# **Community Outreach and DEI Update**

This year, Virginia REALTORS<sup>®</sup> has already highlighted several Virginia Housing homebuyer assistance programs. One recent example was a post and coordinating blog in e-news: <u>Assistance Programs for Home Buyers: Virginia Housing Edition.</u>

For Black History Month, Virginia REALTORS<sup>®</sup> highlighted upcoming events of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB), which includes their 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference this August: <u>Honoring Black History Month by Learning, Listening & Growing - Virginia</u> <u>REALTORS<sup>®</sup></u>.

# **Government Relations Team Update**

Virginia REALTORS<sup>®</sup> brought back the Day on the Hill visits in 2022 and hosted 12 local associations for a total 157 REALTORS<sup>®</sup>. Attendees were able to meet with legislators in Richmond during the General Assembly Session. The average NPS score was an outstanding 88.

In a quick response to the Bureau of Insurance letter on split settlements, Virginia REALTORS<sup>®</sup> jumped into action and had "unanimous consent" legislation introduced after the filing deadline which clarified that a seller could hire legal representation for the closing process. Unanimous consent legislation requires all 100 members of the House of Delegates to unanimously agree to simply have the legislation introduced. One person can object and stop the process.

The REALTOR<sup>®</sup> Health Insurance legislation passed the House 97-2 and the Senate 40-0. The bill has been communicated to Governor Youngkin for his approval, and he has indicated that he plans to sign it. More updates will be shared as we continue to track this effort.

We are pleased to announce that the remainder of the Virginia REALTORS<sup>®</sup> legislative agenda passed with unanimous support in both the House and Senate.

### **Podcast Plays**

Virginia REALTORS<sup>®</sup> now publishes two regular podcasts. For years, members have loved Caveat REALTOR<sup>®</sup>, the podcast that shares current legal information with members in a fun, approachable fashion. Now, members can get their economic and housing market information on the go, as well, with Rooflines.

Podcast Plays YTD:

- Caveat REALTOR<sup>®</sup>: 5,048
- Rooflines (launched mid-February 2022): 865

# Virginia REALTORS®' Commitment to Our Communities

"At Virginia REALTORS<sup>®</sup>, we strive to build and strengthen communities across all parts of our great Commonwealth. In doing so, we denounce any expressions of racism, hatred, or intolerance. All REALTORS<sup>®</sup>, both in Virginia and across America, have sworn to follow a strict Code of Ethics, vowing to protect the rights of all individuals and protected classes. Our association stands behind the idea that our communities must be rooted in love, equality, and

inclusion. As we continue building Virginia's communities, we will embody and promote these ideals. We are stronger together."

# Legal Hotline

<u>The Virginia REALTORS® Legal Hotline has been supporting members for over 25 years!</u> Our team of lawyers is here to answer important questions about your real estate transactions quickly and accurately (usually within three business hours!).

Questions will be answered in the order they are received. Return calls will be made between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. **Find the Hotline at** virginiarealtors.org/legal-hotline.

### Tech Helpline: 1-800-276-4216

Technology should only help our members, not hinder them. We are here to help! The Tech Helpline is a member benefit for full dues-paying members, offering support for hardware, software, networking, and digital devices. <u>Members can contact friendly and knowledgeable analysts via phone, email, or online chat for help with any device</u>.

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