

Vince Malta 2020 President

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500 New Jersey Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001-2020 Phone 202-383-1194 www.NAR.REALTOR February 25, 2020

The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney U.S. House of Representatives 2308 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton U.S. House of Representatives 2136 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Maloney and Holmes Norton:

The 1.4 million members of the National Association of REALTORS® are pleased to support the "Fair Access to Co-ops for Veterans Act." This bill expands housing opportunities for American servicemen and women across the country.

Since its establishment in 1944, the VA home loan guarantee program has helped more than 25 million veterans purchase and maintain homes. It provides veterans with a centralized, affordable, and accessible method of purchasing a home. However, current law prohibits veterans from using that benefit to purchase a cooperative. Co-ops can be less expensive than condominiums or single-family homes due to their unique financial structure. Veterans housing options should not be restricted when selecting where their want to live. This legislation will allow a veteran the freedom to choose whatever housing is appropriate for them and their families, including a cooperative.

The VA home loan guaranty program fulfills a promise that is made to our men and women in uniform in return for their invaluable service to our nation. We strongly support this legislation, and look forward to working with you on its passage.

Sincerely,

Vince Malta

2020 President, National Association of REALTORS®

