

RPAC OVERVIEW

WHAT IS RPAC?

RPAC stands for the REALTORS® Political Action Committee. A PAC is a legal means by which interested individuals with common goals, like a trade association, band together for the purposes of political action.

WHAT DOES RPAC DO?

As a real estate professional, RPAC is your PAC. It is the real estate industry's vehicle for political success. REALTOR® volunteers raise voluntary contributions from other members across the state. These funds are then pooled together and contributed on a nonpartisan basis to candidates for public office who support housing and real estate interests.

70 cents of every dollar raised stays in Wisconsin for state and local elections, with the remaining 30 cents being transferred to the National Association of REALTORS® PAC for contributions to federal candidates.

FACTS ABOUT RPAC

1. All fundraising efforts and contributions to candidates are administered by a board of RPAC Trustees. Decisions made by the Trustees are submitted to the WRA Board of Directors.
2. Funds are disbursed on a nonpartisan basis to Democrats and Republicans alike, based on issues and promotion of the REALTORS®' legislative agenda.
3. RPAC is one of the largest trade association PAC's in the world.

WHY SHOULD RPAC INTEREST ME?

RPAC is a very important business partner to REALTORS® because it means legislative success. Up to 3,000 bills are introduced each session in the state legislature. Elections decide who will be voting on these 3,000 bills. RPAC helps elect the people who write the laws you and your business must live with. Through extensive research and ongoing monitoring, RPAC keeps you informed, involved, and influential in the legislative decisions that are important to you and your business.

DOES RPAC BUY VOTES?

No! Candidates and public officials are honorable people whose votes are not for sale. But by helping elect public policy decision-makers, RPAC assures REALTORS® the opportunity to present our views and be heard. RPAC fully complies with all state and federal election laws.

WHAT WILL AN RPAC CONTRIBUTION DO FOR ME?

During election campaigns, RPAC activities draw attention to REALTOR® issues and provides a knowledge base for future lobbying on real estate issues. This is critical to your business. Just consider a few of these recent legislative issues of importance to our industry:

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| * Defeated attempts to eliminate mortgage interest deductions | * Passed prohibition against local rent control ordinances |
| * Defeated attempts to raise the transfer tax | * Passed major property tax relief package |
| * Defeated attempts to apply sales tax to real estate commissions | * Passed cost controls on county government and school districts |
| * Defeated attempts to apply sales tax to commercial leases | * Passed regulation of home inspectors |
| * Defeated attempts to restrict condominium developments | * Passed commercial broker lien |
| * Defeated closing agent proposal | * Passed agency law revisions |
| * Defeated municipal service fee proposal | * Passed local impact fee restrictions |
| * Defeated \$15 billion "Healthy Wisconsin" health care plan | * No attorneys required at closings |
| * Passed appraiser regulations to comply with federal mandates | * REALTOR® opinion of value protected |
| * Passed numerous limits on REALTOR® liability for disclosures | * Farmland conversion fee eliminated |
| * Passed anti-rent absconding legislation | * Health saving accounts tax deductible |

These are just a few of the hundreds of bills lobbied by the WRA each session. The association will continue to work on property tax reform, mandatory seller property condition reports, other environmental issues, homelessness, taxes, and controls on this session of the legislature!