

MOTORCITIES NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. 10

A Resolution in Support of **House Bill 5430** for the Expansion of the Michigan State Historic Preservation Tax Credits Established under Public Act 343 of 2020.

WHEREAS, the historic buildings, residential neighborhoods, traditional downtowns, and older manufacturing facilities in Michigan's cities, towns, villages, and rural areas distinguish each community and provide character, beauty, and a sense of place that contribute to the quality of life enjoyed by each community and its residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the preservation and rehabilitation of these historic buildings, residential neighborhoods, traditional downtowns, and older manufacturing facilities contribute to the economic vitality of Michigan's cities, towns, villages, and rural areas; and

WHEREAS, Michigan greatly benefitted from the state historic preservation tax credit program available from 1999-2011 that leveraged \$71 M in credits to generate \$1.46 B of investment in rehabilitation projects, leveraged \$251 M in federal tax credits that brought back federal dollars that would not otherwise have returned to the state, created 36,000 jobs, and resulted in each \$1.00 of credit leveraging \$10.56 in direct economic impact; and

WHEREAS, preservationists have succeeded in keeping traditional downtowns and neighborhoods vibrant, returning valuable real estate to local and state tax rolls, attracting both young professionals and retirees – and everyone in between – to authentic, walkable places that become cultural centers for their regions and heritage tourism destinations; and

WHEREAS, preservation projects are recognized for advancing sustainability by keeping demolition waste out of landfills, curbing urban sprawl by utilizing existing infrastructure, eliminating the carbon released during both demolition and new construction, conserving the embodied energy invested during initial construction, retro-fitting older buildings to make them energy efficient, and recycling all kinds of historic buildings for new uses; and

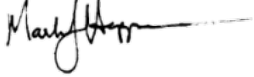
WHEREAS, the MotorCities National Heritage Area Partnership, Inc. has awarded over \$560,000 in revitalization grants for automotive heritage related buildings, factories, homes, and other facilities to the economic and cultural benefit of communities such as Detroit, Flint, Pontiac, Dearborn, Ypsilanti, Milford, Lansing, Rochester, Chelsea, White Lake Township and Shelby Township; and

WHEREAS, the historic preservation tax credit is the only program singularly focused on the state's oldest real estate that often exhibits the most intractable problems deemed too risky for traditional financing, providing a program underpinned by the simple provision of tax credits made available only after the owner has incurred all the risk, covered all the costs, and returned their property to use; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Legislature presently is considering House Bill 5430 that will increase the annual credits from \$5 M to \$100 M made available to owners of both historic incoming-producing and residential properties who complete their work in keeping with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the MotorCities National Heritage Area Partnership, Inc. supports House Bill 5430 and calls upon the Michigan Legislature to vote approval of this important legislation and Gov. Whitmer to sign it, to stimulate economic development while also protecting irreplaceable historic buildings and enhancing the quality-of-life in Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary is authorized to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Michigan Historic Preservation Network.



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Mark Heppner, Chairman of the Board

DATE

The above Resolution was adopted at the Regular meeting of the MotorCities National Heritage Area Board of Directors held on June 18, 2024



28/06/2024

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Mallory Bower, Secretary of the Board

DATE

Cc: House Committee on Tax Policy