

REFERENCE TITLE: Romania; visa waiver program

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
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Introduced by
Representatives Toma: Bowers

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ALLOW THE PARTICIPATION OF ROMANIA IN
THE VISA WAIVER PROGRAM.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States of America and the Secretary of the
2 United States Department of Homeland Security:
3 Your memorialist respectfully represents:
4 Whereas, Romania has been a stable and flourishing multiparty
5 democracy since the end of communism in 1989; and
6 Whereas, Romania has a fast-growing, market-oriented economy and is
7 a major economic partner of the United States; and
8 Whereas, Romania is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty
9 Organization (NATO), meets its defense spending benchmarks and is an
10 active player in regional security; and
11 Whereas, Romania is an important United States regional security
12 ally and is a close partner in the areas of intelligence and joint
13 security; and
14 Whereas, Romania has been described as a "stalwart NATO ally" by
15 United States Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin and called a role model
16 ally by senior defense officials; and
17 Whereas, the Visa Waiver Program allows citizens of approved
18 countries to travel without a visa to the United States for stays of up to
19 90 days; and
20 Whereas, despite the close United States-Romanian relationship,
21 Romania remains one of only three European Union countries that are not in
22 the Visa Waiver Program; and
23 Whereas, Romania's exclusion from the program hampers closer
24 economic, cultural, political and security ties between our two countries.
25 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of
26 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:
27 1. That the United States Congress make changes to the Visa Waiver
28 Program to allow Romania to become a participating country.
29 2. That the Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland
30 Security work closely with Romanian officials to quickly bring Romania
31 into the Visa Waiver Program.
32 3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit
33 copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the
34 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, each Member of
35 Congress from the State of Arizona and the Secretary of the United States
36 Department of Homeland Security.