

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND



BOSTON
PRESERVATION
ALLIANCE

"THE PRESERVATION OF THIS IRREPLACEABLE HERITAGE IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST SO THAT ITS VITAL LEGACY OF CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL, AESTHETIC, INSPIRATIONAL, ECONOMIC, AND ENERGY BENEFITS WILL BE MAINTAINED AND ENRICHED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS OF AMERICANS."

-1966 NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

FISCAL YEAR 2021 REQUEST: \$150 MILLION

for State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) for heritage preservation

\$61 million and protection programs that create jobs, economic development, and community revitalization. (FY 2020 funding - \$52.675 million)

In partnership with the federal government, SHPOs carry out the primary functions of the National Historic Preservation Act including –finding and documenting America’s historic places, making nominations to the National Register, providing assistance on rehabilitation tax credit projects, reviewing impacts of federal projects, working with local governments, and conducting preservation education and planning.

\$22 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) (FY 2020 funding - \$13.735 million)

THPOs are designated by federally recognized tribal governments that have entered into an agreement with the Department of the Interior to assume the federal compliance role of the SHPO on their respective Tribal lands. Tribal historic preservation plans are based on traditional knowledge and cultural values, and may involve projects to improve Indian schools, roads, health clinics and housing.

\$28 million for Civil Rights Initiative Competitive Grants (FY 2020 funding - \$18 million)

A competitive grant program to preserve the sites and stories of Civil Rights in America. \$20 million of these funds would have to be used to preserve the sites and stories of the African American Civil Rights movement.

\$10 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (FY 2020 funding - \$10 million)

Funding would provide grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to preserve and repair historic buildings on the campuses of HBCUs.

\$18 million for Save America’s Treasures Program (FY 2020 Funding - \$16 million)

Treasures grants program help preserve nationally significant historic properties and collections that convey our nation's rich heritage to future generations of Americans.

\$10 million for Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants (FY 2020 Funding - \$7.5 million)

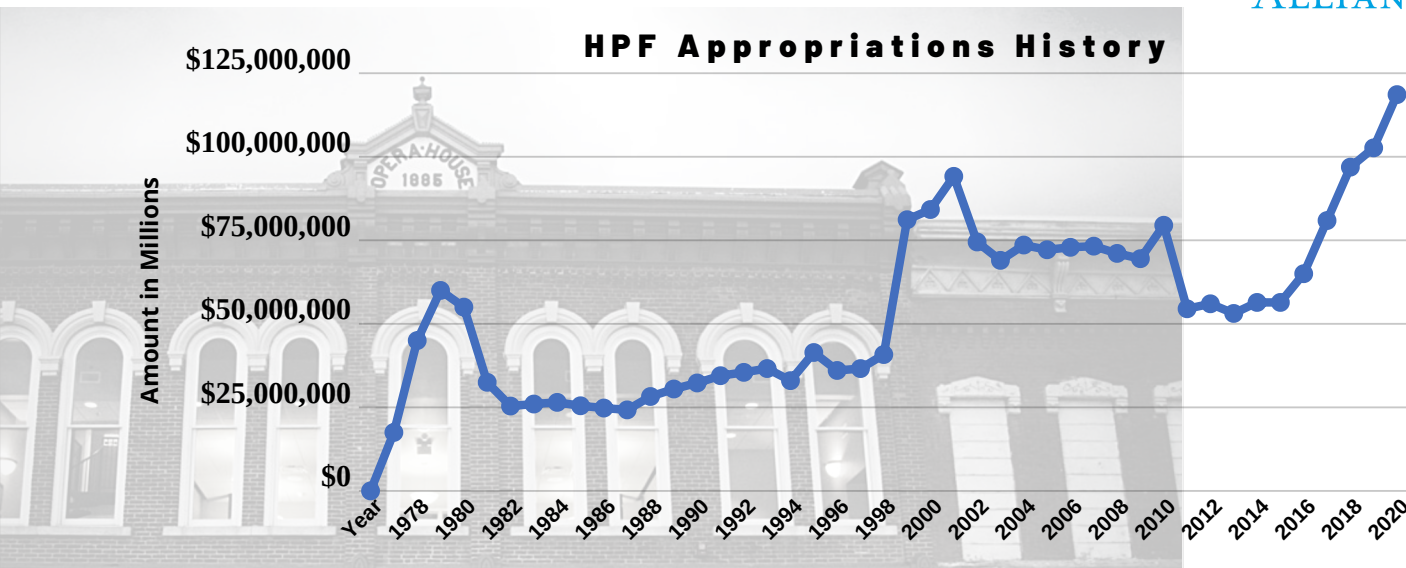
supports the rehabilitation of historic properties and fosters economic development of rural communities through subgrants.

**TOTAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND REQUEST: FY 2021
\$150 MILLION (FY 2020 \$118.66 MILLION)**

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SUMMARY OF THE HPF

Established in 1976, the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) has helped to recognize, save, revitalize, and protect America's historic places. For more than forty years it has empowered states and local entities to preserve the buildings and sites that tell their community's stories.

The HPF has been used to educate people of all ages, build community pride, and revitalize historic sites. It has also aided in the creation of jobs and strengthened state and local economies.

The HPF provides state and local entities with the resources they need to enable both public and private preservation efforts.

NO TAXPAYER DOLLARS

The HPF allocates a tiny percentage of revenue from federal offshore drilling (non-tax dollars) towards identifying, protecting, and utilizing historic resources. States are required to match at least 40 percent of the funding that they receive from the HPF. The combined funds allow states and tribes to carry out their federally-mandated duties of protecting our historic places and evaluating the impact of federal projects upon them.

It is vital to invest in the HPF so state and local entities will have the resources and tools they need to save America's historic places.

\$162 BILLION IN PRIVATE INVESTMENT

Since 1976, the HPF has facilitated more than 93,000 listings on the National Register of Historic Places, the survey of millions of acres for cultural resources, and leveraged \$162 billion in private investment through the Federal Historic Tax Credit.

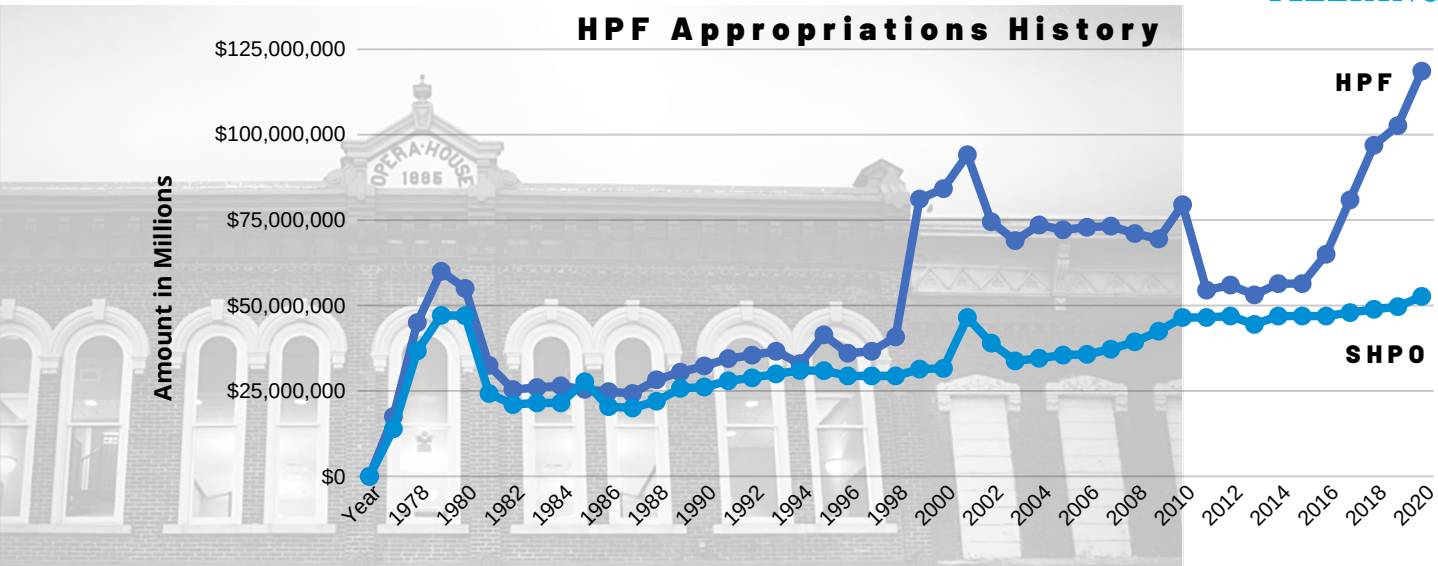
The HPF uses non-tax payer dollars to partner with states and tribes to help save important places in your community and bring local voices to federal decision-making.

ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR THE HPF IS ESSENTIAL FOR RECOGNIZING, PRESERVING, AND UTILIZING OUR NATION'S HISTORIC RESOURCES FOR ALL AMERICANS.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICES



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FY 2021 REQUEST: \$61 MILLION

SHPOs were established in 1966 by the National Historic Preservation Act to administer federal historic preservation programs at the state and local levels. This unique partnership helps communities identify, evaluate, preserve, and revitalize their historic, archeological, and cultural resources. It also encourages heritage tourism, increases economic development, and brings state and local input into the federal decision-making process.

The current funding level is \$52.675 million.

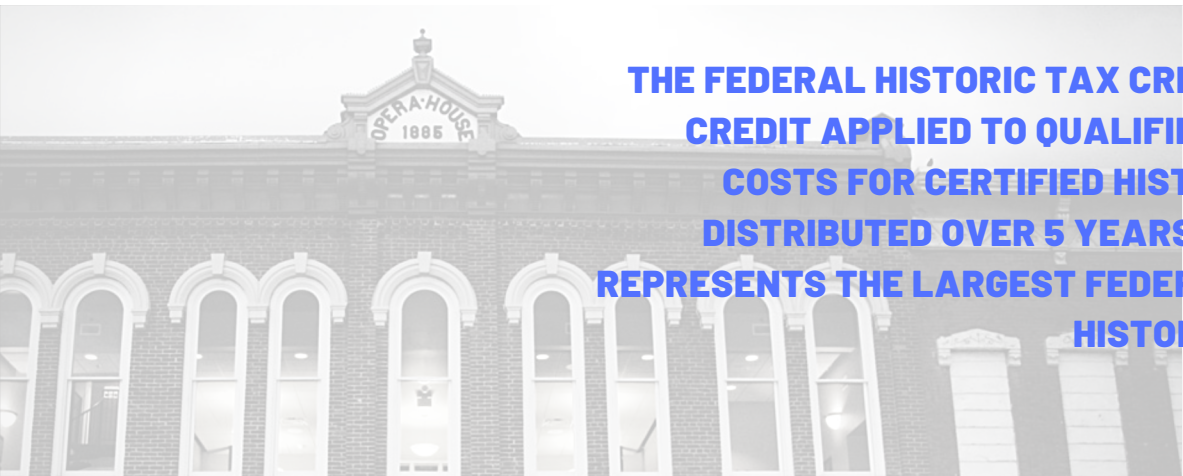
SHPOS AND THPOS ARE THE BACKBONE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN AMERICA AND NEED TO BE APPROPRIATELY FUNDED.

- Increases in SHPO apportionments **have not kept pace** with the overall increase in the HPF. In FY 2016, SHPO apportionments accounted for 72% of the total HPF. In FY 2020, SHPO apportionments account for only 44% of the total HPF. A July 2019 Congressional Research Service report on NPS Appropriations Ten-Year Trends, noted, "The largest activity in the HPF account is grant funding for state historic preservation offices, which declined by 9% in inflation-adjusted terms over the decade.
- States are required to **match 40%** of the money they receive from the HPF.
- In FY18, the Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program, administered primarily by SHPOs, leveraged \$7.4 billion in private investment and created about 129,000 jobs.
- Working under 30-day deadlines, in 2018 SHPOs reviewed and commented on 130,500 Federal undertakings and provided 95,200 National Register eligibility opinions.
- Through the work of SHPOs and the National Park Service, in 2018, 1,017 new listings were added to the National Register of Historic Places.
- More than 1 million Americans live in National Register homes or districts in virtually every county.
- There are more than 2,000 Certified Local Governments (CLG's). Ten percent of SHPO HPF funding is passed through to CLGs.
- In 2018, SHPOs and consultants surveyed more than 19 million acres for cultural resources.

THE FEDERAL HISTORIC TAX CREDIT



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THE FEDERAL HISTORIC TAX CREDIT (HTC) IS A 20% CREDIT APPLIED TO QUALIFIED REHABILITATION COSTS FOR CERTIFIED HISTORIC STRUCTURES, DISTRIBUTED OVER 5 YEARS (4% PER YEAR). IT REPRESENTS THE LARGEST FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

- The HTC encourages private investment in historic buildings.
- The credit attracts private capital—approximately **\$162 billion** since inception—to revitalize often vacant and underutilized properties that have a financing gap between what banks will lend and what the project will cost.
- The credit generates new economic activity. According to the National Park Service HTC Impact Report (2018), since its inception, the rehabilitation of over **44,000 historic buildings** has created more than **2.7 million jobs** and has produced over **166,000 low- and moderate-income affordable housing units**.
- The same study concluded that the HTC returns more to the Treasury than it costs. The HTC has generated **\$35.9 billion in federal tax revenue** from the \$30.8 billion in federal tax credits.
- From 2013 to 2017, 40% of all HTC projects were in **predominantly minority census tracts** (Policy Map, US Census and NPS Data layers, report retrieved January 2019).
- According to the HTC FY2018 Annual Report (NPS), 75% of HTC projects were in **economically distressed areas**.
- **Thirty-seven states** recognize the economic development potential of historic rehabilitation and have enacted individual state HTC programs that work in tandem with the federal program.

CO-SPONSORS NEEDED

CO-SPONSOR THE HISTORIC TAX CREDIT GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (HTC-GO), H.R. 2825/S. 2615

This bi-partisan bill would make important changes to the Historic Tax Credit to encourage **more building reuse** and more redevelopment in **small, midsize, and rural communities**. It would also make the credit **easier to use** and **increase the number** eligible properties:

- Makes it easier to complete small rehabilitation projects by increasing the credit to 30% for projects with less than \$2.5 million in qualified rehabilitation expenses. The House bill (H.R. 2825) would also allow HTCs for these projects to be transferred through a certificate.
- Makes more buildings eligible for HTCs by lowering the substantial rehabilitation threshold.
- Increases the value of HTCs by eliminating the requirement that the value of the HTC must be deducted from a building's basis (property's value for tax purposes).
- Makes the HTC easier to use by non-profit organizations for projects like community health centers, local art centers, and affordable housing, by eliminating IRS restrictions that make it difficult to partner with developers.

Preservation Massachusetts / 617.723.3383 Boston Preservation Alliance / 617.367.2458

Preservation Action/202-463-0970 National Trust for Historic Preservation/202-588-6000

National Trust Community Investment Corporation/202-588-6049 Historic Tax Credit Coalition/202-567-29000

JOIN THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION CAUCUS



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THE CONGRESSIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION CAUCUS WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2003 AS A BIPARTISAN EFFORT TO SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

Co-chaired by Representatives Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) and Mike Turner (R-OH), the Historic Preservation Caucus serves as a forum for members to discuss ways to protect and revitalize America's historic places. The Historic Preservation Caucus is a great place for new and seasoned Representatives to work together to support preservation and economic development by advocating for sensible historic preservation legislation and funding. Preservation Action organizes an annual update event to the Caucus in conjunction with national preservation partner organizations. Every community across America has history - from St. Augustine and Philadelphia to Seneca Falls and Selma, from rural Main Streets to San Francisco. Through programs such as the Federal Historic Tax Credit, historic buildings serve as valuable economic development tools. Heritage tourism, the commercial revitalization of downtowns, and the re-use of historic properties for housing, are only a few of the ways that history comes alive. **The Caucus supports these important initiatives by championing legislation that advances historic preservation throughout the country.**

CURRENT LIST OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION CAUCUS MEMBERS

Alabama Bradley Byrne (R) Martha Roby (R)	Florida Bill Posey (R)	Massachusetts Katherine Clark (D) Stephen Lynch (D) Jim McGovern (D) Richard Neal (D) Joseph Kennedy III (D)	New Hampshire Ann Kuster (D)	Ohio Marcy Kaptur (D) Tim Ryan (D) Steve Stivers (R) Michael Turner (R)	Texas Lloyd Doggett (D) Kay Granger (R) E. Bernice Johnson (D)
Arkansas French Hill (R)	Georgia John Lewis (D) David Scott (D) Buddy Carter (R) Jody Hice (R)	Maryland Anthony Brown (D) Jamie Raskin (D) John Sarbanes (D)	New Jersey Frank Pallone (D) Bill Pascrell (D) Albio Sires (D)	Oklahoma Tom Cole (R)	Utah Rob Bishop (R)
Arizona Raul Grijalva (D) Ruben Gallego (D)	Iowa Dave Loebsack (D)	Maine Chellie Pingree (D)	New Mexico Ben Ray Lujan (D) Deb Haaland (D)	Oregon Earl Blumenauer (D) Peter DeFazio (D)	Virginia Bobby Scott (D) Rob Wittman (R) Don Beyer (D)
California Susan Davis (D) Barbara Lee (D) Doris Matsui (D)	Illinois Danny Davis (D) Janice Schakowsky (D)	Michigan Daniel Kildee (D) Fred Upton (R)	New York Brian Higgins (D) Nita Lowey (D) Carolyn Maloney (D) Sean Maloney (D) Jerrold Nadler (D) Jose Serrano (D) Paul Tonko (D) Antonio Delgado (D) Joe Morelle (D)	Pennsylvania Robert Brady (D) Matt Cartwright (D) Mike Doyle (D) Susan Wild (D)	Virgin Islands Stacey Plaskett (D)
Colorado Diana DeGette (D) Scott Tipton (R) Ed Perlmutter (D)	Indiana Andre Carson (D)	Minnesota Betty McCollum (D) Angie Craig (D)	North Carolina Alma Adams (D) G.K. Butterfield (D) David Price (D)	Rhode Island David Cicilline (D) James Langevin (D)	Vermont Peter Welch (D)
Connecticut Joe Courtney (D) Rosa DeLauro (D) John Larson (D) Jim Himes (D)	Kentucky Andy Barr (R) James Comer (R) Brett Guthrie (R) Hal Rogers (R) John Yarmuth (D)	Missouri Emanuel Cleaver (D)		South Carolina James Clyburn (D) Joe Wilson (R)	Washington Adam Smith (D)
D.C. E. Holmes-Norton (D)	Louisiana Ralph Abraham (R) Cedric Richmond (D)	Nebraska Jeff Fortenberry (R)		Tennessee Steve Cohen (D) Jim Cooper (D) Phil Roe (R)	West Virginia David McKinley (R)
Delaware Lisa Blunt-Rochester (D)				Wisconsin Gwen Moore (D) Mark Pocan (D)	

TO SIGN ON AS A MEMBER OF THE CAUCUS OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

JON BOSWORTH | REP. BLUMENAUER'S OFFICE | 202-225-4811 OR DAN HARE | REP. TURNER'S OFFICE | 202-225-6465

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March XX, 2020

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment and
Related Agencies
2256 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David Joyce
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment and
Related Agencies
1124 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman McCollum and Ranking Member Joyce:

Thank you for your longstanding support for preserving America's special places. We write requesting that you continue this support by appropriating the fully authorized \$150 million in funding for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. Of the total, we request that \$61 million support State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs), \$22 million support Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs), \$18 million fund the Save America's Treasures grant program, \$10 million fund competitive grants for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, \$10,000,000 for the Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization grants, and \$1 million fund a competitive grant program to survey and document historic resources. As part of this request, we also support \$20 million for grants to preserve the sites and stories of efforts to advance African American Civil Rights and \$8 million for the newly established competitive grants programs to preserve the sites and stories associated with securing civil rights for All Americans.

SHPOs and THPOs tie our nation's historic preservation programs together. SHPOs carry out the National Historic Preservation Act, which provides citizens the tools they need to revitalize, rehabilitate, and protect American heritage. In 2018 alone, SHPOs reviewed and commented on 130,500 federal undertakings and provided 95,200 National Register eligibility opinions. SHPOs also administer the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit that has created more than 2.5 million local jobs and leveraged more than \$144 billion in private investment.

THPOs carry out many of the same functions as SHPOs for tribal governments. Just as the SHPOs review federal undertakings on state lands, the THPOs review federal undertakings on tribal government lands. There were only 12 THPOs when they first received funding in 1996. Today, there nearly 200 THPOs, and funding has not kept pace with the growing number of THPOs; in 2019, 187 tribes received an average of \$62,754 in funding, nearly \$20,000 lower than when the program first started.

Funding these historic preservation programs is vital for ensuring that the complete story of America is told. It is an investment in towns and cities throughout the country that benefit from tourists visiting historic sites and the public and private investment in restoring historic buildings. This funding is both an economic and historical imperative that creates jobs and

protects historic resources that might otherwise be lost forever.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress