

COALITION OF POLISH AMERICANS

PROMOTING THE INTERESTS OF POLISH AMERICANS

www.coalitionpa.org

September 7, 2020

Honorable Donald J. Trump President The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20502

The Coalition of Polish Americans is a national organization which gives voice to the interests of the Polish American community in the United States. Our Coalition values your decisive action as President to strengthen the strategic alliance between Poland and the United States, and our members in the important swing states of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan will do their best to energize the Polish American voters to support you in the 2020 elections. We have a proven track record in mobilizing our expansive community on the issues we weigh in on.

At this critical moment in American history, we strongly believe that you – President Trump – would substantially enrich the legacy of your presidency and appeal to voters beyond your existing base of support by preserving two important pieces of our nation's history:

- 1. The Crenshaw House, a site recognized by the National Park Service as a historic site of the Reverse Underground Railroad.
- 2. The Iowa-Illinois Memorial Bridge, a structure dedicated to US veterans who fought in WWI and WWII, which is also the oldest suspension bridge over the Mississippi River.

Both structures are in imminent danger. The first through scheduled demolition by Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker, and the second through neglect by Illinois authorities.

President Trump, we ask that you declare these sites national monuments and save them from destruction by Illinois leaders.

We believe that establishing the Crenshaw House and the Iowa-Illinois Memorial Bridge and as national monuments will also give you talking points to help reset the election. Few Americans outside of Illinois are aware that these sites are not being protected or that a former museum highlighting the horrors of slavery Illinois was left to rot. If publicized correctly, your establishment of these sites as national monuments will highlight the failure of President Obama (both as Illinois Senator and as President) and other Illinois politicians to do so.

As President of the United States you have the power to unilaterally declare these sites as national monuments. At no political risk or cost, this move would show Obama's failure to preserve such important pieces of our nation's African American and Military histories and would also provide you with a unique opportunity to decisively refute false accusations of racism that have been weaponized against you.

Wishing you the victory in the 2020 presidential elections.

On behalf of the Coalition of Polish Americans,

Stanislaw Sliwowski, Preside