

To South Carolina Realtors:

Thank you for your inquiry and for the opportunity to share my views with your members. Although this campaign has moved quickly, I appreciate the chance to respond to the legislative issues you raised and to explain how my experience and priorities align with the needs of South Carolina homeowners, Realtors, and communities.

I have understood the value of homeownership since I was 19 years old and first eligible to vote in Oklahoma. I first owned a very modest home with my husband, and later, as a single parent of three children, I relied on real estate transactions to help finance my college education. I would buy a home, maintain it as well as possible, and resell it at a profit, allowing me to “move up” each time. A Realtor represented me every time I bought or sold a home, and I am grateful for the role Realtors played in helping me build stability and opportunity for my family.

Today, purchasing a home is financially much more difficult, and affordability challenges affect all of us. I support making homes more affordable, and I have a practical plan to help address that need.

One part of that plan is to support policies that increase the supply of attainable housing. I support requiring a percentage of new developments to include affordable housing options, such as accessory dwelling units, workforce housing, and other flexible housing choices. I also support home features that make it easier for people to age in place safely and comfortably.

Another important solution is transit-oriented development. When communities are planned around safe, reliable transportation options, families can reduce transportation costs, access jobs and services more easily, and benefit from more efficient land use. Lower transportation costs can also help reduce the cost of many goods and services, because transportation affects nearly every part of our economy.

I also believe South Carolina should encourage transportation choices that reduce reliance on fossil fuels, including alternative energy, safer transit infrastructure, and rail. Reducing fossil fuel demand can lead to cleaner air, cleaner water, and safer roads. High-speed rail from Washington, D.C. to Florida has been discussed for a long time; my goal is to help make it a reality. Municipal governments also need better tools to choose safer and more effective transportation infrastructure.

My own life continues to shape my views on housing. I currently live in a 55-plus community and find it to be a wonderful option, particularly because I am not required to do yard work unless I choose to. That flexibility frees me to pursue other work, including public service and efforts to make our communities stronger.

I am known as a behind-the-scenes person—someone who does the legwork, follows through, and gets things done within government. I ask you to put me to work for South Carolina. I ask for your vote, and I would be honored to have your public endorsement.

I am also interested in hearing your views and your positive solutions. Thank you again for your consideration and for the work you do to support homeowners, communities, and the future of South Carolina.