

May 17, 2022

TO: Senator Carla Nelson, Chair
Representative Paul Marquart, Chair
and Members of the Taxes Conference Committee

FROM: Kent Whitworth, Director and CEO, Minnesota Historical Society

RE: Historic Preservation Tax Credit Sunset Extension



As you consider options for provisions for the 2022 Tax Conference Committee, the Minnesota Historical Society requests your consideration of an extension of the Historic Preservation Tax Credit. This successful program has a strong track record of preserving our communities and making a significant contribution to our state's economic well-being.

Since its passage in 2010, this incentive has helped to create thousands of good paying, labor-intensive jobs, while stimulating our construction economy and spreading economic benefits through communities across Minnesota. In addition, since many of the projects that have successfully used the historic tax credit have done so with projects that include housing, this credit can help to solve one of our state's most serious challenges.

As importantly, this program has helped to preserve historic places across the state. In Minnesota, we have had a mixed track record of preserving our past. Historic places can help to teach us about our past and can serve as a connecting point between the past and the present. We learn from our surroundings, and having incentives to preserve these resources helps to reinforce the power of place in building and maintaining our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of the extension of the Historic Preservation Tax Credit.