

Types of Advocacy

Regulatory

The HBA of Greater Springfield is the chief advocate for the residential construction industry in the ten counties it serves. Association advocacy takes place on the municipal, county, state, and federal levels, and can be categorized into four parts:

Regulatory Advocacy

includes **working with regulatory staff for positive change**. Examples of regulatory advocacy include working closely with code officials and inspectors on code interpretation, or advocating for builder-friendly regulations within the various local, state, and federal agencies and bureaucracies (**Planning & Zoning, DNR, EPA, etc.**).

Legislative Advocacy

includes **working with elected officials to change, defeat or adopt laws or ordinances** that are more favorable to the industry. It engages people who have been elected to public office and who ultimately cast votes to write or re-write the law. Examples of legislative advocacy include **lobbying in the federal or state capitols or with members of city councils or county commissions** to adopt or modify codes, statutes, ordinances, or laws.

Political Advocacy

consists of effectively advocating in the electoral process to **help elect similarly-minded officials to public office by campaign contributions, volunteer efforts, campaign management, etc.** Specifically, the association's non-partisan political advocacy involves working to help elect officials on the municipal, county, state, and federal levels who understand the important role residential construction and remodeling plays in our overall economy and quality of life. Using its political action committee (the Coalition for Building a Better Tomorrow), the **HBA evaluates and supports candidates for office strictly on the basis of how the candidate aligns with the priorities of the building industry**. The HBA of Greater Springfield's philosophy is that **political advocacy is the central key success in to all other forms of advocacy in which the HBA engages**.

Legal Advocacy

is when an unfavorable or abusive law or enforcement method must be challenged in court via lawsuit. **The association's legal advocacy is the last line of defense for the industry**. In rare instances, when all other forms of advocacy fail, laws or regulations that are severely damaging to the industry may be adopted or implemented over the objections of the best arguments of the HBA. **At times, these laws or regulations may be illegal or unconstitutional. Therefore the government body that enacted the illegal or unconstitutional provision is subject to legal challenge**. In such cases, the HBA may, in concert with one or more of its members, file suit against the offending government body. **Legal advocacy is very expensive and highly unpredictable. That is why the HBA engages so actively in regulatory, legislative and political advocacy**. Still, there are times when the only remedy that remains is legal action. In those times, the HBA remains the chief advocate for its members and the industry.

Legislative

Political

Legal

