



September 20, 2021

The Honorable Joe Manchin III
Chairman

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso
Ranking Member

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Manchin and Ranking Member Barrasso:

The American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA), the national association for companies that specialize in cultural resources management (CRM), expresses its strong support for the nomination of Sara Bronin as Chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP).

ACRA is a trade organization, the member firms of which undertake many of the CRM studies and investigations required for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and employ thousands of CRM professionals, including archaeologists, architectural historians, historians and an increasingly diverse group of other specialists. Using free market business practices, ACRA firms deploy skilled teams to serve clients and communities while fulfilling ethical, professional, and legal commitments to cultural resources and the public. Their work empowers communities with a voice in development and regulatory processes.

The ACHP plays a unique and vital role in the protection and preservation of America's historic and cultural heritage. It supports the preservation activities of federal agencies, advises the President and Congress on legislative and regulatory issues that impact federal preservation, and oversees the Section 106 review process established by the National Historic Preservation Act. Section 106 requires agencies to consider the impact of projects they carry out, fund or approve. As such, the ACHP demands a Chair who not only understands the importance of preservation, but is adept at working collaboratively with diverse constituencies within and beyond government to protect our heritage.

Professor Bronin has demonstrated that she is more than qualified to assume this role. As an architect and attorney, she understands how preservation policy intersects with real-world efforts to protect historic assets while building more vibrant communities. Her successful leadership of the City of Hartford's initiative to adopt a climate action plan, city plan, and zoning code overhaul shows her ability to navigate complex policy and legal issues to achieve positive results. And through her leadership with Latinos in Heritage Conservation and as founder of Desegregate Connecticut, Professor Bronin has shown her dedication to fostering equitable communities and a preservation process that engages all voices.

Professor Bronin has demonstrated a life-long commitment to historic preservation and policies that support the protection of our nation's heritage. She will bring distinguished and effective leadership to the ACHP, and we urge the Committee to approve her nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel F. Cassidy". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Daniel Cassidy
President
American Cultural Resources Association

cc: Members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee