

THE REALTOR® ADVOCATE

Massachusetts Association of Realtors®
Government Affairs



November Highlights

- 11/1 & 11/4 – Leading the Discussion on Short-Term Rentals - MAR Staff Attorney, Jonny Schreiber, spoke at two events on the new MA short-term rental law, one hosted by CCIOR and the other hosted by the Vacation Rental Management Association (VRMA).



- 11/5 – Building Code – MAR testified at the [Board of Building Regulations and Standards](#) (BBRS) hearing in favor of taking a measured approach to increasing building code requirements. Specifically, MAR urged the BBRS to consider practical implications and the impact on home prices of moving too quickly to a net zero stretch energy code.
- 11/20 – End of Formal Session – This was the last day of formal session in 2019. The Legislature passed a significant education funding package and a distracted driving bill, but failed to reach agreement on a supplemental budget bill. Despite a strong push from MAR and its coalition partners, the Housing Choices ([H.3507](#)) bill did not advance. We will continue working on that bill and our other priorities when the second year of this two-year legislative cycle resumes with formal sessions in January.
- 11/21 – Government Affairs Committee – The MAR GAC welcomed zoning expert Amy Dain to present on the current state of zoning in Massachusetts and discuss her findings. The Committee also discussed [H.3293](#), which would permit limited e-notarization, ultimately deciding to take no formal position on the bill.

A Look Ahead: December

With the last day of scheduled formal sessions behind us, we anticipate that December will be a quiet month legislatively.