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# MICHIGAN REALTORS®

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## 1. Michigan Realtors® Move COVID-19 Relief Legislation

As Lansing came alive on May 26, 2020, the Michigan Realtors® moved four separate pieces of legislation to bring significant relief to property owners across the State of Michigan.

Senate Bill 940, Sponsored by Senator Roger Victory, extends the Principal Residence Exemption filing deadline for this year from June 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020. Senate Bill 940 passed unanimously through the Senate Finance Committee and will be up for a vote on the Senate floor next week.

With the traditional PRE deadline on Monday, June 1st, this bill is retroactive. It is also on a fast track through the process. While there are no certainties, we encourage you to advise your clients to submit their Principal Residence Exemption immediately for closings in the month of June.

Also, out of the Senate Finance Committee today was Representative Roger Hauck's Bill, House Bill 5766. Under this legislation, property owners would be granted a 96-day extension to file property tax appeals. Property tax appeals with deadlines between May 27, 2020, and September 1, 2020, would have a designated deadline of August 31, 2020. House Bill 5766 received a unanimous vote in the House and Senate committee. Later this morning, the Senate passed HB 5766 and sent it to the Governor for her signature.

Earlier this month Michigan Realtors® worked with other stakeholders, treasury, and the Governor's office for an Executive Order moving the property tax appeals deadline for commercial and industrial property. House Bill 5766 is important to also extend the deadlines for residential and agricultural properties.

Representative James Lower, Chair of the House Local Government and Municipal Finance Committee, introduced the two-bill package, House Bill 5761 and House Bill 5810, and held testimony this morning. These bills provide property tax relief to commercial and residential taxpayers affected by Covid-19. The bills allow for 11 ½ months to pay property taxes without penalty or interest upon filing of an affidavit with the local unit of government. In addition, House

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penalty or interest upon filing of an affidavit with the local unit of government. In addition, House Bill 5810 provides that local tax collection units must allow taxpayers the opportunity to enter into payment plans that would enable the taxpayer to pay their summer 2020 taxes until the last day that winter 2020 taxes could be collected. The bills are scheduled for a second hearing next week in Representative Lower's committee.

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## 2. Michigan Realtors® Seeks Additional Easing of Real Estate Restrictions

On May 7th, Michigan's Stay at Home Order eased restrictions on in-person real estate activity under certain conditions. Realtors® across the state have done an excellent job in following the order and instituting best practices for keeping themselves and their clients safe. As the state continues to ease restrictions on an increased number of business and personal activity, Michigan Realtors® is working with the Governor's office to remove additional real estate limitations.

In particular, the current Stay at home order limits showings of tenant occupied residential property, open house activity, the number of people at a showing, and the ability to provide short-term vacation rentals. As we continue to move forward responsibly as an industry, these are areas of the business that can operate safely to address the needs of our clients.

Conversations with the Governor's office are ongoing and we will continue to keep members updated as they progress.

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## 3. Updated Legal FAQs

Your Michigan Realtors® legal team has been updating and developing relevant FAQs to support you and your clients. For ease of reference, the FAQs are broken up into three different documents.

For questions specific to Residential Real Estate, please visit:  
<https://mirealtors.com/Portals/0/Documents/toolkitFAQs20.pdf>

For questions specific to the newly created Forms please visit:  
<https://mirealtors.com/Portals/0/Documents/formsfaq20.pdf>

For questions specific to Commercial Real Estate, please visit:  
<https://mirealtors.com/Portals/0/Documents/commercialfaw20.pdf>

If you have any questions centered on the above materials, please contact Brian Westrin at [bwestrin@mirealtors.com](mailto:bwestrin@mirealtors.com) or Rebecca Gean at [bgean@mirealtors.com](mailto:bgean@mirealtors.com).

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## 4. College Scholarships Available For 2020-2021 Cycle

Michigan Realtors® is proud to offer scholarship opportunities for those interested in pursuing a career in real estate. The application deadline for the 2020/2021 academic year is July 31st.

[Learn more](#)

## 5. NAR Committee Application Process Open Through June 1st

Shape the future of your National Association of Realtors® by serving on a 2021 Committee.

This year, add your voice to the conversation by engaging in robust debate and discussion about the issues impacting our association and industry.

2021 Committee Applications are open through June 1st and can be found [here](#).

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### Get Realtor® Party Mobile Alerts

Help strengthen the Realtor® voice! Sign up to receive short text messages to act on important real estate issues. On average, you will receive three to five calls for action per year. Text the word "**Realtor**" to **30644**.

\*Message & data rates may apply.

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