

SC Legislators are working for

Quality OF Life



June concluded another successful session for REALTORS® at the South Carolina State House. SC REALTORS® would like to thank several legislators for their leadership on the South Carolina REALTOR® Quality of Life agenda. From the Residential Improvements Districts legislation to the Business License Fee bill, our success was dependent on the hard work of these legislators and their dedication to homeownership.

Many Thanks To ...

Senator Kevin Bryant

(District 3, Anderson) – Senator Bryant serves on the Labor, Commerce and Industry (LCI) Subcommittee that considered H.4554, relating to business license fees for real estate professionals. He was instrumental in moving this bill to the full LCI Committee and ultimately to the Senate floor for consideration. Senator Bryant is also one of the Senate’s leading advocates for small business and homeownership. As such, he has been a true friend of the real estate industry.

Senator Larry Martin

(District 2, Pickens) – Senator Martin is a leader in the South Carolina Senate and Chairman of the powerful Senate Rules Committee. He was the Judiciary Subcommittee Chair for the Residential Improvement Districts legislation, and was instrumental in ushering the bill to the Senate floor for a vote at our request.

Senator Glenn McConnell

(District 41, Charleston) – Senator Glenn McConnell has been a tireless advocate for small businesses and the real estate industry during his 27 years of service. As President Pro Tempore of the South Carolina Senate and Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, not much happens

in the Senate without his knowledge and blessing. South Carolina REALTORS® are extremely grateful of his appreciation for the real estate industry and what housing brings to the state economy.

Senator Billy O’Dell

(District 4, Abbeville) – Senator O’Dell serves as a senior member of the Senate Finance Committee. He understands our industry and has demonstrated a true dedication to property rights and housing affordability. Senator O’Dell was a tremendous advocate for REALTORS® in opposing a bill expanding impact fees to school construction and also moving legislation addressing point of sale assessment issues to the Senate floor.

Senator Danny Verdin

(District 9, Laurens) – As Chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources, Senator Verdin recognizes that preserving the environment is a vital component of quality of life. He also understands the need for a balanced approach that supports economic vitality. He is an advocate for REALTORS® on environmental and fiscal issues and assists REALTORS® at each opportunity on the Senate floor. Senator Verdin was vital to the success of the business license fee bill.



REALTORS® – Thank you

Representative Eric Bedingfield

(District 28, Greenville) – Representative Bedingfield is a first-term House member who has worked on behalf of this industry since taking office. A member of the real estate community himself, Representative Bedingfield truly understands the regulatory environment surrounding the practice of real estate. No matter the issue, Representative Bedingfield works from a REALTOR® point of view.

Representative Harry Cato

(District 17, Greenville) – Representative Harry Cato serves as Chairman of the House Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee, the Committee that governs all real estate licensing law and business issues. Without his appreciation for and understanding of our industry, much of our quality of life agenda would not come to fruition. The real estate community would be hard-pressed to find a Chairman more willing to support our issues than Representative Cato.

Representative Alan Clemmons

(District 107, Horry) – Representative Clemmons understands the real estate industry and what it means to be a real estate professional. As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, he was a leader for REALTORS® in defeating the unauthorized practice of law bill in the Judiciary Committee and on the floor of the House.

Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter

(District 66, Orangeburg) – Representative Cobb-Hunter was the lead sponsor of the business license fee bill that successfully passed the General Assembly. She negotiated with the cities on the legislation and testified on our behalf before the Senate Subcommittee, a rare occurrence.

Representative Bill Cotty

(District 79, Richland) – Representative Cotty serves as the Property Tax Subcommittee Chair on the Ways and Means Committee. He was the chief sponsor and author of the bill addressing point of sale assessment issues. He ushered the bill through the legislative process and led the discussion on point of sale on the floor of the House. Representative Cotty will retire from the House at the end of this year. We will miss his knowledge of the real estate industry.

Representative Tracy Edge

(District 104, Horry) – Representative Edge is a first and foremost an advocate for property rights and is a tireless advocate for homeownership. A senior member of the Ways and Means Committee member, he helped usher the point of sale bill to the House floor and was key in attaching it to other pieces of legislation to try and force the Senate to take up the bill.

Representative Chip Huggins

(District 85, Lexington) – Representative Huggins is a REALTOR® and chairs the LCI Real Estate Subcommittee. He understands what it takes to run a real estate office and bring together buyers and sellers. He has been a cosponsor and supporter of the REALTOR® Quality of Life agenda at every opportunity. Representative Huggins works on and off the House floor to advance homeownership and protect housing affordability.

Representative Mick Mulvaney

(District 45, Lancaster) – Representative Mulvaney was the creator and lead author of the Residential Improvement District Act. Successful passage of the legislation would not have been possible without his

knowledge and advocacy efforts. He was the House member responsible for moving this important bill out of the Senate. From taxes and fees on real estate to land use issues and regulatory issues, Representative Mulvaney understands the impact that decisions made at the State House can have on the real estate industry and works on our behalf.

Representative David Umphlett

(District 100, Berkeley) – Representative Umphlett has been a longtime friend to the real estate community. He understands our issues and works with REALTORS® toward the common goal of improving quality of life in South Carolina. As a member of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee he has a unique ability to temper sound conservation with growing our state economy.

Representative Bill Witherspoon

(District 105, Horry) – Representative Witherspoon serves as Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources. As Chairman, he understands the need to balance conservation with protecting property owners to improve quality of life. Chairman Witherspoon will retire from the House at the end of this year after 15 years of service, and his dedication to quality of life will be missed.

Representative Annette Young

(District 98, Dorchester) – Representative Young is a powerful leader and longtime advocate for REALTORS® in the House of Representatives. She was the lead sponsor of the RID bill and used her seniority and leadership on the Ways and Means Committee to swiftly move the bill through the House floor advocating for passage of the bill. 