

# Legislative Update

for State Historic Preservation Officers



## PRESERVATION LEGISLATION

### H.R. 1043/S.584

Community Restoration and Revitalization Act

For a list of co-sponsors, go to:

[www.preservationaction.org/07lobbying/tax.htm](http://www.preservationaction.org/07lobbying/tax.htm)

### HPF APPROPRIATIONS

Continuing Resolution in effect until November 16.

To access legislative information including bill text, summary, and status, go to THOMAS at: <http://thomas.loc.gov>

### HISTORIC PRESERVATION CAUCUS

For a list of members, go to: [www.preservationaction.org/caucus/caucus07.htm](http://www.preservationaction.org/caucus/caucus07.htm)

March 5, 2008

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1. STATE COORDINATORS STILL NEEDED FOR ADVOCACY DAY!
2. DON RYPKEMA ON THE COMMUNITY RESTORATION AND REVITALIZATION ACT

Preservation Advocacy Day was a huge success! "Dear Colleague" letters have been crafted in both the House and the Senate to help us build on our gains from last year, and debuted this past Monday. Copies of these letters are available on Preservation Action's website at:

<http://www.preservationaction.org/08lobbying/dearcolleague.htm>

The letters request funding levels advocated by the preservation community: \$50 million for State Historic Preservation Offices, plus \$5 million for historic resource inventory; \$20 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Offices; \$30 million for Save America's Treasures and \$10 million for Preserve America.

The deadline for the House letter is **March 13**. There is yet no deadline for Senate signatures, but we should move ahead to increase the number we received last year. For a full list of last year's signatories by state, refer to the Congressional Report Card:

<http://www.preservationaction.org/states/3.5.2008report%20card.htm>

If your Representative is a Democrat, ask them to contact Carl Eichenwald in Brad Miller's office (202) 225-3032 to sign on.

If your Representative is a Republican, ask them to contact Joe Heaton in Mike Turner's office (202) 225-6465 to sign on.

If your Senator is a Democrat, ask them to contact Erin Collinson in Richard Durbin's office at (202) 224-2152.

If your Senator is a Republican, ask them to contact Patrick Woodcock in Olympia Snowe's office at (202) 224-5344.

Advocates should seek signatures as one way to ensure the Interior Appropriations Subcommittees consider us a priority this year. The House's Subcommittee will consider funding for historic preservation, among other Interior programs, on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Last year, there was no hearing in the Senate.

## 2) Building Support for the Historic Preservation Fund: What SHPOs Can Do To Help

Preservation Action's 501c3 sister organization, the Center for Preservation Initiatives, has been expanding its training materials into a series of Grassroots Guides to key issues and methods for advocates. The Grassroots Guide to the Community Restoration and Revitalization Act debuted a few months ago, and the Grassroots Guide to Congress, including tips and explanations of frequently asked questions, is now available. Both were included within Advocacy Day's expanded briefing materials.

Preservation Action is now working on a Grassroots Guide to the Historic Preservation Fund. The HPF Guide will be approximately 16 pages long and include information such as:

A narrative timeline of funding for the HPF keyed to pivotal events that impacted our funding levels.

Charts showing growth in demand for SHPO and THPO services relative to funding levels and cost of living increases.

Tips for advocating for SHPO and THPO funding. (Though Save America's Treasures and Preserve America will be included within this guide, the focus will be preservation offices.)

An illustrated breakdown of SHPO and THPO functions, with first person narratives from beneficiaries.

Excerpts from the National Academy of Public Administration report, Preserve America Summit recommendations, and feedback from legislators and committee staff about SHPO and THPO funding.

SHPOs can contribute to these educational materials by considering the following two questions and submitting your response to Heather MacIntosh, Preservation Action's President:

What opportunities have been missed because your office simply didn't have enough capacity? Related to this, what would you do with increased capacity?

Send your response to [hmacintosh@preservationaction.org](mailto:hmacintosh@preservationaction.org).

The Grassroots Guide to the Historic Preservation Fund is due out in May. The Guide will be updated periodically as needed, but is designed to be a base of information to support more effective advocacy for the HPF now and in coming years.

*The National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers is the professional association of State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) who carry out the national historic preservation program as delegates of the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Membership in the NCSHPO is limited to states and territories.*

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*The NCSHPO Weekly Legislative Update is available only to members of the NCSHPO. An update archive is located in the Members Only section of the NCSHPO website. You will need a user name and password to access this section; email [Harbeson@sso.org](mailto:Harbeson@sso.org) for this information.*