



736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521

City Manager (707) 822-5953	Police 822-2428	Recreation 822-7091
Community Development 822-5955	Finance 822-5951	Transportation 822-3775
Environmental Services Streets/Utilities 822-5957	Environmental Services Community Services 822-8184	Engineering & Building 825-2128

September 19, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building, 1st Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 451 (Atkins) Personal Income and Corporation Taxes: Credits: Rehabilitation of Certified Historic Structures—Notice of SUPPORT and Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Arcata supports SB 451, a bill that will authorize a 20 percent state income tax credit for the rehabilitation of certified historic structures. Preserving the integrity of local historic structures serves not only as an important acknowledgement to our city's rich past, but as a way for entire communities to benefit from the economic development of such properties.

The tax credits provided by SB 451 will incentivize the restoration of neglected and underused buildings in communities across California. Restoring these buildings will create local construction-industry jobs and increase local revenues by adding property value as well as provide for the restoration of buildings that include affordable housing, transit-oriented development and improve the safety of our historic buildings.

The City of Arcata has a great interest in the rehabilitation and preservation of historic homes and businesses. Our General Plan Historical Preservation Element seeks to incentivize private investment in historic structures by allowing adaptive reuse, Mills Act tax incentives, and local land marking. Despite the City's interest in preserving these resources that, though privately held, are an amenity to the entire community, historic rehabilitation is often cost prohibitive. There are several homes and businesses in Arcata that would be restored, preserved, and honored by the owners and our community if this bill passes.

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State Historic Tax Credits make historic rehabilitation financially feasible, leverage significant private investment, and are consistently a strong return on state investments. We look forward to joining the 35 other states that have successful state historic tax credit programs and seek your support.

Thank you for your commitment to preserving California's heritage through your support of SB 451.

Sincerely,



Brett Watson
Mayor

cc:

Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins, VIA FAX: (916) 651-4939 & (619) 645-3144
Senator Mike McGuire, Senator.McGuire@senate.ca.gov & VIA FAX: (916) 651-4902
Congressman Jared Huffman, John.Driscoll@mail.house.gov
Assembly Member Jim Wood, VIA FAX: (707) 445-6607 & (916) 319-2102
California Preservation Foundation, cpf@californiapreservation.org
Sara Sanders, League Regional Public Affairs Manager, sanders@cacities.org
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, cityletters@cacities.org