



MAINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Your Real Estate Experts

IMPACT FEE ON VACANT RESIDENCES:

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](#)

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.

The bill passed out of the Legislature’s Joint Standing Committee on Taxation and will move to the House and Senate chambers for votes soon.

REALTOR® RALLY (virtual) IS MARCH 8!

MAR’s virtual REALTOR® Rally is Tuesday, March 8 and we’ll be asking you to TAKE ACTION on that day and send an email to your legislators. Watch your in-box on Tuesday and TAKE ACTION to oppose additional fees/taxes on vacant properties, support remote online notarization, support measures to increase housing opportunities through land use, oppose the changes to powers and duties of assessors, and more!

REALTOR® RALLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (virtual):

Join us on Tuesday, March 8 from 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.! Hosted by MAR President Madeleine Hill this no-cost, Zoom session will deliver Maine and national legislative updates with panelists to include Hannah McMullen, Esq. MAR’s Legal and Government Affairs Counsel, Andy Cashman, Esq. owner of Resolve Government Relations and MAR’s lobbyist, and Kristian Hoysradt, Federal Programs Manager and Political Representative for the National Association of REALTORS®. Happening at the Maine Legislature: remote

Quick Links

[Maine Association of REALTORS®](#)

[National Association of REALTORS®](#)

[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

online notarization, potential impact fees on vacant residences, removing barriers to housing development, and proposed changes to the powers and duties of assessors. From the U.S. Congress: Continuing Resolutions and the National Flood Insurance Program, GSE fees, Fair Housing for All. Learn how this legislation could impact your real estate business!

[Register Here \(no cost\)](#)

MAINE CHAMBER SURVEY:

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce is updating its flagship economic report, **Making Maine Work: Critical Investments 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 11: [Click Here to take the Survey](#)

2023 NAR COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT PROCESS:

The deadline is May 13 if you would like to request an appointment to a 2023 National Association of REALTORS® Committee. NAR Committees will meet in May and November 2023 at the national REALTOR® meetings (in DC and Las Vegas, NV). There are currently 17 Maine REALTORS® serving on NAR committees during 2022.

Please note: NAR committee applications are completed online.

- **Step 1:** you must create/update an Expertise Profile
- **Step 2:** you can apply for up to five NAR committee appointments
- **Step 3:** you may seek endorsements/recommendations for your applications (which is important to do).

For a list of NAR committees, a link for your Expertise Profile, access to the 2023 NAR Committee Application process (NAR.realtor login required), and FAQ's about the NAR Committee process: [Click Here](#)

For login assistance for the NAR website (NAR.realtor):
1-800-874-6500

Please contact [Suzanne](#) with any questions.

NEED THE DB CORE COURSE?

The MidCoast Board of REALTORS® is offering the Core Course for Designated Brokers – 4 – Communication (Livestream) on March 15 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. For additional information and to register: [Click Here!](#)

Please contact [Jen](#) at the MidCoast Board with any questions.

MAINE LISTINGS NEWS:

Click on the following link to learn about:

- New Training Class – Keeping Up With The Rules
- FREE Upcoming Webinars
- Congratulations to Our Survey Winners!

MAR Leadership

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Madeleine Hill

President Elect

Carmen McPhail

First Vice President

Paul McKee

Treasurer

Sherri Dunbar

Chief Executive Officer

Suzanne Guild

Last Issue: February 25

Some content may be commercial in nature.

- Quality Assurance Tip of The Week
- Floor Plans Are a Necessity; FloPlan Makes It Easy!
- Rules & Regulations Quick Refresher Series
- MaineListings.com Learning Center
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Here is the link: [Click Here](#)



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