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The Oregon REALTORS® Board of Directors recently approved a \$50 per year dues increase effective January 2025, which brings the state dues to \$335 per member. This decision wasn't arrived at lightly. It followed an extensive, multi-step process with input from leadership, the Financial Review Committee, and other key stakeholders to ensure that your membership remains a valuable investment in your professional success.

Why now?

The decision to raise dues comes at a critical juncture.

- Dues have been the same since 2019, while inflation has driven up costs by 19.84%. Without this adjustment, we would face significant limitations in our ability to serve members effectively.
- The real estate landscape is rapidly evolving due to industry changes, litigation, and new regulations. Now more than ever, it's essential to invest in the programs and services, tools, resources, and advocacy that safeguard your business and keep you well informed.
- Data from a variety of sources, including the Oregon Real Estate Agency, indicates an estimated 14% or larger decline in membership, which will have significant financial implications.

What was the process to get here?

It began with budget cuts, then a thorough budget review, and board approval.

- May through June, staff conducted a thorough budget review and reduction, with the priority of keeping programs and services that are core to the REALTOR® business. It became clear that even with cuts in place, rising costs were leading to a significant budget shortfall. Without a dues increase, Oregon REALTORS® would be forced to cut key programs that maintain the profession's viability in the state.
- A draft budget based on proposed cuts was developed with our outside accounting team, including input from leadership and the Financial Review Committee.
- The proposed budget underwent detailed scrutiny by both the Budget Committee and the Executive Committee, before being sent to the Board of Directors for a vote.
- On October 16, 2024, the Oregon REALTORS® Board of Directors, comprised of 136 members from every part of the state, carefully reviewed the proposed budget, engaging in thoughtful debate and addressing all questions. After considerable discussion, the dues increase was passed with strong support.

Member Value

Protecting services so members have needed tools to remain competitive.

- *Legal and Risk Management Support:* Access to Legal Hotline, forms, and risk mitigation guidance that helps you navigate transactions with confidence.
- *Advocacy:* Robust lobbying and relationship-building with state lawmakers has made for a strong REALTOR® voice in legislative matters, reducing the risk of setbacks that could have immediate and long-term, negative impacts on your business.

We understand that dues increases are a sensitive issue. The association staff, leadership, and volunteers have done everything possible to approach this decision responsibly. Our commitment to you, as always, is to ensure that members are provided exceptional value through robust programming, advocacy, representation, and support services that have a direct impact on your success.

If you have further questions, we welcome your feedback. We are here to listen to and address your concerns. You can reach the main office at 503-362-3645 or info@oregonrealtors.org or contact any of us on the list below.

Sincerely,

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