

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7179

To amend chapter 3029 of title 54, United States Code, to establish the
Historic Preservation Workforce Development Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 21, 2026

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ (for himself and Mr. SOTO) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend chapter 3029 of title 54, United States Code,
to establish the Historic Preservation Workforce Develop-
ment Program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Historic Infrastructure
5 Management and Jobs Training Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. HISTORIC PRESERVATION WORKFORCE DEVELOP-**
7 **MENT PROGRAM.**

8 (a) PROGRAM.—Chapter 3029 of title 54, United
9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

1 **“§ 302911. Historic Preservation Workforce Develop-**
2 **ment grants**

3 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary
4 shall establish a competitive grant program (referred to
5 in this section as the ‘Program’) to support workforce
6 training, apprenticeships, and skilled trade development
7 related to the preservation and conservation of historic
8 properties and objects (including records) of historical,
9 cultural, architectural, or archaeological significance re-
10 lated to such historic properties.

11 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—In carrying out the Pro-
12 gram, the Secretary may award grants to the following
13 entities for eligible projects described in subsection (c):

14 “(1) States, territories, local governments, In-
15 dian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

16 “(2) Public or nonprofit organizations with
17 demonstrated experience in historic preservation.

18 “(3) Accredited educational institutions offering
19 programs or training relevant to historic preserva-
20 tion or conservation fields.

21 “(c) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—To be eligible for fund-
22 ing under the Program, a project carried out by an eligible
23 entity under subsection (b) shall—

24 “(1) focus on historic properties or other cul-
25 tural resources, including archaeological resources,
26 that require specialized preservation skills due to

1 age, materials, methods of construction, or historical
2 significance;

3 “(2) establish or expand workforce education,
4 training, or apprenticeship programs that teach spe-
5 cialized skills necessary to preserve, conserve, sta-
6 bilize, document, or maintain such historic prop-
7 erties or cultural resources, including training re-
8 lated to—

9 “(A) historic masonry, timber framing,
10 and structural systems;

11 “(B) decorative finishes, plaster, tile, orna-
12 mental woodwork, and metalwork;

13 “(C) conservation of archival, paper-based,
14 or photographic materials; or

15 “(D) archaeological stabilization, docu-
16 mentation, and materials conservation; and

17 “(3) if the project involves a skilled trade (as
18 defined under section 520.300 of title 29, Code of
19 Federal Regulations)—

20 “(A) comply with the standards recognized
21 by the Department of Labor, including coordi-
22 nation with or registration under the Office of
23 Apprenticeship; and

24 “(B) be carried out consistent with appli-
25 cable collective bargaining agreements.

1 “(d) PRIORITY CONSIDERATIONS.—In awarding
2 grants under the Program, the Secretary shall give pri-
3 ority to projects that—

4 “(1) serve areas with high unemployment rates
5 relative to the national average; and

6 “(2) train or place workers in areas with lim-
7 ited existing preservation expertise, including rural
8 or underserved communities.

9 “(e) ADMINISTRATION.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may adopt
11 rules, guidance, or application procedures necessary
12 to carry out this section, consistent with competitive
13 grant authority under the Historic Preservation
14 Fund.

15 “(2) MEASURABLE OUTCOMES.—Each eligible
16 entity receiving a grant under the Program shall re-
17 port to the Secretary measurable workforce out-
18 comes, to be tracked by the Secretary, including—

19 “(A) the number of individuals partici-
20 pating in workforce training or apprenticeship
21 programs; and

22 “(B) the number of individuals completing
23 certifications or credentials in preservation-re-
24 lated skilled trades.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
2 tents for chapter 3029 of title 54, United States Code,
3 is amended by adding after the item relating to section
4 302910 the following:

“302911. Historic Preservation Workforce Development grants”.

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