REALTORS® Support First Time Homebuyer Savings Accounts

The Massachusetts Association of REALTORS® (MAR), a 95-year old professional trade association with 27,000 members, supports establishing first time homebuyer savings accounts (H.2840/S.1834).

<u>First Time Homebuyer Challenges</u>:

- Record High Prices MA is decades into a housing affordability crisis, ranking 47th nationally in affordability.
- Student-Loan Debt many potential first time homebuyers already owe record amounts of debt.

• Help Accessing the American Dream:

- Allows future home buyers or their families to deposit up to \$5,000/year into a savings account and claim it as an income tax deduction.
- Gains are tax exempt.
- Deduction permitted for up to 15 years and \$50,000.

• Community Benefits:

- Homeownership contributes to community responsibility; civic, economic, business and employment stability; family security and well-being.
- New home buyers average \$75,000 in related expenditures.

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