvania, I be recognized to speak as in morning business for up to 25 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

#### POLISH VISA WAIVERS

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise very briefly to offer another unanimous consent request. This is a unanimous consent request on a piece of legislation that Senator MIKULSKI and I introduced earlier this year regarding Polish visa waivers.

A visa waiver is a provision given in law to allow people from a country with which the United States has good relationships to come into this country for a temporary period of time as visitors, tourists, without having to obtain a visa. In other words, this waives the visa requirement that is generally imposed on people coming from other countries to America. I believe we have done this with 27 other countries because of the unique relationship we have with them and the bond that the countries have with the U.S.

Poland, unfortunately, has not been granted that status. If you look at the continent of Europe and at the great allies that we have on the continent of Europe, obviously, the two that come to mind—in my mind at least—are the Brits and the Italians. But Poland has shown, since its release from the Soviet Union's sphere of influence, a remarkable affinity for the United States and has shown tremendous strides and advances both in terms of democracy, economy, and in their culture. It is very much a country that is leaning and facing west. It is, to me, a real injustice to the people of that country, who have been our steadfast supporters, particularly in the most recent

conflict in Iraq, that we would not present them the opportunity we do virtually every other country in Europe.

Senator MIKULSKI agrees, I think, with the statements I have made, and she has said so on the floor of the Senate. We have been working in the past couple of months to clear this legislation so it can pass the Senate and be sent to the House, with the hope, at this late date, of becoming law but, if not, accelerating the opportunity for it to become law next year. Even at this late date, the hope is that once the bill would get to the House, there would be the kind of support we have seen in the Senate to pass it. The support is nearly unanimous.

As we all know, at this point in time in the Senate, nearly unanimous isn't good enough. We need unanimous consent, or all Members of the Senate to agree. I can speak on behalf of the Republican side of the aisle. I have spoken to all Senators, or their offices, and every Republican Senator has agreed to allow this bill to clear the Senate and to pass today. We were willing to pass this bill before we broke in October. We were willing to give this bill a chance to become law and be signed by this President. I am hopeful that he would sign this legislation.

But I have been informed that in spite of the good efforts of Senator MIKULSKI, we may not be able to clear this legislation on the other side of the aisle. That is a great disappointment to me and I know to Senator MIKULSKI. I know it is a great disappointment to many Polish Americans—9.3 million Polish persons. Over 100,000 Poles per year come to this country to visit relatives and friends. Yet we cannot extend this, I argue, minimal courtesy to those who have allied with us and have shown their good hand of friendship toward us.

Mr. President, I will ask unanimous consent, in the hopes that maybe even later after this consent request, which I am told will be objected to, others will reconsider, and perhaps we can later tonight, or tomorrow, or Saturday, or however long we will be here, be able to work through this problem and get unanimous consent on this vitally important piece of legislation for not just the 9.3 million Poles in this country, but for all of us in America who would like to extend a further hand of friendship and accord to the people of Poland who have been such steadfast allies of our great country.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of calendar 715, S. 2844.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object. I must say for the record that there are Members who strongly support this bill—Senator MIKULSKI and others. However, on behalf of others, I must object. Therefore, I do object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SANTORUM. Thank you, Mr. President. I know the Senator from Oklahoma intends to speak.

At this point, I ask unanimous consent that an explanation of this issue be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2844—DESIGNATING POLAND AS A VISA WAIVER COUNTRY—CALENDAR NO 715

#### WHAT DOES THIS BILL DO?

Designates Poland as a visa waiver country. Citizens visiting the U.S. within a 90-day period would not need to apply for a visa.

#### WHY SUPPORT THIS LEGISLATION?

Since the founding of the United States, Poland has proven its steadfast dedication to the causes of freedom and friendship with the United States. In addition, Polish History provides pioneering examples of religious tolerance.

The United States is home to 9 million people of Polish ancestry, including 429,000 in Florida, 854,000 in Michigan, 240,000 in Minnesota, 576,000 in New Jersey, 433,000 in Ohio, 824,146 in Pennsylvania, and 497,000 in Wisconsin. Polish Immigrants have contributed greatly to the success of industry and agriculture in the United States.

Since the demise of communism, Poland has become a stable, democratic nation. Poland has adopted economic policies that promote free markets and economic growth.

Poland demonstrated its commitment to global security by becoming a member of NATO. Poland also just recently became a member of the EU.

Poland was a staunch ally to the U.S. in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Poland has committed 2,300 soldiers to help with ongoing peace efforts in Iraq.

In 1991, Poland unilaterally repealed the visa requirement for U.S. citizens traveling to Poland for less than 90 days. And today, more than 100,000 Polish citizens travel to the United States annually.

#### POLISH VISA REFUSAL RATE

Refusal rate can be an inaccurate measure because it is based on decisions made by consular officers rather than the actual behavior of non-immigrants. It does not reflect the propensity of nationals from that country to overstay their visas.

Nonetheless, Poland's visa refusal rate is declining dramatically, from around 43% in FY 03 to approximately 30% in FY 04.

Polish citizens who apply for a visa have on average, a one and a half minute interview. This obviously is not enough time for a consular officer to make a decision on whether or not they will overstay their visas. In other western European countries, the average interview is five minutes.

Consular Officers still have a 1980s view of Poland, a country in serious economic trouble and under tyranny. This is an unfair view as Poland is now a stable, democratic nation that promotes free markets and economic growth.

Warsaw airport is in the pilot program for airport screening, so most Poles who would travel to the U.S. under Visa Waiver would face an INS determination of whether they will be admitted before they get on a plane.

Poland's refusal rate does not reflect a high propensity for terrorism. The State Department has given no indication that the potential for terrorism in Poland significantly exceeds that of the 27 countries currently participating in the Visa Waiver Program.

#### IMPORTANT TO SUPPORT OUR STRONG ALLY AT THIS CRUCIAL TIME

Poland was a staunch ally to the U.S. in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Poland has com-

mitted 2,300 soldiers to help with ongoing peace efforts in Iraq.

Though a staunch ally, Poland has legitimate concerns about our appreciation of their efforts. President Aleksander Kwasniewski reiterated these concerns when Poland was not included as an ally in Iraq during the Presidential Debate.

As Lech Walesa said, this would be a very symbolic gesture for both the government and the people of Poland. We owe the Poles our appreciation for their camaraderie and sacrifice in a pivotal point in our history. This legislation would go a long way in showing our appreciation for their alliance with us.

#### CURRENT PARTICIPANT COUNTRIES IN THE VISA WAIVER PROGRAM

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, as I said before, I hope we can get agreement. I know there are one, or maybe more, Senators on the other side of the aisle who have found a concern with this. I ask that while this is somewhat unusual in the way we put forth this legislation, it is vitally important for us to send a very strong and positive signal to one of our strongest allies in the world that we stand with them and accept them as one of our closest and dearest allies, and we will treat them accordingly, with respect to the visitation of Polish people who visit relatives and friends in the United States.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Oklahoma is to be recognized for 25 minutes.

The Senator from West Virginia is recognized.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, if the Senator from Oklahoma comes, I will yield the floor quickly to him. At this moment, under the current circumstances, I had sought to be recognized and I do so for the purpose of speaking for not more than 12 minutes. I ask unanimous consent that I may be recognized for no more than 12 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senator is recognized.

#### TRIBUTES TO RETIRING SENATORS

##### TOM DASCHLE

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, there is an old Chinese curse that says, "May you live in interesting times." A Senate equivalent of that saying could very well be: May you lead the Senate in interesting times. If so, the Senate leadership of Senator TOM DASCHLE would certainly qualify. He led the Senate with a very quiet integrity during some of the most difficult times in American history.

In 1994, Senator DASCHLE became Senate Democratic leader by a single