

Building Communities from the Mountains to the Valleys

HBA Greater Charleston

NEWS



January 2026



NAHB Urges Congress to Ease Regulatory Burdens to Help Housing Affordability

The best way to ease the nation's housing affordability crisis is for policymakers to eliminate excessive regulations that are preventing builders from increasing the housing supply, the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) told Congress.

Testifying at a congressional panel hearing focusing on housing affordability, Buddy Hughes, chairman of NAHB and a home builder and developer from Lexington, N.C., said that in order to ease housing constraints for home buyers and renters, it is imperative to eliminate excessive regulations that hinder the construction of new homes and apartments.

"Regulations account for nearly 25% of the cost of a single-family home and more than 40% of the cost of a typical apartment development," said Hughes. "The time and costs associated with complying with a multitude of government regulations can be significant for small- and medium-sized builders and ultimately limit housing supply."

Increased regulations, including overly stringent mandatory energy code requirements, are impeding the ability of builders to boost housing production. In particular, Hughes cited an April 2024 final determination by HUD and the USDA that required new single-family and multifamily homes financed by these agencies to comply with the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) or ASHRAE. The Trump Administration has delayed the effective date for both single-family and multifamily housing until May 2026.

"NAHB urges Congress and the administration to prohibit HUD and USDA from enforcing a minimum energy standard that increases housing costs during a nationwide affordability crisis," said Hughes. "We also urge policymakers to respect state and local authority over code adoption and to reject mandates that most states have not determined are appropriate for their communities."

For multifamily projects with federal assistance, a key challenge for builders and developers is the requirement to source domestically for construction.

"While our members try to use products made within the U.S., it's not always practical because of price or availability," said Hughes. "Multifamily housing needs an exemption from this requirement to help avoid construction delays and additional costs."

Hughes also cited labor regulations such as the Davis-Bacon Act, which add to housing costs by requiring prevailing wage rates for construction projects. These are based on union wage rates that do not reflect local market conditions. On top of higher labor costs, builders face extensive paperwork, weekly payroll certifications, and compliance risks. Even a minor or technical mistake can result in major financial penalties.

"NAHB looks forward to working with policymakers to enact sensible regulatory reforms to help break the rising housing cost curve and allow builders to produce more attainable, affordable housing," said Hughes.

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Upcoming Events

February 3

Membership Mixer
Nexstar Media Group | WOWK
Ferguson

February 17

Membership Dinner
Carver Career & Technical Center

February 17-19

International Business Show (IBS)
Orlando, FL

March 10

Membership Mixer
Tim Hogans Design Gallery

March 17

HBAGC Board Meeting

April 10-11-12

West Virginia Home Show
Charleston Convention Center

April 25

HBAWV Spring Meeting
Cedar Lakes

April 30

Membership Mixer
Nitro Carpet Outlet & Design Center

May 19

HBAGC Board Meeting

May 21

Membership Mixer
In Stitches Embroidery

June TBD

Membership Mixer
Poca Valley Bank

HENRY E. KING SCHOLARSHIP

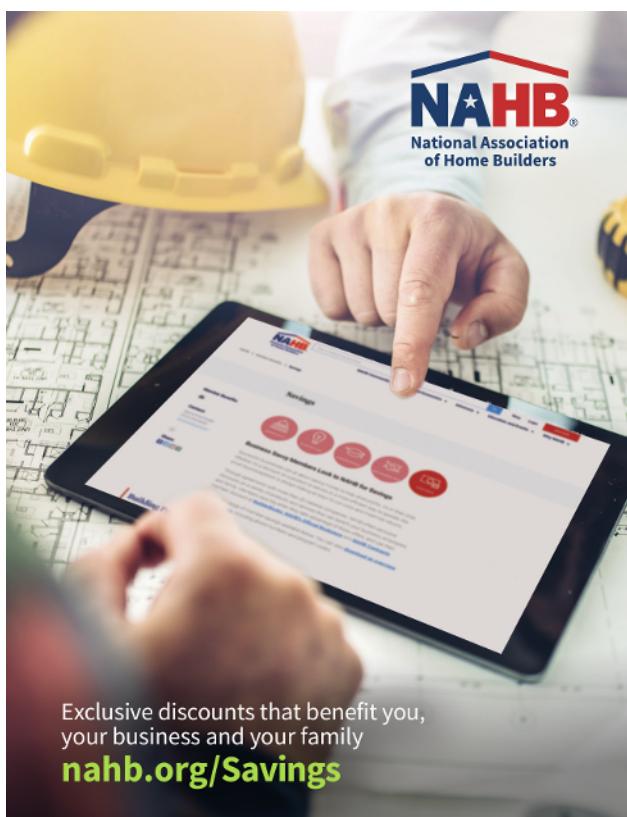
2026 - 2027 Application is now open

The Home Builders Association of Greater Charleston established the scholarship in 1990 in honor of Henry E. King, a member of our association for many years. He was a compassionate individual who touched so many lives.

The scholarship is administered by the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation and is open to our companies who have been members for at least one full year . . . owners, employees and their immediate family members who are enrolled part time or full time in an accredited college/university or vocational/trade school training program.

- May use for tuition, books and tools required for trade.
- Minimum GPA 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Priority given to dependent children of qualified owners or employees.
- Two \$2000 grants available per year

Information and application process available at tgkvf.org.



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 Alltek Environmental Services Tom Mayes
 Almost Heaven Building Company Duncan McClung*
 B J Builders Sandy Dunn
 Bailey Hardwoods Owen Bailey
 Best Electric Meredith Thomas
 Builders FirstSource John Kopyscianski**
 Builders FirstSource Ron Spencer*
 Burdette Realty Improvement Jon Burdette
 Calendar Construction Matt Weston
 Classic Construction Chase Ward
 CLS Properties Chris Osborne
 C R Damron Electric C R Damron
 Crede Lawn & Landscaping Zach Crede*
 Cunningham Electrical Service Tim Cunningham**
 D.G.'s Construction Damon Grose
 Dave Hobba Builder Dave Hobba
 Edmunds Excavation & Building Sharon Edmonds
 Elk River Design Michael Moore
 Elk Valley Electric Craig White
 Ferguson Enterprises Welford Haines**
 GDW Gerry Workman
 General Building Supply Steve Waggoner
 House Doctors Brad Cunic*
 Independence Power Brian Crawford
 J & R Creations Randy Allio
 JDB Contracting Duncan Buchko
 L.R. Dorsey, Inc. Robert Dorsey**
 Landscaping by Hillcrest Tom Scarberry
 MAJO LLC Mason Weese
 Meadow Ridge Construction Chris Deweese
 Modern Home Concepts Dale Oxley**
 Mountaineer Glass Jeff Goins
 Mr. Handyman of Kanawha Valley Greg Paxton**
 Paving Solutions Cathy Rollyson
 P P&J Structures & General Contracting Dave Thompson
 Quality Construction Steve Michael**

R D Developers Ron DeTemple

Rainbow International Ray Bird

RC General Contractors Greg Casdorph

Reed's Home Solutions Josh Reed

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Top Color Trends for 2026

Paint manufacturers have announced their [colors of the year](#) for 2026. Color experts at Sherwin-Williams, for example, named Universal Khaki as their color of the year.

Other top choices among the neutrals include:

- [Dutch Boy \(Melodious Ivory\)](#)
- [Minwax \(Special Walnut\)](#)
- [Pantone \(Cloud Dancer\)](#)

Selections among the more luxurious hues include:

- [Graham & Brown \(Divine Damson\)](#)
- [Benjamin Moore \(Silhouette\)](#)
- [Krylon \(Matte Coffee Bean\)](#)
- [Clark + Kensington \(Hazelnut Crunch\)](#)
- [Glidden \(Warm Mahogany\)](#)

Choices among trendy greens include:

- [Behr \(Hidden Gem\)](#),
- [Dunn-Edwards \(Midnight Garden\)](#) and
- [Valspar \(Warm Eucalyptus\)](#)



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