



Elizabeth Mendenhall
2018 President

Bob Goldberg
Chief Executive Officer

ADVOCACY GROUP
William E. Malkasian
Chief Advocacy Officer/Senior Vice President

Jerry Giovaniello
Chief Lobbyist

500 New Jersey Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20001-2020
Ph. 202-383-1194
WWW.NAR.REALTOR

February 16, 2018

Ms. Leslie Reynolds
Executive Director
National Association of Secretaries of State
444 N. Capitol Street, NW Suite 401
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Ms. Reynolds:

On behalf of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), I thank the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) for the ongoing attention and interest regarding the adoption of remote online notarization standards. NAR supports efforts that make real estate closings more efficient and the work of the Remote Notarization Task Force to guide states is an important step in that direction.

The National Association of REALTORS® is America's largest trade association, representing 1.3 million members, including NAR's institutes, societies, and councils, involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries. Members belong to one or more of approximately 1,200 local associations/boards and 54 state and territory associations of REALTORS®. Across the country, REALTORS® provide consumers with the advantage they need to succeed in today's market as they buy, sell, and lease their homes, businesses, and investment properties. NAR supports the adoption of tools and processes that improve the experience for consumers and the REALTORS® serving them.

Remote online notarization is one of those tools, modernizing the sales transaction and allowing for increased flexibility when it comes to closings. When implemented with appropriate safeguards to protect the privacy and security of consumers, online notarization results in a more accessible, streamlined, and verifiable way to have critical transactions notarized. Online notarization preserves the traditional assurances of integrity provided by a notary with the added benefits of better fraud detection in an evolving digital commerce world.

We appreciate the efforts of the NASS on developing remote online notarization standards with transparency and input from those vested in improving the consumer experience. NASS's work will provide critical guidance to policymakers, government regulators, and the real estate industry serving the needs of home buyers and sellers. We look forward to working with you on nationwide adoption of remote online notarization and in other future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth G. Mendenhall'.

Elizabeth Mendenhall
2018 President, National Association of REALTORS®



REALTOR® is a registered collective membership mark which may be used only by real estate professionals who are members of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and subscribe to its strict Code of Ethics.