



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

The Voice For Real Estate®

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April 12, 2005

The Honorable Ted Stevens
Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Stevens and Ranking Member Inouye:

On behalf of the 1.2 million members of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® (NAR), I want to thank you for cosponsoring S. 714, the Junk Fax Prevention Act of 2005, and taking prompt action to ensure committee consideration. NAR strongly supports this legislation.

S. 714 is necessary to correct problems created by the Federal Communication Commission's commercial fax rules, currently stayed until July 2005. If not enacted, NAR estimates that over 66 million separate signed permission forms will have to be created, distributed, collected and stored annually in order to support the nation's recent levels of home sales.

This would be a tremendous hardship to businesses and trade organizations like NAR and its 1500 state and local associations because of the sizeable administrative burdens related to obtaining written, signed permissions to communicate with consumers and members via fax.

S. 714 will not change the law on junk faxes. Junk faxes are illegal and will continue to be so. However, the bill clarifies existing law and provides additional consumer protections via its opt-out provisions. NAR believes S.714 is sound, critical legislation and we stand ready to work with you to achieve enactment.

Sincerely,

Al Mansell, President
National Association of REALTORS®

