

2023 West Virginia End of Session Report

CAI's Government and Public Affairs team actively advocated <u>on behalf of the approximately 69,000 West Virginians</u> <u>living in more than 900 community associations</u> during the 2023 state legislative sessions. Below is a brief overview from the 2023 General Assembly:

HB 3558 - Relating to providing an exception to the provisions of the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act (UCOIA). This legislation was introduced at the very end of the legislative session by 7 West Virginia Delegates. HB 3558 would have allowed associations to opt out of the provisions of the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act (UCIOA) which ensures consumer protections for community association residents in the state.

West Virginia is one of nine states that has adopted this uniform law established by the Uniform Law Commission through its Joint Editorial Board for Real Property Acts. UCIOA protects homeowners' rights, and this legislation would have allowed association boards to decide if they want to comply with the Uniform Act. CAI quickly acted and connected with the bill sponsors about the negative impacts of this legislation and to involve grassroots efforts made by CAI members. Thanks to the dedication of CAI members in West Virginia, more than 90 individuals sent letters of opposition to their Delegates over the course of three (3) days. Due to these effective efforts, the bill was withdrawn from consideration. Through these efforts, CAI created relationships with multiple West Virginia Delegates to safeguard West Virginia community associations in 2023.

CAI recognizes and believes that individual CAI chapters and Legislative Action Committees in various states are in the best position to determine what legislation can be passed in those states. CAI applauds its West Virginia members for recognizing and advocating the importance of UCIOA to the West Virginia legislature, as CAI supports and recommends consideration and adoption of UCIOA by all states. Learn more about CAI's Uniform Act public policy <u>here</u>. **Status: SUCCESSFULLY FAILED**

SCR 25 - Requesting study on effects of Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act on investment opportunities and projects in WV. This resolution was introduced on the final day of the legislative session in place of the bill allowing for associations to opt out of UCIOA. This resolution directs the Joint Committee on Government and Finance to study UCIOA and its significance. If passed, CAI and partner organizations plan to work with the study committee to show the established public policy benefits of UCIOA in West Virginia.

Status: Pending for Interim Session

For more information on the CAI's activities and community association legislation in West Virginia, visit <u>https://www.caionline.org/Advocacy/LegalArena/Laws/Pages/WV.aspx</u>

Your Assistance is Needed

CAI relies on outside resources such as professional lobbying as a vital and integral part of the legislative process. The volunteers who advocate – including homeowner leaders, community managers, and business partners – greatly rely on contributions from management companies and business partners in addition to individuals to continue their important efforts in the legislature. CAI needs your financial support to bolster their advocacy activities in 2023 and beyond. We encourage donations from WV community associations, business partners, and individuals. Please visit www.caionline.org/lacdonate/ and donate to "Issues Advancement Fund" to support our continued efforts.

We need YOUR voice! Sign up today to become a CAI Advocacy Ambassador and help shape legislation in your state!

West Virginia Contact Information

• To find the chapter nearest you, please call (888) 224-4321.