



April 18, 2018

The Honorable Elizabeth Esty
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter King
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Esty and King:

On behalf of the nation's mayors, cities, counties and regions, we strongly commend you for working in a bipartisan manner and introducing the Brownfields Redevelopment Tax Incentive Reauthorization Act of 2018. This important legislation builds on the recently-passed brownfields reauthorization and will assist local efforts to cleanup and redevelop more brownfield properties.

With an estimated 400,000-600,000 brownfields sites throughout the United States, more tools are necessary to help promote the redevelopment of these abandoned or underutilized properties. Renewing section 198 of the Internal Revenue Service, the federal brownfields tax incentive that lapsed in 2011, would accelerate the cleanup of contaminated sites across the nation. This tax deduction allows for the expensing of all cleanup costs in the year incurred and serves as a powerful incentive to promote the cleanup of brownfields.

Redeveloping brownfields is a win for the environment and a win for the economy. To date, there have been over 26,000 brownfields assessments and 1,200 brownfields cleanups nationally, which has led to over 123,000 jobs and \$350 billion of overall investment.

Thank you again for your leadership on this important issue. We urge you and your colleagues to pass the Brownfields Redevelopment Tax Incentive Reauthorization Act of 2018. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Sheahan at USCM (jsheahan@usmayors.org), Carolyn Berndt at NLC (berndt@nlc.org), Julie Ufner at NACo (JUfner@naco.org), or Sarah Reed at NARC (sarah@narc.org).

Sincerely,

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director
The U.S. Conference of Mayors

Matthew D. Chase
Executive Director
National Association of Counties

Clarence E. Anthony
CEO and Executive Director
National League of Cities

Leslie Wollack
Executive Director
National Association of Regional Councils