



**WHY SUPPORT RPAC?** At every level of government, the REALTORS Political Action Committee (RPAC) is protecting your business and clients. RPAC is a bipartisan organization that supports political candidates of both parties who support important real estate issues. Your investment in RPAC ensures REALTORS have a seat at the table when legislation affecting real estate sales and property rights is introduced.

### **RPAC Successes**

**Protecting the real estate industry from a 4% Sales Tax on Services.** It's no secret that Pennsylvania legislators are constantly searching for more tax revenue. Recent state budgets have included a proposal to expand the state sales tax on services to REALTOR commissions, mortgage origination, attorney fees, home inspections, appraisal fees, title fees and similar items. REALTORS have been able to defeat this new tax through RPAC.

**Fighting increases in the PA real estate transfer tax.** Pennsylvania already has one of the highest realty transfer taxes in the country. Through RPAC, REALTORS have been able to defeat recent legislative proposals in Harrisburg to increase this tax even further.

**Municipal Code and Ordinance Compliance Act.** Realtors were instrumental in amending the Municipal Code and Ordinance Compliance Act (Act 133 of 2016) to better protect home sellers and buyers from overzealous municipal code inspectors at the time of resale. The amendments are necessary to bring the law back into alignment with the original intent, which was to facilitate real estate sales while allowing municipalities to enforce local building and property maintenance codes. RPAC helped bring this issue to the attention of our state lawmakers.

### **Ongoing RPAC Efforts**

**Creating a First-Time Homebuyers Savings Plan in PA.** PAR is working closely with a bipartisan group of lawmakers in Harrisburg to create a new First-Time Homebuyers Savings Plan. The legislation would allow couples to save up to \$50,000, with the savings being deductible on state tax returns. A first-time homebuyers savings account program in Pennsylvania could result in an increase of home purchases of up to 4,000 annually. According to the Anderson Economic Group, the increase in the number of home purchases would have an overall positive impact on Pennsylvania's economy, spurring additional economic activity, job creation and earnings for households.

**Reauthorizing the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).** The National Association of REALTORS is urging Congress to pass a multiyear reauthorization with needed private market reforms to avoid adding uncertainty to real estate markets. Each time Congress allows the program to lapse, more than 40,000 property sales per month are put on hold. Without reauthorization, NFIP cannot issue or renew policies in 22,000 communities where flood insurance is required for a mortgage.