



SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

July 20, 2026

Dear United States SAA members:

On Friday, July 17, members of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation were asked to vote on new Section 106 regulations by Friday, July 24. This new draft rule was not the product of deliberation among ACHP members or staff but was delivered to the ACHP by outside counsel. While the SAA has been proactive over the last few years in anticipation of new regulations and even a potential change to the statute, there were and are no opportunities to comment on this proposed new rule prior to it being voted on by the ACHP itself. In fact, there still is no official copy of what is being proposed.

Our Government Affairs Committee met on the evening of July 17 to discuss this issue and has begun the process of developing a response to the new regulations to present when public comment is accepted and we know what the proposed regulations actually say. This is likely to take place upon the publication of the draft regulations in the *Federal Register*. Our process now includes obtaining official information, consulting with our preservation partners, developing a call to action for our members, and ensuring we have legal standing to sue should that be necessary.

The SAA will keep you updated as things develop. There are a lot of rumors and an unofficial document currently circulating, but the SAA isn't going to respond to rumors. We are currently doing what we can behind the scenes and will take public and visible action when appropriate.

Thank you,

Christopher Dore
SAA President