

Pennsylvania Association of REALTORS®

Congressional Fly-In

Three years ago, the Pennsylvania Association re-started an old program to visit our Congressional Delegation while in Session in Washington, DC. Many states used to do this, but now the only other states that do Fly-Ins are NY, NJ, and CA. Like most states, this program was cut during the economic downturn when budgets needed to be slashed. PAR started budgeting for this program again three years ago and we are solidly committed to continuing this for the foreseeable future.

Many states (and locals) try to visit Congress during the NAR Legislative Meetings, but there is already so much already going on during that meeting. It is always hard to find enough time during Mid-Year to make visits. In addition, NAR staff is tied up during those times and can't always join you in the visits. Hill visits during the Legislative Meetings are still important, but PAR has now focused them on our State Senators and promote locals to visit their Representatives as possible.

The most beneficial part of doing a separate Fly-In is that you get a lot more attention from our wonderful NAR staff. Our visit generally starts with a special briefing on key issues from topic experts. Then we are ready to go to the Hill and discuss the latest on each legislative priority. Each year NAR staff has found a fundraiser (or two) for us to attend and we typically take at least one Representative out to dinner.

Our typical time schedule is Day 1 – noon briefing, visits, fundraiser, dinner; Day 2 – Visits, lunch, visits, fundraiser; Day 3 – Visits, lunch, return home. We often divide into teams so we can see more Representatives.

PAR generally takes the President, President-elect, CEO and Government Affairs Director.

NAR staff is very appreciative of having this support from our state and we have a very productive few days.