PAHR
Partnership for the
American Historical Record

Council of State Archivists • www.statearchivists.org
Society of American Archivists • www.archivists.org
National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators • www.nagara.org

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 member's constituents.
- If not an archivist, explain 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 the member/staff 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 at www.archivists.org/pahr for more details if you need them, and include a copy in a packet you bring along or send)
- Tell the member/staff the amount that will come to your state (see "PAHR funding distribution by state" sheet at www.archivists.org/pahr)
- Remind the member/staff this program provide archives the same kind of federal support that is currently available for libraries, museums, and historic preservation.

Tell the member/staff 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, his/her alma mater, etc., check it out in advance and stress how funding could be helpful in supporting his/her interest.

End by:
- Asking the representative again to sign on as a co-sponsor of PAHR by contacting Congressman Hinchey's office.
- Invite the representative (including staffers you talk to) to visit your repository.

For background information about PAHR, see www.archivists.org/pahr