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March 24, 2020

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 1.4 million REALTORS®, I urge you to support H.R. 6364, the Securing and Enabling Commerce Using Remote and Electronic Notarization Act of 2020 (SECURE Notarization Act), which will provide immediate and meaningful relief to America's homeowners and prospective buyers. Please include this bipartisan proposal in the upcoming response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Remote Online Notarizations (RONs) allow a notary and signer, who are in different physical locations, to safely and securely execute electronic documents using two-way audiovisual communication. Currently, 23 states have approved the use of RON technology. While a number of additional states are debating RON legislation, borrowers in more than half the country remain unable to close on a real estate transaction without an in-person signing in person.

Given this time of crisis and uncertainty, Congress has the opportunity to immediately allow loan transactions to be completed using RON. The SECURE Notarization Act expands the availability of RON to consumers in all states, provides certainty for interstate recognition of RON and establishes minimum standards to ensure strong consumer protections. This legislation will allow Americans the ability to complete real estate and loan transactions without having to gather at a closing table and risk contracting or spreading the coronavirus.

Every loan closed puts money directly in American's pockets, letting allowing them to further stimulate the economy facilitating new and additional economic growth. A recent CNBC article showed that the average American can save \$277 per month with a refinancing. That is over \$3,300 of additional stimulus for families.

RON is a critical tool to ensure businesses and consumers can continue executing and notarizing critical documents. We urge support of the SECURE Notarization Act as well as its inclusion in any stimulus package.

Sincerely,



Vince Malta
2020 President, National Association of REALTORS®

