

## Talking Points for calls or visits on Preserving the American Historical Record Act

### Introduce yourself:

- Your organizational affiliation and what you do for people who are the members constituents
- if not an archivist, how you relate to archives (user, teacher, etc)
- What your organization does relating to archives/why you are interested in historical records
- Note that you are a constituent in the member's district or that your repository is in the district

### Tell them what you want:

- You are asking the member to sign on as a sponsor of HR 2256, the Preserving the American Historical Record Act, which was introduced in the House in May 2009

### Explain PAHR:

- Briefly summarize PAHR: this bill is designed to provide federal funding for **formula-based grants to each state/territory**. That funding will be regranted by the state archives to organizations around the state. It will fund projects that help archives, libraries, local governments, and similar organizations. (see PAHR fact sheet for more details if you need them, and include a copy in a packet you bring along or send)
- Tell them the amount that will come to your state (see PAHR funding distribution by state sheet)
- Remind them this program provide archives the same kind of federal support that is currently available for libraries, museums, historic preservation

### Tell them why PAHR matters:

- What it will do for your organization
- How it will help your researchers, users, and constituents in the district
- If the member has a special passion—military history, Lincoln or Kennedy, environmental history, sports, folk music, their alma mater, etc., check it out in advance and stress how funding could be helpful in supporting their interest

### End by:

- Asking them again to sign on as a co-sponsor for PAHR by contacting Congressman Hinchey's office
- Invite them (including staffers you talk to) to visit your repository