Why a guide for federal-level policy?

Understanding policy at the Federal level can be an intimidating task, especially when many bills include items that do not directly impact historic preservation. Additionally, most bills contain language that is confusing. We hope this guide will not only inform our membership on how to engage their Members of Congress but will also motivate our members to become more active in shaping preservation policy.

Outside of Preservation Action, your local preservation office or non-profit is a great place to gain additional knowledge.

Who is Preservation Action?

Preservation Action is a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization created in 1974 to serve as the national grassroots lobby for historic preservation. Preservation Action seeks to make historic preservation a national priority by advocating to all branches of the federal government for sound preservation policy and programs through a grassroots constituency empowered with information and training and through direct contact with elected representatives.

Visit our website to learn more. www.preservationaction.org
Who is my Representative? Who are my Senators?

Scan the QR code with your smart phone, or click the links below to find out who your Representative and Senators are.

The QR code and links will also include instructions on how to find the contact information for staffers in your Representative’s and Senators’ offices. Remember, you have two senators, and at times, your Representative and Senators may have multiple field offices. You may be able to make an immediate connection by contacting these offices first.

When contacting your Representative’s and Senators’ offices, ask for a staffer that focuses on historic preservation policy, infrastructure, or Department of the Interior related items.

DID YOU KNOW THERE IS A CAUCUS FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION?

The Historic Preservation Caucus, formed in 2003, brings together members of Congress who understand the value of America’s historic places. Its members support and encourage preservation and thoughtful economic development in their states, districts, and territories as a matter of national policy.

DID YOU KNOW THERE IS AN EASY WAY TO STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED?

Contacting your Representative or Senators often will ensure that you receive updates from their office and invitations to in-district or virtual town hall meetings. Scan this QR code to sign up for Legislative Updates, which often include pre-written text you can share with your Representative or Senators!
What are the steps required to pass a bill in Congress?

1. **Bill is drafted by Congress or Administration**
2. **Introduced in House**
   - **Committee Action/Hearings**
   - **Vote to Report Bill**
   - **Floor Activity, Debate, Rules Committee, Vote**
3. **Introduced in Senate**
   - **Committee Action/Hearings**
   - **Vote to Report Bill**
   - **Floor Activity, Debate, Vote**
4. **Conference Vote**
5. **President Signs or Vetoes**
6. **Law Printed, Codified**
7. **Regulatory Activity**
Absolutely! Establishing a relationship between Members of Congress and your community is key to the advancement of sound preservation policy. Preservation Action has a number of resources on our website including information and recent impacts of the Federal Rehabilitative Tax Credit, the Historic Preservation Caucus, recently completed Tax Credit Projects (our "In My District" Campaign) and other preservation programs and initiatives. For more information visit our Action Center!

**Take Action! Share Your Story!**

If you don’t share your views with your legislators, then who will? Use the hashtags: #hpadvocacy #historicpreservation or #preservationonthehill and don’t forget to tag @preservationaction on social media.

**Join Preservation Action**

Preservation Action will provide members with language through our Advocacy Tool and our weekly Legislative Updates. As a Preservation Action member, you can also send your Representative or Senators any published Preservation Action documents that are needed. These may include one-pagers on the Historic Tax Credit, Historic Preservation Caucus, etc.