



DEAR FRIEND OF MAINE PRESERVATION:

Please see this excellent article from *Mainebiz* on the new Historic Tax Credit Improvement Act. Many of our supporters as well as members of MEREDA, Maine Development Foundation, GrowSmart Maine, The Nature Conservancy Maine Chapter, Greater Portland Landmarks and the Downtown Association of Maine have contacted our delegation to ask them to co-sponsor this legislation. Please call today!

Mainebiz
MAINE'S BUSINESS NEWS SOURCE



Sen. Collins pushes bill to enhance federal historic tax credits

To view the article please click here: <http://www.mainebiz.biz/article/20170224/NEWS01/170229962>

In this time of major change in Washington, you can help us make sure that innovative preservation continues to flourish in Maine and across the U.S.!

Majority members of the House Ways and Means Committee are meeting in D.C. to simplify the tax code. Early reports suggest that **retaining the indispensable federal Historic Tax Credit (HTC) may not be part of their proposal.**

This threatens countless preservation projects in Maine and nationwide!

In Maine, the **federal Historic Tax Credit**, coupled with our state credit, has made dozens of rehabilitations feasible. These credits have enabled **75 projects** to move forward, with **total investment costs exceeding \$400 million**. That has translated to more than **5,000 construction jobs** and **1,200 much-needed rental units**. Maine Preservation has fostered and aided these projects, which have been transformative in communities throughout Maine, including Biddeford & Saco, Norway, Dover-Foxcroft, Lewiston, and Portland.

Without the federal credit, such investment could come to a halt.

Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) is lead co-sponsor of the **Historic Tax Credit Improvement Act, S. 425**, along with Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) (the House companion is **H.R. 1158**). These bills were introduced on Thursday 2/16/17. Passage would improve the use of the federal credit, particularly for small projects in states like Maine. This bill shows the bipartisan support for the historic tax credit.

Communicating the importance of retaining the federal historic tax credit to your members of Congress is essential. **Please contact Senator King and Representative Pingree or Poliquin listed here to encourage them to sign on as a co-sponsor of this bill to support the federal Historic Tax Credit.** You can make a difference!

Please do the following today:

- **Contact Senator Collins's office** – telephone: Washington DC [\(202\)224-2523](tel:(202)224-2523) (leave a message); Augusta [\(207\) 622-8414](tel:(207)622-8414); Bangor (207) 945-0417; Biddeford - (207) 283-1101; Caribou 493-7873; Lewiston - [784-6969](tel:(207)784-6969); Portland - [780-3575](tel:(207)780-3575) or email: <https://www.collins.senate.gov/contact>
 - State your name, business and that the purpose of the call is the federal historic tax credit
 - Thank Senator Collins for again being lead co-sponsor of the Historic Tax Credit Improvement Act
 - Tell her how important the continued employment of the federal credit and its improvement are to Maine – 5,000 jobs, new businesses, housing
- **Contact Representative Poliquin's office** – telephone: Washington DC - [\(202\) 225-6306](tel:(202)225-6306); Bangor - [\(207\) 942-0583](tel:(207)942-0583); Lewiston - [\(207\) 784-0768](tel:(207)784-0768) or email: <https://poliquin.house.gov/contact/email>
 - State your name, business and that the purpose of the call is the federal historic tax credit
 - Tell him how important continued employment of the federal credit and its improvement are to Maine – 5,000+ jobs, new businesses, housing
 - Note that while he was State Treasurer, the Republican Legislature and Governor LePage extended the State historic tax credit
 - The same Historic Tax Credit Improvement Act, H.R. 1158 was introduced in the House Thursday 2/16/17 and Senate with Sen Collins lead co-sponsor. The lead sponsor in the House is Rep. Kelly (R-PA). This bill will facilitate the completion of more projects in Maine. Urge Rep Poliquin to contact Rep Kelly and sign on as a co-sponsor.
- **Contact Senator King's office** – telephone: Washington D.C. [\(202\) 224-5344](tel:(202)224-5344) (leave message); Augusta - [\(207\) 622-8292](tel:(207)622-8292); Bangor - [\(207\) 945-8000](tel:(207)945-8000); Presque Isle - [\(207\) 764-5124](tel:(207)764-5124); Scarborough - [\(207\) 883-1588](tel:(207)883-1588) or email: <https://www.king.senate.gov/contact>
 - State your name, business and that the purpose of the call is the federal historic tax credit
 - Tell him how important the continued employment of the federal credit and its improvement are to Maine – 5,000+ jobs, new businesses, housing
 - Note that a Democratic Governor and legislature passed the State historic credit in 2008 and the Republican Legislature and Governor extended the State historic tax credit in 2011. We need something bipartisan at this time.
 - Tell him that the same Historic Tax Credit Improvement Act, S. 425, was introduced in both the Senate and House on Thursday February 17th. Urge Senator King to sign on as a co-sponsor.

- **Contact Representative Pingree's office** – telephone: Washington DC - [\(202\) 225-6116](tel:(202)225-6116); Portland - [\(207\) 774-5019](tel:(207)774-5019); Waterville [\(207\) 873-5713](tel:(207)873-5713) or email: <https://pingree.house.gov/contact/email-me>
 - State your name, business and that the purpose of the call is the federal historic tax credit
 - Tell how important the continued employment of the federal credit and its improvement are to Maine – 5,000+ jobs, new businesses, 1,000 affordable housing units created or upgraded
 - Thank her for being a co-sponsor in past years and ask her to co-sponsor again. Tell her that the same Historic Tax Credit Improvement Act was introduced in both the House (H.R. 1158) and Senate on Thursday February 17th with Sen Collins a lead sponsor. Urge Rep Pingree to again sign on as a co-sponsor.

Thank you!