



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

The Voice For Real Estate®

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September 27, 2005

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

The NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® (NAR) supports H.R. 3824, the “Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act of 2005” (TESRA). This legislation addresses many of NAR’s policy principles on new and better ways to recover endangered species, while ensuring economic development and protecting property rights. NAR supports a balanced Endangered Species Act (ESA) that ensures species protection and economic development.

NAR is pleased that H.R. 3824 reforms the current ESA to address concerns that include enhanced voluntary conservation programs, using better peer-reviewed science to make listing and de-listing decisions, improved notification and participation of impacted property owners, codifying the current “No Surprises” policy, strengthening the role of state and local governments in the ESA planning process, and incorporating economic considerations when creating Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs). These ESA reforms will benefit communities and property owners around the country while protecting our most endangered species.

The NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® respectfully urges the House of Representatives to pass H.R. 3824 and looks forward to working for Senate passage of this bi-partisan legislation that will achieve protection and recovery of threatened and endangered species through a cooperative effort between the government and its citizens.

Sincerely,

Al Mansell, President
National Association of REALTORS®