



November 17, 2020

The Honorable Mike Quigley  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Financial Services  
and General Government  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the 6,000 members of the Chicago-based Society of American Archivists, we write to thank you for your support of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission in the FY2021 Financial Services and General Government appropriations bill. As the oldest and largest professional organization of archivists in North America, SAA recognizes the critical importance of this funding for the Commission.

We must safeguard our nation's archives to ensure that we pass from one generation to the next the evidence of past events, our record of progress, and the values that we as a society uphold. NHPRC, which is the grant-making arm of the National Archives and Records Administration, is the *only* federal program whose specific purpose is to help us meet this national obligation by funding critical projects to preserve non-federal records.

The agency's program demonstrates an effective and efficient approach to ensuring that documentation of the nation's social, cultural, economic, scientific, and political experience is available to future generations. NHPRC grants require grantee institutions to contribute cost-sharing of at least 50%. This funding model not only ensures the grantee's commitment, but also encourages effective collaboration and operational efficiencies and acts as a stimulus to spur investments from the private sector as well as state and local governments.

Thank you for your long-standing commitment to NHPRC and your support for \$7 million in funding for the Commission in FY 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Rachel Vagts'.

Rachel Vagts, President, 2020-2021