

THE VISA WAIVER PROGRAM MAKES AMERICA MORE SECURE

EXPANDING THE VISA WAIVER PROGRAM WILL STRENGTHEN SECURITY, GROW OUR ECONOMY, CREATE AMERICAN JOBS AND IMPROVE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH TRUSTED ALLIES.

FACT

- Travel is our nation's **number one services export**, generating a **trade surplus of \$59 billion** in 2019.
- Overseas travelers **stay longer and spend more** while here: an average of **18 nights** and about **\$4,200 per person per trip**.
- **For every 35 overseas travelers** who decide to visit the United States, **an additional American job is created**.
- In 2018 alone, **23 million travelers arrived through the VWP** (57% of overseas visitors), generating **\$190 billion in economic output** and supporting nearly **one million jobs**.

ACTION

➤ **Change the name to Secure Travel Partnership to reflect the program's strict security requirements.**

➤ **Expand the Visa Waiver Program to qualified countries.**

THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR ADMITTANCE TO THE VISA WAIVER PROGRAM:

OPPORTUNITY*

Potential gains in first three years (2020-2022), if added to VWP

	TRAVEL TRADE BALANCE**	ARRIVALS	SPENDING	TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT	REASON FOR EXCLUSION	STEPS BEING TAKEN	
BRAZIL	\$11.2B	2.4M	\$11.9B	\$27.2B economic output 39,000 total jobs supported	Absence of national criminal database.	Issues electronic visas for U.S. citizens	
ISRAEL	-\$1B	450,200	\$1.6B	\$3.6B economic output 6,000 total jobs supported	Has been kept out of the VWP for mostly political reasons. They refuse to give Palestinian-American's visa-free travel into Israel. Does not meet U.S. information-sharing requirements.	Increased lobbying efforts	
ARGENTINA	\$4.2B	1.2M	\$5.8B	\$13.3B economic output 23,100 total jobs supported	In 2002, lost VWP status because it failed to meet security requirements during the country's economic crisis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining visa refusal rate below 3% • Waived reciprocal visa fees for U.S. • Admitted to CBP Global Entry • Pursuing traveler expansion opportunities with Canada 	
COSTA RICA	-\$706M	500,600	\$2.3B	\$5.2B economic output 7,800 total jobs supported	Visa refusal rate exceeds program requirements.	U.S. citizens do not need a visa to travel to Costa Rica	
PART OF EU	BULGARIA	\$33M	33,800	\$100M	\$229M economic output 600 total jobs supported	Visa refusal rate exceeds program requirements.	
	CYPRUS	\$10M	16,800	\$49M	\$113.3M economic output 300 total jobs supported	Intelligence community concerns over passports	Meets visa refusal and overstay rate
	CROATIA	-\$190M	46,000	\$146M	\$335M economic output 800 total jobs supported	Visa refusal rate exceeds program requirements.	
	ROMANIA	\$21M	132,300	\$365M	\$839M economic output 2,100 total jobs supported	Visa refusal rate exceeds program requirements.	

*Accumulative incremental impact compared to the expected growth without VWP

**BEA 2018 Data