July 19, 2022

The Honorable Frank Pallone United States House of Representatives 2107 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers United States House of Representatives 1035 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers:

Thank you for your support in moving H.R. 3962, the Securing and Enabling Commerce Using Remote and Electronic (SECURE) Notarization Act, through the committee process. We appreciate your continued leadership in advancing this important legislation, which now has the strong, bipartisan support of 121 cosponsors and received a unanimous vote out of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce.

The SECURE Notarization Act provides businesses and consumers with the ability to execute critical documents using two-way audiovisual communication. Current requirements for a signer to physically be in the presence of a Notary are often impractical and sometimes impossible due to social distancing constraints resulting from COVID-19, as well as other barriers including military service or work travel.

Notarizations are used extensively in real estate transactions, as well as in a variety of other important areas including affidavits, powers of attorney, living trusts, advance health care directives, and automotive transactions, among others.

A survey conducted by the American Land Title Association of major vendors working in the RON space found that use of RON increased 547% during 2020 when compared to 2019. Clearly there is a need and demand for this approach across the country.

Given the dramatic adjustments businesses have had to make during the COVID-19 pandemic, the federal government should provide the critical tools to leverage technology to continue to keep Americans safe while also meeting their needs into the future through innovation. The past few years have shown technological solutions can increase accessibility and reduce burdens for people across the United States.

The SECURE Notarization Act would allow for the immediate nationwide use of RON technology. The legislation provides certainty for interstate recognition of RON and establishes robust minimum standards to ensure strong nationwide consumer protections

We greatly appreciate your leadership, and we look forward to continuing to work with you and Congress to swiftly enact this bipartisan, common-sense proposal.

Sincerely,

American Council of Life Insurers American Escrow Association American Financial Services Association American Land Title Association BSA | The Software Alliance Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers Credit Union National Association Electronic Signature and Records Association Financial Services Institute Housing Policy Council Independent Community Bankers of America® Insured Retirement Institute Mortgage Bankers Association National Association for Fixed Annuities National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions National Association of Home Builders National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors National Association of REALTORS® SPARK Institute Worldwide ERC

CC: The Honorable Madeleine Dean The Honorable Kelly Armstrong