

12 REASONS

Why You Should Donate to MDLAC

The Maryland Legislative Action Committee (MDLAC) is a committee of Community Associations Institute (CAI), an international not-for-profit educational and resource organization dedicated to fostering vibrant, competent, harmonious community associations.

MDLAC is dedicated to monitoring and influencing legislation that affects community associations in Maryland.

MDLAC is proactive in introducing and advocating for legislation that is beneficial to community associations, and is active in opposing legislation that may have an adverse impact on community associations.

The following are 12 strong reasons why you should donate to MDLAC.



- 1 Your donation gives you a voice. MDLAC's legislative advocacy efforts are entirely dependent upon the opinions and experience of the industry's professionals and community association homeowners. MDLAC serves the interests of approximately 1.3 million people who live in and work with community associations in the state of Maryland.
- 2 MDLAC is dedicated to monitoring and influencing legislation that affects community associations in Maryland. MDLAC researches and reviews proposed legislation and takes positions on bills affecting community associations throughout the year.
- 3 MDLAC meets regularly with lawmakers to help advance issues. MDLAC educates and visits with lawmakers, legislative and executive staff, other organizations and testifies before legislative bodies. In addition, MDLAC visits legislators regularly in Annapolis to inform them of the issues facing community associations and to ensure that the voice of community associations is heard.
- 4 MDLAC is NOT a Political Action Committee (PAC) and does not give money to legislators or their campaigns. MDLAC operates solely from contributions made by Maryland members of CAI and other donations.
- 5 MDLAC provides immediate action alerts and input on bills that affect community associations. MDLAC input on breaking issues enhances its ability to effectively influence the formulation and outcome of public policy. Additionally, MDLAC provides timely information on bills related to community associations at www.caionline.org/legislativetracking.
- 6 MDLAC organizes "grassroots" letters, e-mails and phone communications with legislators regarding important issues and proposed laws related to community associations.
- 7 MDLAC exercises members' constitutional rights to participate in the political process. MDLAC builds important relationships with government officials and develops a network of peers that will benefit those living and working in community associations.
- 8 Giving back is easy and can be done online at www.caionline.org/LACdonate or fill out and return the **Buck-a-Door** or **More** donation form.
- 9 It is legal for community association boards to donate money from assessments collected. The board may spend community funds on protecting the association and its owners by supporting constructive—and opposing offensive—state legislation.
- 10 Donations are for legislative advocacy, NOT POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS. MDLAC expenses include printing and mailing information to CAI members and MDLAC contributors, lobbyist fees and administrative services; providing legislative information to the MDLAC volunteers and more.
- 11 Senate and House of Delegates Committees ask our advocates and lobbyist for input as legislation is proposed and debated. Moreover, the Governor's Office often contacts MDLAC to ask its position on a bill prior to the Governor signing the bill.
- 12 MDLAC has become the recognized resource for providing accurate, timely and influential input to Maryland legislators. MDLAC is comprised of representatives from three CAI membership categories: Homeowner Leaders, Business Partners, and Community Managers. This provides a diverse perspective on how bills may impact community associations.