

Jordan E. Tannenbaum
Vice Chairman

Reid J. Nelson
Executive Director, Acting



July 21, 2022

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Capitol Building, S-128
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard C. Shelby
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Capitol Building, S-128
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Shelby:

Acting as chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) during that position's current vacancy, I am writing to express the ACHP's support for an increase in Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) appropriations in FY 2023 to at least \$200 million. Established by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, the ACHP is the independent federal agency charged with advising the President and Congress on matters relating to historic preservation.

As you know, the HPF is foundational to the national historic preservation program, providing annual funding to support the work of State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs). Such work forms the backbone of preservation activity in the nation, including conducting surveys of historic properties; preparing nominations to the National Register of Historic Places; assisting federal agencies in reviewing the historic preservation impacts of federal projects in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA; assisting in federal Historic Tax Credit project reviews; implementing disaster recovery grants; and conducting preservation education and planning.

The HPF also is a major source of funding for competitive preservation grant programs. Through such programs, Congress directs funds to address timely and pressing preservation needs. In FY 2022, HPF grant programs include the following: Underrepresented Communities Grants; Save America's Treasures Grants; African American Civil Rights Grants; Historically Black Colleges and Universities Grants; Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants; Semiquincentennial Grants; and History of Equal Rights Grants.

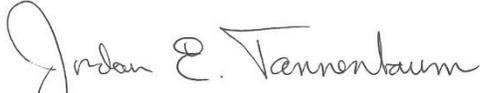
FY 2022 funding for the HPF currently is \$173.072 million, with \$57.675 million of that amount provided to SHPOs and \$16 million to THPOs. Increasing the HPF to \$200 million in FY 2023 and expanding SHPO and THPO funding would allow for much needed capacity building, which is critically important at this time. Anticipated increases in the number of environmental reviews for federal projects designed to address the nation's critical needs regarding energy development and infrastructure permitting, disaster planning and resilience, and climate change adaptation will further stretch the capacity of these critical partners who have seen only incremental increases in the past. Increasing funding and expanding the share to these partners would ensure their effective participation in the planning and review of such projects. Since the number of THPOs receiving HPF funds can grow each year (depending upon what tribes successfully seek approval of their preservation programs by the National Park Service), ensuring adequate funding for their work is a particularly acute need.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

401 F Street NW, Suite 308 • Washington, DC 20001-2637
Phone: 202-517-0200 • Fax: 202-517-6381 • achp@achp.gov • www.achp.gov

Funding the HPF at \$200 million in FY 2023 would help preserve more of the historic places that Americans care deeply about and ensure historic preservation values are effectively considered in federal planning. Please feel free to contact me if the ACHP can be of any assistance during further consideration of appropriations for the HPF, or your staff may wish to follow up with acting ACHP Executive Director Reid Nelson at rnelson@achp.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jordan E. Tannenbaum". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jordan E. Tannenbaum
Vice Chairman

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Reid J. Nelson
Executive Director, Acting



July 21, 2022

The Honorable Rosa Luisa DeLauro
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Capitol Building, H-307
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Capitol Building, H-307
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

Acting as chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) during that position's current vacancy, I am writing to express the ACHP's support for an increase in Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) appropriations in FY 2023 to at least \$200 million. Established by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, the ACHP is the independent federal agency charged with advising the President and Congress on matters relating to historic preservation.

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In H.R. 8294, the six-bill appropriations minibus that includes funding for the Department of the Interior, the proposed FY 2023 funding for the HPF is \$170.825 million. While this represents a decrease from FY 2022's appropriation of \$173.072 million, it does include a welcome increase of \$1 million for SHPOs and \$7 million for THPOs. However, increasing the HPF to \$200 million in FY 2023 and further expanding SHPO and THPO funding would allow for much needed capacity building, which is critically important at this time. Anticipated increases in the number of environmental reviews for federal projects designed to address the nation's critical needs regarding energy development and infrastructure permitting, disaster planning and resilience, and climate change adaptation will further stretch the capacity of these critical partners who have seen only incremental increases in the past. Increasing funding and expanding the share to these partners would ensure their effective participation in the planning and review of such projects. Since the number of THPOs receiving HPF funds can grow each

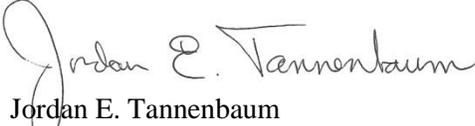
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