

# FPC Backgrounder:

## Congressional Real Estate Caucus

### WHAT IS A CAUCUS?

- Caucuses are voluntary membership organizations in Congress that pursue shared legislative goals, also called coalitions, study groups, task forces, or working groups.
- Caucuses differ from committees, which are smaller groups of assigned Members who specialize in and have legislative purview over various issues that come before Congress. House committees also vote on legislation and oversee government agencies, programs, and activities within their respective jurisdictions, whereas caucuses do not.
- While members are limited on how many committees they can serve, there is no limit to the number of caucuses a member can join.
- Caucuses are often run behind the scenes by senior legislative staff in the offices of the co-chairs, who are commonly the primary points of contact.
- The largest and most well-known caucuses are the party caucuses comprising all members from one party (Democratic Caucus and Republican Caucus) but there are also hundreds of caucuses ranging from racial and ethnic caucuses (Congressional Black Caucus, Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus) to interest group caucuses (Congressional Bike Caucus, Senate Taiwan Caucus., etc.)
- Caucuses can play a significant role in how Congress addresses policy issues by educating members, staff, and the public on complex or obscure issues, serving as a starting point for identifying offices active in a particular policy area, and guiding congressional outreach and coalition development. When bills related to a certain issue are debated, members will often seek out colleagues who are involved in the relevant caucus to get their insights and perspective on the issue.

### WHAT IS THE REAL ESTATE CAUCUS?

- The Bipartisan Congressional Real Estate Caucus will convene members who care about policies that impact the real estate industry, including (but not limited to): housing affordability and availability, access to capital, new housing construction, fair and equal housing, commercial real estate, personal property rights, and transportation and infrastructure issues.
- Caucus co-chairs: Rep. Mark Alford (MO-04), Rep. Lou Correa (CA-46), Rep. Tracey Mann (KS-01), and Rep. Brittany Pettersen (CO-07).
- Industry partners supporting the formation of the Caucus: NAR, Mortgage Bankers Association, National Association of Home Builders, National Apartment Association, National Multifamily Housing Council, U.S. Mortgage Insurers, American Land Title

Association, National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts, and Leading Builders of America.



500 New Jersey Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
(800) 874-6500  
nar.realtor