

## What's New in Government Affairs

**An-Apple-A-Day Edition!**

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[www.SouthBayAOR.com](http://www.SouthBayAOR.com)



### FEDERAL

**HEALTH CARE REFORM AND YOU:** The recently enacted "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act" has a number of provisions in the bill that affect REALTORS®. Check back frequently at NAR's Health Reform page on [www.REALTOR.org](http://www.REALTOR.org) to review a summary of the new law and additional materials to help you understand what the changes mean for you and your business.

NAR did not support or oppose the health care legislation. Instead, NAR worked with Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle to address as many concerns of our members as possible while also guarding against real estate tax provisions being used as a major way to pay for some of these changes. REALTORS® know first-hand the rising cost of insurance coverage and the difficulty in obtaining it. In fact, member surveys show that 28% of REALTORS® – or 1 in 4 – are currently uninsured, with many more underinsured.

Stay informed on what health care reform means to you *as a REALTOR®*. You are encouraged to visit NAR's Health Reform page for important information on these topics:

- The State of Play in Congress
- Need for Reform – A REALTOR® Perspective
- Access to Health Insurance
- Health Insurance Exchange and SHOP
- Individual Mandates
- If You Already Have or Provide Coverage
- Plan Details
- Paying for Health Reform
- NAR Advocacy Positions
- Medicare Tax on Net Investment Income
- Employer Mandates

### LOCAL

**ARE YOUR REAL ESTATE SIGNS MISSING IN CARSON?** We are hearing reports that public safety officials in some cities have recently confiscated a number of real estate signs that were placed on public property. Remember that in most South Bay cities, signs may not be placed on public areas including medians, sidewalks, and parkways. If you think your sign has been confiscated, call your city's code enforcement department or SBAOR right away. Not all cities hold onto the signs they confiscate. For more information, check out "Selling Requirements and Sign Laws In Your Area" at [www.SouthBayAOR.com](http://www.SouthBayAOR.com).

### STATE

**STATE TAX CREDIT:** Governor Schwarzenegger signed AB 183, the Homebuyer Tax Credit legislation, into law. His actions are the result of C.A.R.'s efforts working for the bill's passage. The credit is equal to the lesser of 5% of the purchase price or \$10,000. See [www.CAR.org](http://www.CAR.org) for details and eligibility requirements.

#### Why Government Affairs?

Every city makes decisions on taxes, point-of-sale, signs, rent control, property rights, and more. This impacts your client's ability to buy, sell, or develop their properties and your ability to do business. The South Bay Association of REALTORS® Government Affairs Program protects and advocates for you. For more information, call SBAOR Government Affairs at (310)326-3010 ext. 715