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**OREGON REAL ESTATE AGENCY  
COMMISSIONER'S BULLETIN  
MARCH 2008**

**What's new at the Oregon Real Estate Agency?**

**NEW PHONE SYSTEM ACTIVATED**

On March 18, a new, state-of-the-art phone system was activated at the Agency. Agency staff members now have direct lines and the new phone numbers can be accessed through the "Agency Directory" menu item on our home page, [www.rea.state.or.us](http://www.rea.state.or.us).

**2007 OREGON REVISED STATUTES AVAILABLE ONLINE**

The 2007 statute chapters applicable to the Real Estate Agency can be accessed by clicking on "Statutes & Rules" on our home page, [www.rea.state.or.us](http://www.rea.state.or.us), which takes you to the page that contains additional links to specific chapters. Access to all the 2007 statutes is available at [www.leg.state.or.us/ors/](http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/). Note that any changes as a result of the 2008 special legislative session are not incorporated in these documents.

**2008 SPECIAL SESSION REPORT**

The special legislative session ended February 22, 2008. The legislature enacted several bills on mortgage lending and foreclosures. Senate Bill 1101, effective May 23, 2008, amends ORS chapter 696. It impacts escrow licensees and is important to real estate licensees. The bill clarifies language pertaining to withholding of income tax in real estate transactions. The complete text of the bill is available at [www.leg.state.or.us/bills\\_laws](http://www.leg.state.or.us/bills_laws). Click on "Search for Specific Measure Number" and choose "Senate Bill" and enter "1101." Open the "Enrolled" version for the final bill language.

**WORK CONTINUES ON AGENCY RULE REVIEW**

Staff will be reviewing comments from the brokerage/licensing rule review survey. The Brokerage/Licensing Rule Review Work Group will be notified if further meetings are needed.

The Property Management Rule Review Work Group will meet April 14 to continue their rule review task and discuss possible legislative concepts for the 2009 legislative session. Watch the Agency's website, [www.rea.state.or.us](http://www.rea.state.or.us), for the agenda.

The Escrow Rule Review Work Group is scheduled to meet May 5. Watch the Agency's website, [www.rea.state.or.us](http://www.rea.state.or.us), for the agenda.

**MARCH 31 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

The Real Estate Board will convene a special board meeting at 10 a.m. March 31 via teleconference call to discuss the Agency's proposed legislative concepts for the 2009 legislative session. Interested parties can attend the meeting at the Agency. The Agency must submit its legislative concepts to the Department of Administrative Services by April 4 for the 2009 regular session.

**APRIL 7 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

The April 7 Real Estate Board meeting will start at 10 a.m. at the Eugene Association of Realtors, 2139 Centennial Plaza, Eugene, Oregon. All board meetings are open to the public and area licensees are encouraged to attend.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED ON PROPOSED RULES**

At their April 7 regular meeting, the Real Estate Board will be asked to approve for public hearing (1) the advertising rule (OAR 863-015-0125) for permanent rulemaking and (2) the proposed new rules implementing 2005 House Bill 2157 on criminal background checks for license applicants. The temporary advertising rule currently in place is effective only through July 15 and must be replaced with a permanent rule. The hearing notices for both rulemakings will be posted on our website, [www.rea.state.or.us](http://www.rea.state.or.us).

If you have any questions, please call us at 503-378-4170 or email us at [orea.info@state.or.us](mailto:orea.info@state.or.us).

*Gene Bentley,*  
Oregon Real Estate Agency Commissioner