



Hon. Sara C. Bronin
Chair

Jordan E. Tannenbaum
Vice Chairman

Reid J. Nelson
Executive Director

December 20, 2024

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Capitol Building, S-221
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Capitol Building, S-128
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Joe Manchin, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Dirksen Senate Office Building, SD-304
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John A. Barrasso, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Dirksen Senate Office Building, SD-304
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Senator Manchin, and Senator Barrasso:

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) would like to convey its support for proposed enhancements to the American Battlefield Protection Program embodied in the Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act (H.R. 6492) and the American Battlefield Protection Program Enhancement Act (H.R. 3448), both of which have been passed by the House of Representatives. The ACHP is the independent federal agency that is charged with advising the President and Congress on historic preservation matters and with overseeing review of federal projects under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The proposed provisions would facilitate use of the Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant program by nonprofit organizations and Indian Tribes; allow Battlefield Restoration Grants to be used on a broader range of battlefield property than currently the case; clarify that Revolutionary War and War of 1812 sites are eligible for Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants; and provide for periodic updating of existing National Park Service reports that define what battlefields are eligible for grants. These proposed improvements will further ensure this successful program will continue to assist in the preservation of America's important military heritage.

Please feel free to contact the ACHP if you have any questions. Your staff may wish to follow up with ACHP Executive Director Reid Nelson at rmelson@achp.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara C. Bronin
Chair

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