September 12, 2022

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senate Majority Leader Schumer and Senate Minority Leader McConnell,

The National Trust for Historic Preservation strongly supports President Biden’s June 2021 nomination of Dr. Sara Bronin to the position of Chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. We write today to urge floor consideration following the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources’ favorable recommendation in March 2022.

Dr. Bronin has demonstrated a strong commitment to historic preservation law and policymaking through her scholarship on historic preservation, architecture, land use, and property law. We believe Dr. Bronin’s experience well qualifies her to carry out the duties of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in making recommendations to the President and Congress on how best to preserve, enhance, and sustainably use our nation’s historic resources.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a private nonprofit organization, was chartered by Congress in 1949 to “facilitate public participation” in the preservation of our nation’s heritage and to further the historic preservation policy of the United States. In addition, the National Trust has been designated by Congress as a member of the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, which is responsible for working with federal agencies to implement compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

In carrying out these responsibilities, the National Trust and its subsidiaries are committed to protecting places representing a broad and inclusive historic narrative and effectively utilizing preservation as a tool for advancing the full scope of our nation’s history. In this context, we look forward to the important perspectives Dr. Bronin brings from her experience as a board member of Latinos in Heritage Conservation and the leader of the Connecticut Zoning Atlas. Her roles as a Professor of the Cornell College of Architecture, Art, and Planning, an Associated Faculty Member of the Cornell Law School, and a Faculty Fellow of the Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability further demonstrate her impressive expertise in historic preservation, land use, and property law.

We are also grateful for Dr. Bronin’s service as an advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The National Trust Advisors Program is a select network of civic and professional preservation leaders, recognized for their expertise and experience, who use their knowledge and skills to support the work of the organization specifically and the preservation movement broadly.

1 See 54 U.S.C. § 312102(a)
2 Id., §§ 304101(8), 304108(a)
We look forward to working with Dr. Bronin as Chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and continuing the National Trusts’ more than seventy-year history of working with the Advisory Council. We urge swift floor consideration of her nomination.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Paul W. Edmondson
President & CEO
National Trust for Historic Preservation