

The Minnesota Realtors® Political Action Committee (MN-RPAC) is a bi-partisan political action committee that works for you by helping to elect candidates for office who support Realtors® in our advocacy efforts on behalf of homeowners and the real estate industry. RPAC works for you at City Halls, the State Capitol, and in Washington, D.C. by protecting you and your clients.

During the 2023 Minnesota Legislative Session, Minnesota Realtors® successfully advocated for:

- Creation of a new \$150 million “First-Generation Homebuyers Down Payment Assistance Fund” pilot program, which will remove a barrier to homeownership for buyers with limited savings and reduce Minnesota’s racial homeownership gap
- Direct property tax relief to homeowners including:
- Increasing the minimum and maximum market value thresholds for the homestead market value exclusion
 - Reducing the co-pay percentage for the homestead credit refund program
 - Providing a temporary increase in the targeting property tax refund program for property taxes payable in 2023. This program provides direct tax relief to homeowners who have large property tax increases from one year to the next
 - Reducing from 12% to 10% the threshold to qualify for the targeting property tax refund program
 - Providing a temporary increase for all homeowners eligible for the homestead credit state refund
 - Allowing property owners with a valid Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) issued by the IRS to qualify for homestead status and the homestead property tax refund
- Allowing for a one-year grace period for real estate brokers as they transition to a change in law regarding where they send interest payments from their real estate broker trust accounts from Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) to Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA)
- Exemption of real estate licensees as self-employed independent contractors from the requirements of Minnesota’s Paid Family and Medical Leave Program
- Including a personal finance course requirement for high school graduates

*All these bills PASSED during the 2023 Minnesota Legislative Session

Playing defense was also important during the 2023 Minnesota Legislative Session and Minnesota Realtors® was successful in preventing passage of the following:

- Prohibiting investors/corporate entities from purchasing single-family homes for conversion to rental units
- Imposition of a new real estate excise tax on the sale of residential property when the buyer is a corporate entity
- Providing municipalities the authority, by ordinance, to require property owners give relocation assistance to tenants of “affordable housing units”
- Giving manufactured home park residents an “opportunity to purchase” that would have stalled the sale of manufactured home parks by up to 75 days

- Providing authority to municipalities to adopt ordinances that allow the imposition of fees on subdivision developments to pay for a wide range of local public infrastructure projects
- Requiring property owners to participate in voluntary federal, state, or local housing assistance programs such as the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Prohibiting landlords from evicting a tenant for nonpayment of rent if the tenant has a pending application for rental assistance with a federal agency, state agency, or local unit of government

*These bills did NOT pass during the 2023 Minnesota Legislative Session

Advocacy is always important in guarding against the passage of bills like:

- Singling out specific disclosure requirements during the real estate transaction when Minnesota’s disclosure laws already require the disclosure of “all material facts”
- Impose a sales tax on services
- Using the real estate transaction as a “trigger” to require property owners to take a specific action or incur additional costs to address broader societal issues
- Increase the cost of the real estate transaction through new or expanded taxes and fees
- Increasing the cost of housing by making it more expensive for developers to build more housing units
- Creating more barriers that make it difficult for developers to build more housing units

Additional Information on RPAC:

For more than 50 years, the REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC) has been one of the strongest and most successful advocacy organizations in the nation. And there’s one reason for that: REALTORS® like you. RPAC recognizes that an industry that shies away from politics is an industry whose future is unstable and uncertain. Your voluntary investments in RPAC earn us a seat at the table with legislative and policy decision makers on Capitol Hill, statehouses, and city halls across the country. Your continued support and engagement allows us to shape the size, scope, and success of the real estate industry for REALTORS® and business, property, and home owners alike. Together, we’re protecting the future of real estate in America.

Contributing to RPAC is an investment in your business. Without your support, RPAC cannot protect Realtors® and their clients from policies that would harm the real estate industry. It doesn’t take much, but your contribution takes us far. Invest in MN-RPAC today at mnrealtor.com/member-services/advocacy/rpac

Paid for by the Minnesota Realtors® Political Action Committee, 11100 Bren Road West, Minnetonka, MN 55343. Contributions are not deductible for income tax purposes. Corporate contributions of any kind are prohibited. Contributions to RPAC are voluntary and are used to benefit political candidates on a state and federal level who support REALTOR® objectives. You may contribute more or less than the suggested amount. You may refuse to contribute without reprisal, and the National Association of REALTORS® or any of its state or local associations will not favor or disfavor any member because of the amount contributed. One hundred percent (100%) of contributions under \$1,000 go to MN-RPAC for use in state and local elections. Contributions totaling \$1,000 or more result in a 70% allocation to MN-RPAC to support state and local political candidates and a 30% allocation (up to the federal contribution limit) to NAR-RPAC to support federal candidates and is charged against your limits under 52 U.S.C. § 30116. Any amount exceeding federal contribution limits under 52 U.S.C. § 30116 will be allocated to MN-RPAC. Federal law prohibits NAR-RPAC from soliciting donations from other than: (i) executive and administrative personnel of the National Association of REALTORS® or affiliated state or local associations, (ii) members of the National Association of REALTORS® or any affiliated state or local associations, (iii) individual members of a member nonstock corporation (with proper prior approval), and (iv) families of all three groups. Any contribution received from any other person will be returned to the donor. For further information concerning RPAC contributions, please contact Thom Fox, RPAC Treasurer at tfox@mnrealtor.com.