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Projects that Successfully used Michigan State Tax Credits before they were discontinued in 2011. The images above include a private residence in Grand Rapids, the Masonic Temple and Adams Building in Sault Ste. Marie, and the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit.

ACTION ALERT

Reinstatement of Historic Preservation Tax Credit Introduced in Michigan Senate.

A bill to reinstate the Michigan Historic Preservation Tax Credit has been introduced in the state Senate. Senate Bill 469, sponsored by Sen. Wayne Schmidt (R-37, Traverse City), would reinstate the popular program that offers a credit of up to 25 percent of rehab expenses against state income tax.

The tax credit, which was an integral part of restoration projects from Detroit to Menominee, was phased out in 2011 as part of the Snyder administration's plan to eliminate most tax carve-out programs. In its 11-year life, the credit leveraged \$71 million

in credits to generate more than \$1.46 billion in investment in Michigan rehabilitation projects. It leveraged an additional \$219 million in federal tax credits and led to the creation of 36,000 jobs.

Sen. Schmidt's bill will bring back one of the most valuable tools to level the financial playing field for historic preservation projects – and the only tool available for those restoring owner-occupied homes. Historic preservation projects have been a key part of nearly every successful “revitalization” story in Michigan, and have helped make Michigan places more attractive, more economically viable and more emotionally engaging with both residents and visitors. This tax credit is a powerful tool to save historic resources and the communities they are in.

Requested Action

1. Reach out to your State Senator or Representative. Call to set up a meeting to discuss the Historic Tax Credit Bill and the value to your community, while they are in their Districts this summer. Attend one of their Summer Coffee Meetings or Town Halls or set up a personal meeting while they are in District.
2. Write or email the offices of your State Senator or Representative and ask to speak to tax staff or staff contacts you have in offices. Tell the people you speak to why you believe the tax credit is an important tool to help build stronger and more prosperous communities (see “Resources” below). Use examples from your own community.
3. If your Senator is in the Senate Finance Committee, where SB 469 has been assigned,, ask him or her to speak in favor of this bill when it comes before the Committee. Ask for your comments or correspondence to be read into the Committee's record.
4. If your Senator is not on the Senate Finance Committee, ask that he or she please contact Sen. Jack Brandenburg, Finance Committee Chair, and express their support for bringing this bill to the Senate floor.

Resources

[Senate Bill 469](#)

[Michigan State Senate lookup](#)

[Senate Finance Committee membership](#)

[State Representatives Summer Coffee Meetings](#)

[Michigan Historic Preservation Tax Credit Press Release](#)

[Michigan Historic Preservation Tax Credit Success Stories](#)

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