

## Vince Malta 2020 President

**Bob Goldberg** Chief Executive Officer

## **ADVOCACY GROUP**

William E. Malkasian Chief Advocacy Officer / SVP

**Shannon McGahn** SVP Government Affairs

## April 24, 2020

The Honorable Tim Scott Senator 104 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Scott:

On behalf of the more than 1.4 million members of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), I am delighted to invite you to address our Association as Keynote Speaker at the 2020 REALTORS® Virtual Legislative Meetings and Trade Expo. We would welcome your appearance at the General Session via webcast on Wednesday, May 13, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

The REALTORS® Legislative Meetings annually brings together over 9,000 REALTOR® members in Washington, DC to meet with their Members of Congress to discuss issues important to REALTORS®, their clients and the real estate industry. Due to the COVID-19 public health crisis and in an effort to ensure everyone's safety, this year the meetings will take place virtually. We hope that this year's virtual meetings will be transformative, and will allow for even more of our members to engage and participate in the meetings online from their homes. Our meeting sessions provide REALTORS® the opportunity to hear from leading Members of Congress, Administration officials, and renowned industry experts regarding relevant, provocative, and informative topics and issues affecting real estate and housing, and this will be no different.

The General Session will be dedicated to two pressing issues facing our members and their clients due to COVID-19: pandemic unemployment assistance for independent contractors, and Small Business Administration assistance programs for small businesses and independent contractors – the majority of NAR's membership. We are grateful for Congress' efforts in passing the recent CARES Act, and ensuring that independent contractors and self-employed individuals have access to expanded unemployment benefits under the new Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program. We are also grateful to DOL for working closely with states to implement this program to offer these benefits to our members and so many others during these very difficult times.

Our members would welcome the opportunity to hear first-hand your insights and viewpoints regarding our nation's continued efforts

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REALTOR<sup>®</sup> is a registered collective membership mark which may be used only by real estate professionals who are members of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS<sup>®</sup> and subscribe to its strict Code of Ethics. to support small businesses and independent contractors, and steps Congress and federal policymakers can take to ensure that these vital drivers of the nation's economy are able to weather this crisis.

We look forward to your response, and hope that you will be available to join us. Please RSVP your availability to Shannon McGahn, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, at <u>SMcGahn@Nar.Realtor</u> or 202-383-1045.

Sincerely,

Vince Malta 2020 President, National Association of REALTORS®