



TUNE IN FRIDAY:

Our industry has a big day at the Maine Legislature on Friday, May 26 (tomorrow).

Thirteen (of 330+) bills that MAR is tracking are having their work sessions with the Legislature's [Joint](#)

[Select Committee on Housing](#), Our highest priority issues on the table tomorrow, which MAR opposes, include LD 1710 which would increase the real estate transfer tax to establish a rental assistance program and LD 1905 which would create a statewide rental unit registry. Other priority bills being worked tomorrow, that MAR supports, include LD 1901 which would increase the percentage of real estate transfer tax allocated to Maine Housing for the development of rental housing and LD 388 that would require the State of Maine and municipalities to reimburse landlords for unpaid rent during eviction moratoriums.

The work sessions begin on Friday, May 26 at 9:00 a.m. and [you can listen LIVE through this link](#)

Check out [MAR's Advocacy tab](#) (password: codeofethics) for access to MAR's Legislative Bill Tracking report, past issues of our bi-weekly What's Up in Augusta publication, and links for the Maine Legislature.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN D.C.

While in Washington D.C. earlier this month to attend NAR's Legislative Meetings, MAR President Carmen McPhail led a delegation of Maine REALTORS® to Capitol Hill to meet with Maine's members of Congress and advocate for housing policy at the national level. On May 10, more than 35 Maine REALTORS® met with Representative Pingree and asked her to co-sponsor a federal bill: [H.R. 132 the More Homes on the Market Act](#).

The More Homes on the Market Act would increase the maximum amount of capital gains a homeowner can exclude on the sale of a principal residence and annually adjust this for inflation. This amount hasn't changed since 1997; \$250,000 for

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[National Association of REALTORS®](#)

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Board Portal Links

[Greater Bangor Association of REALTORS®](#)

[Greater Portland Board of REALTORS®](#)

[Kennebec Valley Board of REALTORS®](#)

[Maine Association of REALTORS®](#)

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- MAR Only Members
- York County Council

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- Acadia Council
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- Penobscot Bay Council

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

- Androscoggin Valley Council
- Lincoln County Council
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MAR Leadership

single filers and \$500,000 for joint filers. The value of these exemptions has eroded leaving many with disincentives to sell their properties or paying large amounts of taxes for older persons to downsize or move to a retirement facility.

MAR has received notification that Representative Pingree has signed on as a co-sponsor because of our advocacy efforts. Thank you to the Congresswoman! And thank you to the Maine REALTORS® who traveled to D.C. to do this important work!

LOCAL REALTOR® OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED:

Congratulations to this recently announced 2023 local REALTOR® of the Year!



-Merrymeeting Council of the Mountains to Shore Board of REALTORS®: [Wende Chapman](#) (Coldwell Banker Realty; Brunswick)

FUTURE MAR OFFICERS:

The MAR Nominating Committee meets in June to recommend potential candidates for future Maine Association of REALTORS® officer positions (President-Elect and First Vice President). If you are interested in learning more and presenting your qualifications to the committee for consideration, please email [Suzanne](#) before June 1 for copies of the candidate information questionnaire and outlines of officer responsibilities. Thank you!



JOIN US!
STATEWIDE PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS DRIVE:

In conjunction with NAR's Good Neighbor Days, REALTOR® Associations across Maine are collecting personal care products to be donated to people in need statewide. Begin collecting now and join us for drop-offs on June 5-7 at 46 Maine locations.

For a list of products needed: [Click Here](#)

For a list of donation drop-off locations: [Click Here](#)

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Suzanne Guild

Last Issue: May 18

Some content may be commercial in nature.

Thanks to all of Maine's REALTOR® Associations for working together on this initiative!



HEY PORTLAND VOTERS FIXRENTCONTROL.COM

If you're a City of Portland voter, please "Vote YES on A" to fix Portland's rent control laws. [Learn more about the fix](#), [find your voting location](#), and

[request an absentee ballot here](#)

Election day is June 13, but early absentee voting is available now.

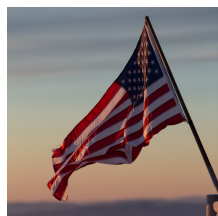
The Greater Portland Board of REALTORS®, Maine Association of REALTORS®, Maine Commercial Association of REALTORS®, and the National Association of REALTORS® are providing financial and grassroots support for this ballot initiative.

MAINE LISTINGS NEWS:

Click on the following links to learn about:



- [Simple Search](#)
- [FOREWARN](#)
- [Domus Stats](#)
- [Wildcard Search](#)
- [Compliance Corner](#)
- [Training](#)



MEMORIAL DAY:

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years

following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Let us remember and honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice during their loyal service to our country.

HOLIDAY HOURS:

The MAR and Maine Listings offices will be closed on Monday, May 29 for the Memorial Day holiday. The Maine Listings Member Success Team will monitor the systems and Help Desk email over the holiday weekend. If you notice any issues, please email help@mainelistings.com

Connect with us!

