



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

WHAT IS RPAC?

RPAC stands for the REALTORS Political Action Committee. A PAC is a vehicle under state and federal law through which interested people with common goals, such as members of a professional association, can band together for purposes of participating in the electoral process. There are thousands of PACs across the country. 2019 is the 50th anniversary of RPAC, which is now one of the largest.

HOW DOES RPAC WORK?

REALTORS voluntarily contribute funds to RPAC, which are then pooled together to support candidates for elected office who understand and appreciate the real estate profession.

Seventy cents of a dollar contributed to RPAC are allocated for state and local elections, with the remaining thirty cents allocated for congressional elections.

Decisions to disburse RPAC funds to candidates for elected office are based on their respective positions on real estate issues and promotion of the REALTOR legislative agenda.

Decisions regarding disbursement of RPAC funds are made by the WRA Board of Directors and Board of RPAC Trustees. Similar processes are in place for the National Association of REALTORS and local REALTOR associations.

WHY SHOULD REALTORS SUPPORT RPAC?

RPAC helps to elect people who understand and appreciate the real estate profession, to help ensure that well-qualified candidates are elected to write the laws that members of our profession have to live under. As real estate professionals, RPAC is really our PAC.

At the state level alone, approximately 2,000 bills are introduced in each session of the Wisconsin State Legislature. Elections determine who will be voting on these bills. Therefore, REALTORS must be involved in the electoral process.

DOES RPAC BUY VOTES?

No, RPAC does not buy votes. Candidates and public officials in Wisconsin are honorable people whose votes are not for sale. RPAC fully complies with all state and federal election laws.

WHAT HAS RPAC ACCOMPLISHED?

RPAC has helped to accomplish some huge victories for the real estate profession and homeowners:

- * Reduced the statute of limitations for filing lawsuits against REALTORS from six years to two years
- * Eliminated the state property tax, and imposed limits on local property tax increases
- * Enacted residential real estate development reforms to help increase single-family housing inventory
- * Terminated the outdated rental weatherization program
- * Increased the state historic rehabilitation tax credit to revitalize downtown areas in cities like Kenosha and Racine
- * Created a definition of “defect” for home inspection reports consistent with the definition in the offer to purchase
- * Reformed landlord-tenant law
- * Increased state funding for our local schools
- * Placed limits on condominium document fees
- * Enacted common-sense wetlands regulatory reform
- * Defeated attempts to impose sales taxes on real estate commissions
- * Defeated attempts to raise the real estate transfer tax
- * Preserved the federal home mortgage interest deduction