

MICHIGAN REALTORS® 2015 President's Report



Gene Szpeinski, President



Gary Reggish, President-Elect

In 2015, Michigan Realtors® celebrated our past while making investments in our future. This year marked the Centennial anniversary of our association. Members around the state joined us in commemorating the event with a mobile display highlighting Michigan Realtors® milestones and achievements in our long history. The celebration was topped-off this summer with a “who’s who” of past and present Realtor® leadership at the historic Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island.

Never being content to rest on our laurels, the Michigan Realtors® Board of Directors and Delegate Body took a bold step this year in approving an Issues Mobilization Fund assessment increase from the current \$3 annual assessment, to a \$40 annual assessment, beginning with the 2017 dues billing cycle. This assessment increase is vital to secure the future of our industry and maintain a strong Realtor® voice that resonates through the halls of our capitol, court rooms, and consciousness of Michigan voters. With over a dozen separate ballot proposals currently gathering signatures for next year’s election, Michigan Realtors® is ready to protect our industry against a proliferation of well-funded threats.

Michigan Realtors® also continued our efforts to transform the way continuing education is offered, tracked, and recorded for the benefit of the public and our industry. Legislation passed last year completely removing our Department from the administration of continuing education and instituted a self-certification/audit system for continuing education.

Michigan Realtors® developed our CE Marketplace (www.cemarketplace.net) to fill the vacuum left in the Department's absence. With a \$250,000 grant from the Department, Michigan Realtors® developed CE Marketplace to track continuing education for all licensees. We also instituted a private course certification and sponsorship model that reviews classes based on Department standards and provides audit protection should a licensee’s course hours be challenged. With new on-demand course offerings and progress reports to all licensees and brokerages, this new service is quickly adapting to meet all continuing education needs.