



**National Trust for
Historic Preservation[®]**

Save the past. Enrich the future.

April 15, 2019

The Honorable Joanne Osborne
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 W. Washington Street, Room 112
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: HB 2701 – Reestablishing the Arizona State Parks Heritage Fund

Dear Rep. Osborne:

On behalf of the 867 members of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Arizona, we want to thank you for your leadership in introducing HB 2701, legislation which would use proceeds from the Arizona Lottery to restore funding for the State Parks Board Heritage Fund.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a privately-funded charitable, educational and nonprofit organization chartered by Congress in 1949 in order to “facilitate public participation in historic preservation” and to further the purposes of federal historic preservation laws.¹ The intent of Congress was for the National Trust “to mobilize and coordinate public interest, participation and resources in the preservation and interpretation of sites and buildings.”² With headquarters in Washington, D.C., nine field offices, 27 historic sites, more than one million members and supporters and a national network of partners in states, territories, and the District of Columbia, the National Trust works to save America’s historic places and advocates for historic preservation as a fundamental value in programs and policies at all levels of government.

From the time Arizona voters approved its creation in 1990 until its repeal during the 2008 economic downturn, the State Parks Heritage Fund served the state well with dedicated funding for parks, outdoor recreation, open space, trails, outdoor and environmental education, and historic preservation. With a dedicated source of revenue from the Arizona Lottery, funding for the State Parks Heritage Fund will not increase costs to the taxpayer. Historic restoration grants from the Fund helped preserve important parts of Arizona’s cultural heritage, places like the Riordan Mansion in Flagstaff, the Tombstone Courthouse, Mission San Xavier del Bac in Tucson and the historic Yuma Crossing. In establishing the State Parks Heritage Fund,

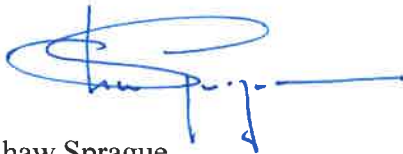
¹ 54 U.S.C. §§ 312102(a), 320101.

Arizona's elected officials recognized the important role that state parks, recreation and historic sites have in spurring economic development, creating jobs, attracting tourism and revitalizing our urban and rural communities.

We were very encouraged that HB 2701 passed the House with significant support and is now under consideration in the Senate. The National Trust looks forward to supporting the legislation through the legislative process and seeing funding restored for the State Parks Board Heritage Fund.

Again, on behalf of our members and supporters in Arizona, we thank you for all your efforts.

Sincerely,



Shaw Sprague
Senior Director of Government Relations

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