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Tennessee Association of REALTORS®, Inc.

## MEMO

To: TAR Governmental Affairs Committee

From: Chris Sexton, Director of Governmental Affairs

Date: March 29, 2010

Re: State Legislative Update

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This past week in the Tennessee General Assembly saw some interesting developments. Many pieces of legislation were again rolled in committees to be considered at a later date and several others TAR has been working were successfully taken off notice. Here are some quick highlights from this past week:

SB3473/HB2891, a bill TAR opposes, was taken off notice in the House. This bill prohibits renting a residence to a sexual offender and would increase Realtor liability forcing them to perform a sexual offender registry check of the potential lessee.

SB1351/HB0057, a bill to require energy audits for commercial buildings was also taken off notice in the House. TAR will continue to oppose all the energy audit bills.

In the Senate both SB3084/HB3186 and SB3279/HB3324 were taken off notice. The former would add to costs for owners or operators of hotels, rental property, or apartment buildings by requiring photo electric smoke detectors in certain areas or they would be subject to \$1,500 dollars fines; the latter prohibits new electric service without an installed smoke detector.

To see this week's committee calendar schedule and see where any specific bill is in the legislative process you can visit the Legislative Affairs Subcommittee's webpage (<http://www.tarnet.com/govaff/legaffsub.php>).

In other political news, we wanted to take a moment to say thank you to so many Realtors for coming out to last week's Gubernatorial Candidates Forum on Housing. The event was put on by THDA and TAR was thrilled to join with the Homebuilders of Tennessee, the Statewide Affordable Housing Coalition and the Tennessee Mortgage Bankers Association as a sponsor. We have some great candidates in the race to be the state's next governor and while they don't agree on all the issues, they did make clear how important real estate is to our state and nation's economic viability.

Be sure you make your Realtor voice heard in all the upcoming elections by getting out to vote. Thank you for all you do for the Realtor Party!

