

MN-RPAC Endorsement Guide: 2018 Election Cycle

The MN-RPAC Trustee member-volunteers review, every cycle, legislators that have been REALTOR® and industry friendly at the State Capitol. The decision to endorse a legislator or candidate is based on MN-RPAC's vision, mission and the Matrix illustrated below. The Trustees follow the concept of the REALTOR® Party. They support candidates that promote homeownership and property investment, regardless of party. The REALTOR® Party speaks with one voice to advance candidates and public policies that build strong communities and promote a vibrant business environment. MN-RPAC is proud to support 14 REALTORS® this cycle that are state legislators in St. Paul.

Vision: MN-RPAC is the trusted resource in Minnesota to provide value to the real estate market by supporting elected officials that protect and advance the real estate industry.

MN-RPAC Mission: Protect, Preserve and Advance private property rights to benefit all Minnesotans by: 1. Opening communications and building relationships between REALTORS® and elected officials; 2. Educating elected officials on REALTOR® issues, and 3. Raising Money to elect REALTOR® Champions.

Matrix:

Value	Description
1	Author/Co-Author of MN REALTOR® Legislation
2	Supporter/Advocate for MN REALTOR® legislative positions
3	Chair/Leadership position AND generally supportive of MN REALTOR® priorities
4	Serves on at least one key committee: Commerce, Taxes, Property Taxes, Judiciary, Civil Law, Environment
5	Relationship Building/Open seat or REALTOR®

Example: Rep. Jane Doe is a REALTOR® and authored MNR legislation and is a committee chair. Her matrix reason=1.3.5. The values are not in a ranked order.

REALTORS® in Office		
Name	Home City	Matrix Reason
Rep. Roz Peterson	Lakeville, MN	1.2.5
Rep. Duane Sauke	Rochester, MN	1.2.5
Rep. Nels Pierson	Rochester, MN	2.5
Matt Lundin	Apple Valley, MN	5
Jeff Dotseth	Zimmerman, MN	5
Rep. Drew Christensen	Savage, MN	2.5

Rep. Eric Lucero	Dayton, MN	1.2.5
Rep. Tim O'Driscoll	Sartell, MN	1.2
Rep. John Koznick	Lakeville, MN	1.2
Sen. Karin Housley	St. Mary's Point, MN	1.2.5
Sen Carrie Rudd	Breezy Point, MN	1.2.5
Sen. Rich Draheim	Madison Lake, MN	1.2.5
Sen. Warren Limmer	Maple Grove, MN	1.2.5
Rep. Tama Theis	St. Cloud, MN	1.2.5

Legislative Leadership & Committee Chairs & Bill Authors	Home City	Matrix Reason
Rep. Greg Davids	Preston, MN	1.3.4
Rep. Joyce Peppin	Rogers, MN	3.5
Sen. Dan Sparks	Austin, MN	1.2.4
Rep. Dennis Smith	Maple Grove, MN	1.3.4
Rep. Melissa Hortman	Coon Rapids, MN	1.3.5
Rep. Joe Hoppe	Chaska, MN	2.3.4

Rep. Sarah Anderson	Plymouth, MN	1.2.3
Sen. Gary Dahms	Red Wood Falls, MN	2.3.4
Sen. Roger Chamberlain	Lino Lakes, MN	3.4.5
Rep. Jim Nash	Waconia, MN	1.3.5
Sen. Dan Hall	Burnsville, MN	1.3
Sen. Kari Dziedzic	Minneapolis, MN	1.3
Sen. Eric Pratt	Prior Lake, MN	1.3.5
Senate Open Seat	Home City	Matrix Reason
Rep. Jeff Howe	Rockville, MN	2.5

Governor

The governor's seat is open in 2018. The Trustees interviewed both candidates for governor after the August Primary. The Trustees asked the candidates the same questions on their vision for the Department of Commerce, what type of Commerce Commissioner will the candidate choose, questions on tax policy, and housing regulations and cost drivers. After considering both candidates' responses, the Trustees voted to endorse **Tim Walz**. The Congressman has had a 12-year relationship with the MN REALTORS® and has supported many pieces of legislation favored by the National Association of REALTORS®. He had a good relationship with his Federal Political Coordinator REALTOR® volunteer in the First Congressional district and was a reliable communicator with the industry.

Here are a few quotes from his interview:

- We have a shared vision of safe and secure communities
- REALTORS® need to be at the table during policy discussions
- My goal is to not surprise interest groups but to talk with them upfront

On the Department of Commerce (DOC) – the real estate regulator:

- The Congressman holds a philosophy of "Regulatory Humility".
- The DOC should be a partner to the industry & communicate, work on outcomes we can agree upon, create best practices together, everyone wants consumer protection, even the industry to protect its reputation. He pledged to work with us - not against.

On the appointment of DOC Commissioner:

- Important Traits: Good communication skills, someone to partner and work with us, that is willing to work with coalitions to solve problems.
- “I want your input on the selection of commissioner and welcome you to submit names”.

On Tax Incentives for Homeownership:

- Mortgage Interest Deduction and Charitable giving were tax breaks for middle class. They are good policies.
- “I favor policy that will incentivize saving”
- MNR First-time homebuyer legislation “makes great sense” and is open to it in the context of the budget. “Such policies can make a difference. The VA Loan program made a difference for me.”

On Housing Regulations and Cost Drivers

- Adversarial relationships with agencies: the wrong approach for both sides
- Regulations: “Know that costs are passed to consumer and can equal lost units”
- Many times, regulatory rulings have an onerous cost or are a dubious fix. He is willing to compromise and get input on front end.

Congressional Open Seats: The Trustees also traveled the state and interviewed the candidates running in the three open congressional seats. After reviewing the answers from each of the candidates, they made the following endorsements: CD8: **Pete Stauber** (Nolan is retiring); CD5: (Ellison is running for AG) No Endorsement (did receive completed candidate survey back before the meeting), CD1: (Walz is running for governor) No Endorsement.

US Senate: After the Senator Franken resignation, Minnesota has an open US Senate seat in 2018. The Trustees interviewed both candidates. The Trustees endorsed REALTOR® and MN State Senator **Karin Housley**. Housley is a REALTOR®, member of MNR, and has carried MNR legislation at the state capitol.

Contributions are not deductible for income tax purposes. Corporate contributions are not acceptable by MN-RPAC and 100% will be allocated to the NAR Political Advocacy Fund. Contributions to RPAC are voluntary and are used for political purposes. You may contribute more or less than the suggested amount. You may refuse to contribute without reprisal, and the National Association of REALTORS® or any of its state associations or local associations will not favor or disfavor any member because of the amount contributed. Contributions under \$1,000 will be provided 100% to MN-RPAC for use in state and local elections. For contributions totaling \$1,000 or more, 70% is used by MN-PAC to support state and local political candidates and 30% is sent to National RPAC to support federal candidates and is charged against your limits under 52 U.S.C. 30116. For further information concerning RPAC contributions, please contact Chris Galler, RPAC Treasurer at cgaller@mnrealtor.com.