

Getting Involved at the Grassroots Level

Virtually every day, Congress makes decisions that affect your line of work. It's important to have an active voice in Washington, to help shape how these policies are made and to protect your bottom line. When we reach out to members of Congress, we're able to ensure our concerns are heard, and can work together to come up with the best possible solutions.

NAHB is always looking for new partners who can help us explain to legislators the important role housing plays in our communities and our nation's economy. As leaders in the affordable housing industry, you have the unique ability to help us frame our conversations with Congress by getting involved.

Our advocates have a number of ways to engage policymakers. The foremost is by answering grassroots calls to action through our [BuilderLink](#) program. Our policy experts keep industry members informed and current on legislative issues that impact them. When an important issue arises, we reach out to stakeholders, providing talking points and letters, and ask them to immediately contact their member of Congress. This allows us to quickly show overwhelming support or disapproval for an issue. When their own constituents consistently weigh in, legislators listen.

Communication is a two-way street, and we encourage our members to develop beneficial relationships with their representatives. Taking the time to conduct meetings in-district or offering tours of active job-sites to legislators, even when you don't have a specific ask for them, often serve as educational opportunities for both groups.

We also offer our members opportunities to participate in our [Legislative Conference](#), where members visit Washington, D.C. to meet with their representatives on Capitol Hill and discuss our industry. It's much easier to have a conversation with a member of Congress about an issue you care about when you've already worked to build that relationship. Our strongest and most effective advocates are typically those who have gotten to know their legislator well and have a history of honest communication with them.

Industry member engagement in the political process is key to our shared success. Lawmakers genuinely want to hear from the citizens they represent and by offering a unified voice of behalf of housing, we're protect and promote our industry. Do your part by getting involved.

For more information regarding involvement with NAHB political programs, please contact NAHB's Director of Grassroots Programs, [Michael Blake Bezruki](#), at 202-266-8542.