

**CITY OF MONROE  
RESOLUTION**

In Support Of the Reinstatement of Michigan Historic Tax Credits  
Via Senate Bill 54 and House Bill 4100

**WHEREAS**, the City of Monroe, Michigan is one of the oldest communities in the state and steeped in a long and rich history still evident and relevant today; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Monroe is site of one the bloodiest battles of the War of 1812 and in 2009 River Raisin National Battlefield Park was established as the 393rd unit of the United States National Park Service; and

**WHEREAS**, the areas comprehensive River Raisin Heritage Corridor Plan seeks to maximize the City of Monroe's historical, environmental and cultural assets contribute to Michigan's heritage tourism, economic growth, and improved quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the historic buildings, neighborhoods and places in Michigan villages, towns and cities distinguish each community and provide character and a sense of place that contribute significantly to the quality of life and the economic benefits enjoyed in and by each community; and

**WHEREAS**, the preservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings, places and neighborhoods contributes to the beauty, character, and economic vitality of Michigan communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, preserved structures and buildings provides touchstones to preserved stories of our collective past informing a more beneficial and inspired future; and,

**WHEREAS**, the labor-intensive nature of historic rehabilitation creates jobs and investment in local businesses and has been proven to generate more economic activity than equivalent investment in new construction; and

**WHEREAS**, demolition or destruction of historic buildings creates costs to Michigan and its communities by destroying the often-irreplaceable construction and ornamental materials of each structure and by adding significantly to landfills, whose makeup is estimated to be more than 40 percent building materials and waste; and

**WHEREAS**, development and redevelopment within established villages, townships and cities is encouraged by Governor Whitmer; and

**WHEREAS**, many public policies and financial and lending practices and policies create disincentives or barriers to the preservation, renovation and rehabilitation of historic buildings and resources and create a preferential financial environment for new construction; and

**WHEREAS**, Michigan has measured the economic impacts of the former Michigan Historic Tax Credit programs between their enactment in 1999 and their elimination in 2011 and seen significant positive direct impacts on the revitalization of neighborhoods and communities, the preservation and creation of affordable and market-rate housing, the creation of skilled local jobs, and the subsequent private investment in areas surrounding tax-credit-driven revitalization projects; and

**WHEREAS**, each \$1.00 of credit issued leverages \$11.37 in direct economic impact, such that the former Michigan Historic Tax Credit programs during their twelve-year history have leveraged \$251 million in Federal historic tax credits that otherwise would not have returned to Michigan, spurred \$1.46 billion in direct rehabilitation activity, and created 36,000 jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Monroe has lost many significant historic structures and buildings due partially in part to the lack of viable economic incentive and return; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Legislature is presently considering Senate Bill 54 and House Bill 4100 that would reinstate an up-to-25 percent investment tax credit for owners of historic residential and commercial properties who substantially rehabilitate their properties;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

The Monroe City Council of the City of Monroe endorses and supports both Senate Bill 54 and House Bill 4100 and calls upon the Michigan Legislature to pass this important legislation and Governor Whitmer to sign it, in order to stimulate appropriate development and redevelopment and protect the historic character and quality of life of our communities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

A copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Michigan Historic Preservation Network, State Representative Joseph Bellino and State Senator Dale Zorn.

Motion by Council Member Vining  
Seconded by Council Member Lamour  
Ayes: 7      Nays: 0

I, Michelle J. LaVoy, City Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Monroe, State of Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is an exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the City Council of said City, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 15th day of April, 2019.

  
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Michelle J. LaVoy  
City Clerk-Treasurer

