



HBRACT's Housing Defense Fund (HDF) is a critical component of our advocacy resources.



Our promise to you: Every dollar of your contribution to HDF will be used for the HBRACT's legislative, regulatory and legal advocacy work.

HDF funds cannot be used for political advocacy under state and federal law. To support political advocacy, please contribute to BUILD-PAC—ask us for a Build-PAC brochure.

Please Support HDF with your contribution today.**

Name: _____

Co./Firm _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

YES, I want to support the HBRACT's Housing Defense Fund. My contribution of:
 \$100; \$250; \$500; \$1,000;
 \$_____ We will happily accept any contribution you are able to make. Join a HDF Club—ask for the HDF Club flyer.

Please send us a check, made payable to HBRACT HDF, or call us with credit card information (MC, VISA or AmExp only).

** Personal and corporate funds can be used for HDF without limitation. Not deductible as a charitable contribution but may be deductible as a business expense—check with your tax advisor.

The First, Last and Best Defense for Our Industry is Strong Advocacy!



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Four Types of Advocacy — Three Levels of Government

To protect the housing development and construction industry, we must advocate in four different arenas and at all three levels of government.



HBRACT's Vision:

“Building CT's Economy, Communities and Better Lives One Home at a Time.”

HBRACT's Mission:

“Using Effective Advocacy and New Knowledge to Solve Our Member's Problems.”

Four Types of Advocacy:

Regulatory Advocacy ...



... includes working with government agencies for positive change. Examples include working with agency staff to

improve permitting processes, ensuring effective and rationale administration of licensing & registration laws, and promoting a uniform and reasonable State Building Code.

Legislative Advocacy ...



... includes working with elected legislators and their staff to change, defeat or adopt laws.

HBRAC T's "lobbying" efforts engage people who have been elected to public office and who cast votes to write or re-write the law. Through testimony, one-on-one conversations and writing position statements, examples include defeating new, unjustified restrictions on real estate development, the construction or remodeling of homes and on the building business. Proactively, it includes getting adopted into law streamlined permits and pro-housing programs, or repealing unnecessary business regulations, taxes and fees.

Legal Advocacy ...



... is when an unfavorable or abusive law or enforcement method must be challenged in court via a lawsuit. Association legal advocacy is the last line of defense for the industry.

In rare instances, when all other forms of advocacy fail, laws or regulations that severely harm the industry and are adopted over HBRA objections, may be illegal or unconstitutional, necessitating a lawsuit. Legal advocacy is very expensive, which is why the HBRA engages so actively in regulatory, legislative and political advocacy. Still there are times when the only remedy that remains is legal action.

Political Advocacy ...



... consists of effectively participating in the election process to get individuals who are friendly to HBRA's

policies elected to public office. This is done through HBRA member contributions to candidate campaigns, to leadership PACs (political action committees) and to NAHB's own BUILD-PAC, as well as volunteering time to assist candidates. The HBRAC T is non-partisan and issues facing the industry do not cut neatly down party lines; but in all cases we need candidates who understand and will promote the important role residential construction plays in our overall economy and quality of life. **Political advocacy is critical to the success of all other forms of advocacy.**

Three Levels of Government:

Association advocacy takes place on the state, municipal and federal levels.

HBRA of Connecticut is the chief advocate for CT's residential development and construction industry at the state government level.

Local associations in CT not only assist the HBRAC T by organizing member contacts with state legislators but also take the lead on municipal advocacy (e.g., with mayors & 1st selectmen, P&Z and wetland boards, and local building officials).

The Nat'l Assoc. of Home Builders (NAHB) is the chief advocate for the nationwide industry at the federal level.