



2012 Legislative Day

First-Time Attendee

Primer

January 18-19, 2012
Red Lion Hotel
2300 Evergreen Park Drive SW
Olympia, WA 98502



Our Mission

The Washington REALTORS® advocates for REALTORS® and their clients and provides services to help members prosper.

2012 Legislative Day

The purpose of this Primer is to help you get the most from your first Washington REALTOR® Legislative Day experience. You will have the opportunity to network with hundreds of fellow REALTORS® and learn how REALTORS® impact government decisions in Olympia. You will also participate in one of the most exciting events we organize—as you join REALTORS® from your area to “go to the Hill” and visit with legislators in their offices on Capitol Grounds in Olympia.

For those interested in arriving a day early, there’s also the opportunity to listen in on various WR Committees, and attend the WR 2012 Installation Banquet in the evening.

If we were to give you one piece of advice for the entire event, it would be, “don’t be shy.” We are all here to learn and to network too, so come right up and introduce yourself!

First stop...

Be sure to stop by the Washington REALTOR® registration table and meet the state association staff, pick up your name badge, the meeting schedule, your Legislative Day folder that’s full of all kinds of information, and pick up any meal tickets you may have ordered. Feel free to ask questions, that’s why we’re here!

Read through the information you receive at registration, and plan your moves for the events and meetings to follow. Agenda information is also available at the Washington REALTOR® website; <http://www.warealtor.org>.

Wednesday, January 18 is a day of Committee meetings...

Attend any or all of the committee meetings that capture your interest. While attending meetings as a guest, you are welcome to sit anywhere on the perimeter or what we call the “gallery”. Table seating at the meetings is reserved for committee members. Feel free to raise your hand to make a comment, as the Chairs often recognize and welcome visitor input as time allows.

Wednesday lunch...

Those attending on Wednesday may order a box lunch for the afternoon. Box lunches will be handed out in the registration area, beginning at noon. It is a great time to sit with folks from around the state and work on that referral base!

Wednesday evening...

Wednesday evening is a banquet and gala event in the ballroom celebrating the Installation of the new 2012 Washington REALTOR® President, Faye Nelson. We will also be installing our other 2012 state officers and state directors that evening. The dress is cocktail or business attire.

Thursday, January 19 is REALTORS® “Hill Day”

Hill Day begins at 9:00 am in the big ballroom at the Red Lion; the exciting program runs until we dismiss you to grab a box lunch and group together with your local “caucus” or the members attending from your Local area. It’s there you can plan for your visits with your legislators. Remember – you don’t have to talk during the visit! Our Key Contacts (these are REALTORS® who are assigned to communicate with legislators) and other experienced members can do the talking. Your presence alone is welcomed by legislators. They enjoy seeing and meeting with constituents!

Buses take you to the Hill

Once you finish your local caucus meeting, there will be buses outside the front entrance of the hotel to take you to and from the Capitol grounds. They run every 15 minutes, so no need to rush. You may want to spend some time on the hill wandering the beautiful grounds before you head back on the bus!

Remember you may be walking in the rain (or snow!) and on marble floors (in other words, bring a coat, umbrella and consider your footwear!)

When you get back to the hotel there is a debriefing session, where folks can share what their legislator communicated about the issues. Again, no need to say anything; but sitting and listening to what happened during the visits can be fascinating.

The whole day is a great opportunity to learn the latest info on government affairs that impacts your business, learn how your involvement makes a difference and enjoy the camaraderie of your peers and perhaps meet that next referral!

And there is still one more event!

After Hill Visits... a Legislative Reception

During visits with legislators, they will be invited to a reception in their honor back at the Red Lion Hotel ballroom 6:00 – 8:00 pm. No need to change clothes, it is a time for light hors d’oeuvres and a no-host bar. The reception is a chance to informally chat with legislators and get to know them in a more relaxed atmosphere. (They really enjoy this!)

Final instructions...

Don’t hesitate to ask questions, get involved, and HAVE FUN! Whether it’s at meals, the General Session or on the bus to the Hill, our annual Legislative Days have a huge impact on our leaders in Olympia and provides many opportunities for networking with folks from across the state. If you have questions, please don’t hesitate to ask a Washington REALTOR® staff member (those individuals wearing a larger black badge). We’ve all been “First Timers” and we’re here to make you feel welcome!



I AM A REALTOR®
I Pledge Myself

To strive to be honorable and to abide by the Golden Rule;

To strive to serve well my community, and through it, my country;

To abide by the REALTORS'® Code of Ethics and to strive to conform my conduct to its aspirational ideals;

To act honestly in all real estate dealings;

To protect the individual right of real estate ownership and to widen the opportunity to enjoy it;

To seek better to represent my clients by building my knowledge and competence.