

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Mike Simpson  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior,  
Environment, and Related Agencies  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chellie Pingree  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Interior,  
Environment, and Related Agencies  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Pingree:

Thank you for your long-standing support for preserving America's special places. We write to request that you continue this support by appropriating \$250 million for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027, including funding to improve efficiency in the federal permitting process through technology improvements.

As America commemorates the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the 50th anniversary of the Historic Preservation Fund this year, investment in the places that tell our nation's story is both timely and critical. A minimum investment of \$25 million for digitization of state and Tribal records will accelerate the delivery of critical infrastructure projects by reducing the time needed for historic preservation reviews.

Our request also includes \$70 million to support State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs), \$34 million to support Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs), \$13 million to support Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and \$108 million for six existing competitive grant programs. These grants include programs like the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization grant, which fosters economic development in rural communities through the revitalization of historic properties, and the Semiquincentennial grant program, which celebrates the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America by restoring and preserving historic sites and structures that commemorate the founding of the nation.

SHPOs lead efforts to promote our nation's historic and cultural heritage. SHPOs carry out the National Historic Preservation Act, which provides citizens with the tools they need to revitalize, rehabilitate, and protect the resources our communities value most. In FY 2025 SHPOs reviewed and consulted on 101,200 federal undertakings, provided 73,800 National Register eligibility opinions, and surveyed over 3.5 million acres for cultural resources. SHPOs also assist in administering the federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program that has created more than 3.4 million new jobs and leveraged over \$257 billion in private investment since the program's inception.

Just as the SHPOs review federal undertakings on state lands, THPOs review federal undertakings on tribal government lands. There were only 12 THPOs when they first received funding in 1996. Today, there are 235 THPOs for which Congress and the United States have a responsibility to sustain the government-to-government relationship with the Tribes. While funding for THPOs has grown over the years, we must ensure those increases are felt by individual Tribal Historic Preservation Offices by continuing to increase funding in this category to stay commensurate with the number of recognized THPOs.

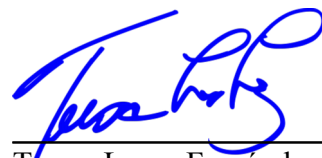
Competitive grant programs under the HPF preserve, document, and exhibit our shared history. These programs address a wide variety of preservation needs across the country and fund various types of work. In 2024, Revitalize ME Downtown was awarded a \$750,000 Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant to implement a historic preservation subgrant program for historic property owners in 23 rural municipalities across Maine. The Idaho State Historical Society received a \$500,000 Save America's Treasures grant in 2022 to rehabilitate the historic U.S Assay Office in downtown Boise, Idaho. Constructed in 1871 and designed by Treasury Architect, Alfred B. Mullet, the Assay Office was built to serve Idaho's booming gold mining industry.

A meaningful investment in the HPF will protect and promote the places that tell the story of America as we commemorate America's 250th anniversary. Since 1976, the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) has been a successful federal-state partnership, leading investment in historic sites and buildings in communities throughout the country. The NHPA authorizes \$150 million annually to be deposited for the benefit of the HPF, however the authorization for this deposit of funds will lapse in September of 2026. We appreciate the Committee's support of this authorization in FY26. It is once again imperative to restore this authorization to address the ongoing funding needs and to provide stability to these preservation programs and the communities, people, and places they sustain. Support for the Historic Preservation Fund is an investment in economic development, job creation, and our nation's heritage for the benefit of our future. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernández  
Member of Congress



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Andre Carson  
Member of Congress



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Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



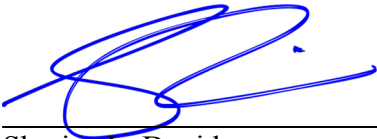
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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



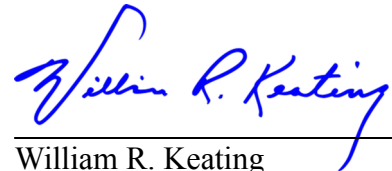
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Rob Bresnahan, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



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William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



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Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress



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Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



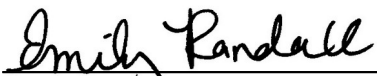
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Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



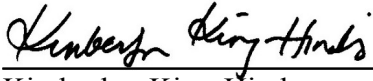
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Emily Randall  
Member of Congress



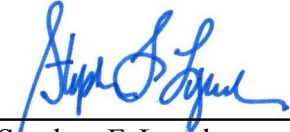
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Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



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Kimberlyn King-Hinds  
Member of Congress



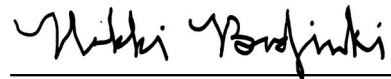
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Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



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Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



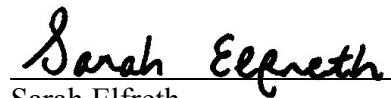
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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



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Sarah Elfreth  
Member of Congress



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Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



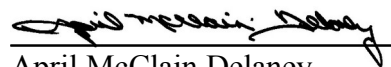
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Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



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April McClain Delaney  
Member of Congress



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Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



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Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



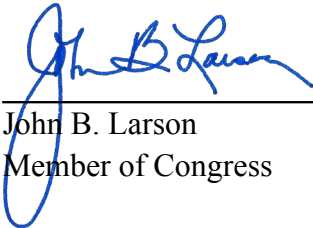
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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



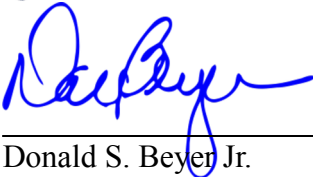
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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



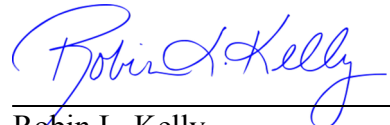
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Brian K. Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



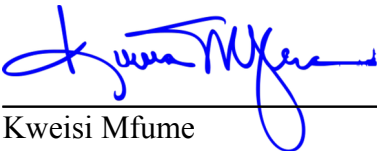
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



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Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



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Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



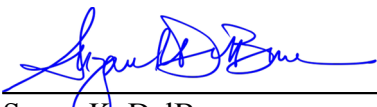
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Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



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Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



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Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



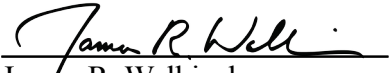
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Josh Riley  
Member of Congress



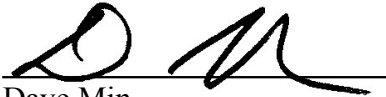
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Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



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James R. Walkinshaw  
Member of Congress



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Dave Min  
Member of Congress



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Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



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Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Mike Carey  
Member of Congress



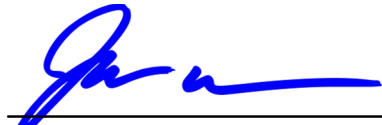
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Pablo José Hernández  
Member of Congress



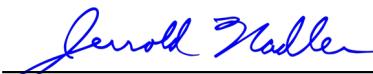
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James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



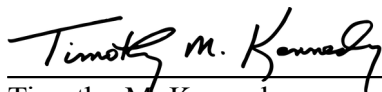
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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



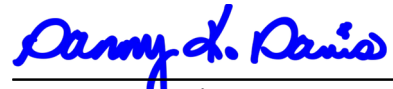
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Timothy M. Kennedy  
Member of Congress



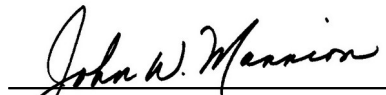
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Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



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John W. Mannion  
Member of Congress



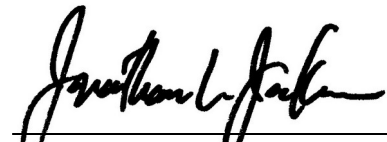
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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



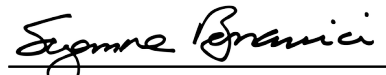
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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress




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Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



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Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



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Greg Landsman  
Member of Congress




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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



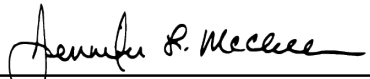
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Aumua Amata Radewagen  
Member of Congress



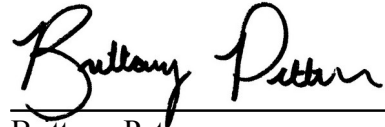
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Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



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Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



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Brittany Petterson  
Member of Congress



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Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



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Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



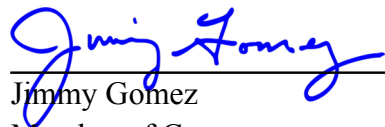
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Sarah McBride  
Member of Congress



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Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



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Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



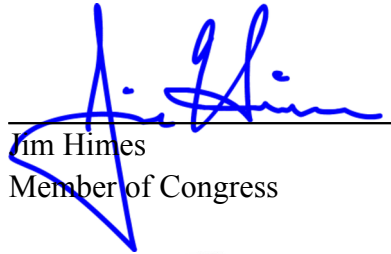
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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



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Kelly Morrison  
Member of Congress



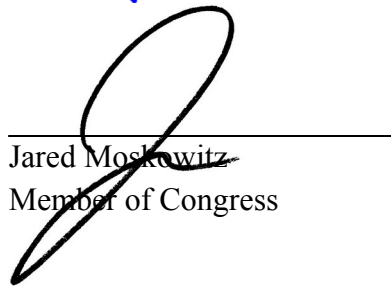
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Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



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Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



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Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress



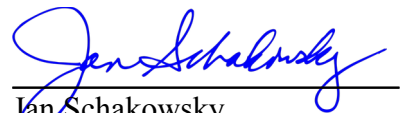
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Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



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Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



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Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress



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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



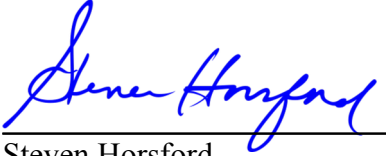
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Nellie Pou  
Member of Congress



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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



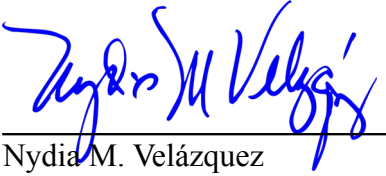
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Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



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George Latimer  
Member of Congress



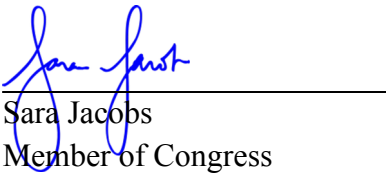
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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



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Patrick Ryan  
Member of Congress



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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress