



MAINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Your Real Estate Experts

THANK YOU FOR VIRTUAL RALLYING!

THANK YOU! Our virtual Maine REALTOR® Rally was a success! Your actions resulted in 1,206 emails sent to 170 legislators. 93% of the Maine Legislature has heard from a REALTOR® constituent this week! Terrific engagement so far!

Join us to protect your business! If you haven't taken action yet, or you can't remember if you did, you have until the end of day today (the system won't let you take action twice):

- 1) Visit MAR's Rally website: <https://realestaterallyday.com>
- 2) Click on the red TAKE ACTION button/link
- 3) Add your name and home address on the bottom right side of the page. Your Maine legislators' contact information will auto-populate.
- 4) Remember to click on the "Send Message" at the bottom – and your voice has been heard!

OUR ADVOCACY CONTINUES:

MAR's government affairs team reads each bill that begins its legislative journey and works with the MAR Legislative Committee and MAR Board of Directors to 1) identify those bills that impact Maine's real estate industry, and 2) establish a monitor, support, or oppose priority position for each bill. Each priority bill is worked accordingly toward a resolution.

Those bills are added to MAR's "Legislative Bill Tracking Report" on a regular basis. Currently, MAR is tracking 120 bills with topics ranging from tax changes, impact fees on vacant residences, accessory dwelling units, permitting for the construction of affordable housing, height limitations under shoreland zoning, and more.

Check out the Advocacy tab on the [MAR website](#) for links to our [MAR Bill Tracking Report](#) (password: codeofethics) and tools you can use to read the proposed legislation, know when a public hearing is taking place, listen and watch the hearings, read public testimony about the bills, and more.

Click here for more information: [Click Here](#)

The Public Policy Statement of the Maine Association of

Quick Links

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[Maine Listings](#)

[Maine Real Estate Commission](#)

Board Portal Links

[Greater Bangor Association of REALTORS®](#)

[Greater Portland Board of REALTORS®](#)

[Kennebec Valley Board of REALTORS®](#)

[Maine Association of REALTORS®](#)

- Maine Commercial Association
- MAR Only Members
- York County Council

[Mid-Coast Board of REALTORS®](#)

- Acadia Council
- Waldo County Council
- Penobscot Bay Council

[Mountains to Shore Board of REALTORS®](#)

- Androscoggin Valley Council
- Lincoln County Council
- Merrymeeting Council
- Western Maine Council

REALTORS® guides our advocacy efforts: [Click Here](#)

For additional assistance: suzanne@mainerealtors.com

IMPACT FEE ON VACANT RESIDENCES – LD 1337:

We continue to urge Maine legislators to oppose LD 1337 and the amended LD 1337 “An Act to Increase Housing Availability and Improve Affordability Through a Vacancy Impact Fee”. LD 1337 is an amended legislative bill that will allow municipalities to pass ordinances to impose a fee (tax) on vacant residential property not occupied by a permanent resident. The fees must be used by the municipality to increase the availability or affordability of year-round residential property within the town. Click here to read the amended bill: [Click Here](#)

The bill passed out of the Legislature’s Joint Standing Committee on Taxation and had action in the Maine House of Representatives on March 9 where the bill failed 53-76. LD 1337 will have future action in the Maine Senate. Ask your Senator to vote NO on LD 1337.

A local option fee/tax based on how a homeowner uses their property is an infringement of private property rights. These homeowners have already paid a real estate transfer tax, property taxes, and a rental tax if applicable. An influx of federal pandemic relief funds has provided Maine with additional funding for the development of affordable housing. Let’s utilize those funds before raising fees/taxes on Maine homeowners.

LUNCH & LEARN – ESCALATION ADDENDUM:

Join Hannah McMullen, MAR’s Legal and Government Affairs Counsel on March 28 from 12:00 – 12:45 p.m. for a review of MAR’s Escalation Addendum. To register for this no-cost learning event: [Register Here](#) Please provide your questions in advance to: suzanne@mainerealtors.com

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ADVERTISING:

Listings that are posted on your personal Facebook page (and other social media platforms) are considered advertising by the Maine Real Estate Commission. Be sure that all advertising, including advertising on social media, contains the trade name of the agency as licensed by the Maine Real Estate Commission, and that the agency trade name prominently appears or is readily accessible to the public.

TAX TIME:

Now is a good time to look over your financial wellness. Check out this resource from the National Association of REALTORS®: [Click Here](#) For login assistance for the NAR website (NAR.realtor): 1-800-874-6500

MAINE CHAMBER SURVEY:

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce is updating its flagship economic report, **Making Maine Work: Critical Investments**

MAR Leadership

President

Madeleine Hill

President Elect

Carmen McPhail

First Vice President

Paul McKee

Treasurer

Sherri Dunbar

Chief Executive Officer

Suzanne Guild

Last Issue: March 8

Some content may be commercial in nature.

for the Maine Economy, in collaboration with the Maine Development Foundation and Educate Maine. The Chamber would like your input in the survey portion of their project. The survey should take 10 minutes or less and can be accessed here until Friday, March 18: [Click Here](#)

SPRING AHEAD!

Daylight saving time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 13. Set your clocks ahead one hour! To learn more about the history of daylight saving time: [Click Here](#)

MAINE LISTINGS NEWS:

Click on the following link to learn about:

- New Training Class – Keeping Up With The Rules FREE Upcoming Webinars
- Something Exciting Is On The Horizon!
- Look at What's New: Updated Look for Multiple Flexmls Pages
- Rules & Regulations Quick Refresher Series
- Flexmls Tip of The Week
- Daylight Saving Reminder

Here is the link: [Click Here](#)



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