



Legislative Update

New Jersey Association of REALTORS®



June 29, 2005

Fax Rule Postponed until January 9, 2006

As you know, the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) fax rules were scheduled to take effect July 1, 2005. There have been major developments that will enable REALTORS® to continue faxing their clients and customers after July 1st without obtaining written consent.

Earlier this week, the FCC postponed the effective date of its fax rules until January 9, 2006 in order to give Congress and the President sufficient time to consider the Junk Fax Prevention Act. This bill creates the statutory authority for the long-standing established business relationship exception to the fax rules.

On June 28, 2005, the U.S. House of Representatives approved the Junk Fax Prevention Act, S. 714. The Senate approved the bill on Friday, June 24. It is now awaiting the President's signature.

"Passage of the junk fax bill represents a major victory for consumers and businesses alike. Without this bill, REALTORS® would not have been able to fax property listings to consumers who call and request such information without first getting written permission," said NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® (NAR) President Al Mansell of Salt Lake City. "NAR commends Congress for passing legislation that will eliminate junk faxes without creating costly regulations that burden legitimate businesses and hamper consumers' ability to receive requested information in a timely manner."

NAR anticipates the President will sign this bill shortly, please stay tuned to www.njar.com or www.realtor.org for updates.

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