



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

March 2010

RPAC RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

NCAR granted permission to BCAR to hold an RPAC raffle this year. BCAR is selling only 500 tickets for a chance to win \$5000. Each ticket is \$100. Members of the LEG/RPAC will be selling tickets soon. If you have not contributed to RPAC yet this is a great opportunity. For more information contact Steve Candler at steve@bcarnc.com.

TERMINAL GROINS

The draft report for terminal groins was the topic of discussion at the CRC meeting in Wilmington on February 17, 2010. Here is the link for the final report:

<http://dcm2.enr.state.nc.us/CRC/tgs/finalreport.html>

Most of the criticism of the report is that it does not make concrete recommendations on what process to follow, allowing terminal groins on the NC coast or continuing to disallow them. The next meeting of the CRC is on March 24, 2010 at Sea Trail. The public hearing begins at 5:00 pm. **I recommend that everyone living near an inlet or has coastal property to attend this public hearing and show support for the proposal to include terminal groins for use on coastal inlets.**

STATE COMMITTEES DISCUSS MID AND PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION

There was a joint meeting of the State House and Senate Finance Committees last week to discuss potential changes to the personal and corporate tax structure in North Carolina and there was much discussion about personal income tax deductions such as the mortgage interest deduction (MID) and real property tax deductions. Presenters commented that the MID and real estate tax deductions significantly reduce the amount of revenue generated for the state. There was even discussion about second home mortgage interest deductions. As the debate over "tax modernization" continues, it is clear that the MID and real estate tax deductions will continue to be targets.

FLOOD INSURANCE

Senate efforts to extend the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), set to expire on February 28, 2010, will continue the week of March 1. Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) tried to expedite, but was forced to file a procedural motion to allow a vote as early as Tuesday. The bill (H.R. 4691) would extend the NFIP until March 28, and includes extensions of employment and COBRA (continuing health) insurance. When the bill reaches the floor, it is expected to pass by a wide margin. NAR will continue to urge the Senate to act and stress the importance of the flood program, without which many consumers would not be able to obtain a mortgage in federally designated flood zones

across the U.S. More information can be found at the following link: [Visit NAR's Homepage on Natural Disaster/Flood Insurance](#).

FLOOD INSURANCE UPDATE!

NAR will be sending out more details later, but since I've received some calls on this I wanted to give you a quick update. Now that Senator Jim Bunning has dropped his hold on the UI extension bill the senate has passed an extension through March 28, which has already, been signed into law by President Obama.

Stay tuned for more details on the extension and longer-term prospects but in the meantime, you can reassure your members that flood insurance is no longer held up in the Senate.