

REALTORS® Support Housing Production

The Massachusetts Association of REALTORS® (MAR), a 95-year-old professional trade association with 27,000 members, supports H.298, *An Act improving housing opportunities*, which will help promote desperately needed housing production. The bill was reported favorably by the Joint Committee on Community Development and Small Business and is now before the House Committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Zoning Reform is key to relieving the state's longstanding housing crisis. H.298 would increase the availability of by right multifamily and open space residential development as well as accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

Expands Housing Choice to apply local simple majority voting rather than two-thirds requirements for zoning variances and special permits. Many municipalities require special permits for nearly all development. Increasing access to them will help create housing.

Uniform Site Plan Review Standards will help alleviate the confusing local patchwork of site plan review processes, making development easier and more cost effective. This uniformity will also assist communities that do lack resources to create their own standards.

2022

Massachusetts Association of REALTORS®

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