

### **NAR Committee:**

Federal Technology Policy Committee

### **What is the fundamental issue?**

While federal law allows documents to be signed electronically, Congress must pass the SECURE Notarization Act to establish national standards for remote online notarization and enable fully digital closings.

### **I am a real estate professional. What does this mean for my business?**

Remote online notarization allows documents to be signed and notarized securely online, without requiring parties to be in the same location. Combined with e-signatures, it enables transactions and closings to be completed entirely online, reducing delays, simplifying paperwork, and improving the client experience, especially for time-sensitive or multi-state deals.

### **NAR Policy:**

Support remote online notarization through technology-neutral standards, nationwide recognition, and strong consumer protections.

### **Opposition Arguments:**

Opponents raise concerns that nationwide remote notarization could increase fraud risk and undermine state authority. Others counter that establishing strong national standards—such as tamper-evident technology and multi-factor authentication—can expand secure access for consumers, including military families stationed abroad, while preserving state flexibility.

### **Legislative/Regulatory Status/Outlook**

NAR has long supported federal efforts to modernize real estate transactions, including:

- The Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce (E-SIGN) Act of 2000, which legalized electronic signatures for real estate contracts;
- The SECURE Notarization Act of 2025:
  - H.R. 1777, introduced in the House by Reps. Cliff Bentz (R-OR) and Joe Neguse (D-CO)
  - S. 1561, the Senate companion, introduced by Senators Kevin Cramer (R-ND) and Mark Warner (D-VA)

NAR continues to advocate for federal policies that support secure, efficient, and consumer-friendly innovations in real estate transactions.

### Current Legislation/Regulation (bill number or regulation)

[H.R. 1777](#)

[S. 1561](#)

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