



Legislation Text

File #: Res 1072-1999, **Version:** *

Res. No. 1072

Resolution calling upon the Republic of Poland and the Sejm, the Polish Parliament, to pass comprehensive legislation providing for the complete restitution of assets seized by the Nazi and nationalized by the Communist government in Poland.

By Council Members Dear, Lopez, Nelson, Povman, Abel, Golden, Stabile; also Council Members Koslowitz, Leffler, Michels, Pinkett and Rivera.

Whereas, During World War Two and the Holocaust the occupation Nazi government in Poland seized property belonging to Jews and other persecuted peoples; and

Whereas, The Communist government in Poland, instated after the War, nationalized this stolen property; and

Whereas, The Communist government in Poland conducted systematic persecution aimed at coercing its remaining Jewish population to flee; and

Whereas, The Communist government in Poland nationalized the private property of these persecuted peoples who were forced to leave their property behind; and

Whereas, More than half a century has passed since these egregious practices and the victims of this nationalization of property have still not been repaid for their losses; and

Whereas, The Polish survivors of the Holocaust, their descendents, and heirs to non-survivors are legally entitled to the return of the property stolen from them; and

Whereas, Many of these victims of nationalized property are now United States citizens and some are residents of New York City; and

Whereas, It has been ten years since the fall of the Communist government and the installation of a democratic government in Poland; and

Whereas, The Republic of Poland, a democratic entity, has not yet taken the measures to begin repayment of the Holocaust era nationalization of private property; and

Whereas, Other governments and institutions that had been involved in similar practices of usurping the property of Holocaust victims have recently arranged for the restitution of these victims; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the Republic of Poland and the Sejm, the Polish Parliament, to pass comprehensive legislation providing for the complete restitution of assets seized by the Nazi and nationalized by the Communist government in Poland.

Adopted