

Coalition to Enact Remote Online Notary Legislation in Georgia

February 8, 2020

Dear Georgia Legislators:

On behalf of the companies and trade associations signed to this letter, we are writing as a group to express our collective support for remote online notarization legislation in Georgia.

Notarial acts are a necessary component of the many daily business activities we are all engaged in across various industries of our economy. As consumers continue to shift more of their daily activities to the use of internet technology, our industries are also changing to meet those demands. Moreover, shelter-at-home orders and social distancing protocols due to the pandemic have dramatically increased the importance of being able to conduct business and other transactions remotely. Such limitations may cause increased risk to our industries by hampering our ability to serve consumers and enable state commerce.

It has become clear that Georgia's notarial laws and regulations need modernization to support this technological shift.

We thank Representative Gullet for introducing legislation that has been carefully crafted to align with national models and represents a well-structured approach to making this tool available to consumers and businesses in Georgia. We appreciate that the proposal does this while maintaining the safety and security provided by the state's notarial process, and enhances protections for the role of attorneys in real estate transactions and legal practice generally in Georgia.

We strongly urge its swift passage and oppose any amendments that would limit its applicability to a broad range of transactions or make it more challenging to implement.

Adobe, Inc.

American Council of Life Insurers

American Financial Services Association

American Property Casualty Insurance Association

Georgia Bankers Association

Georgia Financial Services Association

Georgia's Own Credit Union

League of Southeastern Credit Unions and Affiliates

Metro Atlanta Chamber

Notarize, Inc.

Superior Court Clerks Association

TIAA

Quicken Loans, LLC.

Upstart, Inc.

Zillow Group