



SS UNITED STATES PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

History is not measured by what we inherit. It is measured by what we choose to preserve.

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**“If America forgets her past,
she risks her future.”**

SS United States Preservation Foundation Joins National Coalition Urging Congress to Protect and Strengthen Section 106

North Palm Beach, FL — The SS United States Preservation Foundation, Inc. announced today that it has joined a rapidly growing national coalition of more than 600 organizations, including Tribal Nations, preservation and conservation organizations, professional associations, museums, historical societies, and local governments, calling on Congress to protect and strengthen Section 106, the nation’s cornerstone safeguard for historic and cultural preservation.

The coalition represents more than 5 million Americans, with membership surging toward 7 million within 24 hours of delivering its open letter to Congress. *The Washington Post* reported that proposed revisions to federal historic-review regulations could weaken the process that ensures public participation, Tribal consultation, and accountability when historic properties are at risk.

Standing alongside hundreds of organizations and Tribal Nations, the Foundation brings the ongoing fight for the *SS United States* to a shared national cause: ensuring that communities retain a meaningful voice when historic and cultural resources are placed at risk.

For the Foundation, this fight is not abstract. It is a lived and ongoing reality.

“The SS United States is still above the waves. And when we learned that federal regulators were preparing to strip away one of the few formal avenues preservationists have in national decision-making, we had no choice but to fight. Weakening Section 106 wouldn’t just silence the public and Tribal Nations. It would set a dangerous precedent that threatens what future generations will be able to remember, study, and inherit.”

— Carlos Camacho Jr., Co-Founder & Chief Communications Officer

Although the Section 106 review for the *SS United States* formally concluded in July, the vessel remains afloat in Mobile, Alabama, and the Foundation continues to raise concerns about procedural failures, anticipatory demolition risks, and environmental hazards documented during the review. The vessel now stands as a warning to the nation. Section 106 does not guarantee preservation, but it provides communities with a formal opportunity to identify harm, challenge assumptions, and place their concerns on the federal record before irreversible actions are taken.

“These findings are exactly why Section 106 exists,” Camacho said. “Without this process, the SS United States could have lost her voice before the American people ever knew she was in danger. A nation cannot claim to honor its history while dismantling the very process that gives its history a voice. Section 106 does not need to be weakened. It needs to be strengthened.”

A Dangerous Precedent for America’s Future

What is at stake extends far beyond any single historic property. Weakening Section 106 would deprive future generations of the opportunity to experience, study, and learn from the places that tell America’s story.

A National Call to Action

Protecting Section 106 requires a broad national response. The Foundation joins the coalition in calling on Tribal Nations, preservation and conservation organizations, professional associations, museums, historical societies, local governments, and others to stand together in defense of public participation, Tribal consultation, and accountability.

As part of this national movement, the Foundation will support the coalition’s Phase 3 strategy through in-district congressional meetings over the next two weeks.

Organizations may join through the [Congressional Letter Sign-On Form](#) and the [coalition’s mailing list and working groups](#). Reports of federal agencies cutting corners in Section 106 reviews may be sent to fightback@culturalheritagepartners.com

The coalition’s open letter to Congress is available at:

<https://culturalheritagepartners.com/open-letter-to-congress-from-national-coalition/>

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