

**News release news release news release**

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**Fairmont businessman reappointed to affordable housing board**

FAIRMONT – Gov. Manchin has reappointed a Fairmont business leader to the board that provides funding to assist lower- and middle-income families to purchase homes.

Wilfong, who was re-appointed to the 11-member board for an additional three-year term, also serves as co-president of the West Virginia Housing Institute Inc., which is the voice for the factory-built housing industry in West Virginia.

Wilfong is deeply invested not only in his retail home sales business, which he has outlets in White Hall, Morgantown and near Buckhannon, but he also owns manufactured housing parks and serves on an advisory panel revamping manufactured park regulations for the state Department of Health.

First named as a charter member to the Affordable Housing Trust panel in November 2005, Wilfong's initial term expired last June 30.

During Wilfong's tenure, the trust has begun to accumulate and disburse money given to it by the West Virginia Housing Development Fund, other agencies, and from a \$20 fee placed on the sale of every home in the state.

The fund promotes stronger partnerships between public agencies and private profit and nonprofit groups, and helps increase the capacity of community-based housing organizations by encouraging businesses and individuals to contribute funds and help provide affordable housing.

Initial seed money of \$1 million from the HDF and \$500,000 from the Benedum Foundation of Pittsburgh came to the group in 2006.