

Submitter: Carrie Richter

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Tax Expenditures

Measure: HB2079

Honorable Committee Members,

Please accept this concise testimony in support of HB 2079. The existing financial incentives in place to encourage protection of cultural and community treasures is a one-size fits-all approach that fails to recognize current challenges facing owners, tenants and other stakeholders. Whether a preservation grant is needed to overcome the increased cost of restoring and weatherizing residential wood windows or a tax credit to cover seismic upgrades or ADA retrofits to adaptively convert a school or office building into residential use, a more nuanced approach is essential to achieving results. Protecting our built environment not only memorializes experience and culture, it drives tourism dollars to rural communities through Main Streets, and it keeps useable building materials out of the landfill. Please support us in expanding the tent to meaningfully prioritize incentives increasing the likelihood that underrepresented resources will be protected. Please support HB 2079.

Sincerely,
Carrie Richter