

February 19, 2013

The Honorable Michael Turner  
Rayburn House Office Building  
Room 2239  
Independence & S. Capital St., SW  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rush Holt  
Longworth House Office Building  
Room 1214  
Independence & New Jersey Ave.'s, SE  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Messrs. Turner and Mr. Holt:

On behalf of Preservation Action, a national grassroots advocacy organization focused on federal historic preservation policy, I would like to commend your leadership in pursuing and introducing the *Historic Homeownership Revitalization Act of 2013*. We are pleased to endorse this piece of legislation.

For many years, the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit (HRTC) program has been available for the rehabilitation of commercial buildings in communities nationwide. This important tool has been critical to the revitalization of buildings and commercial corridors in small towns and cities alike. A tremendous economic stimulator, in 2012 alone, the HRTC generated over \$5.3 billion in private investment and created more than 57,000 new jobs.

What has been missing, however, is a similar program to benefit homeowners or developers of for-sale housing. As many communities struggle to rehabilitate and revitalize historic downtown areas and neighborhoods, it has been readily apparent that commercial interests are only half of the equation. By allowing a similar tax credit for homeowners, we can provide a complete set of tools necessary to bring vitality and stability to neighborhoods, increase private investment, increase local tax bases, improve living conditions, and preserve our heritage - all at the same time. We can also prevent the widespread demolition and disposal of building materials far superior to what could be afforded today.

We applaud your efforts and encourage all members of the House to support this bill.

Sincerely,



Erik M. Hein  
President, Preservation Action