

April 18, 2020

The Honorable Doug Mastriano Senate Box 203033 172 Main Capitol Bldg. Harrisburg, PA 17120-3033

Dear Senator Mastriano:

The Pennsylvania Land Title Association ("PLTA") counts amongst its members businesses and individuals who facilitate settlements affecting real estate throughout Pennsylvania. These settlement agents are critical to the closing of real estate purchase and finance transactions.

We appreciate your continued leadership during this crisis and are writing in support of your legislation, Senate Bill 1097, which represents a significant modernization of the Notary Law by allowing userfriendly and secure methods for the electronic notarization of documents.

The current unfortunate situation with the Coronavirus is an example of how technology could better serve the residents of Pennsylvania by completing important business transactions remotely. In particular, by allowing Remote Online Notarization, homebuyers could complete secure closing documents remotely with a means to properly identify the signer(s) to prevent fraud and protect Pennsylvanians. Even in the absence of a crisis such as the Coronavirus, the limitations with our existing laws may result in increased risk to the industry by hampering our ability to serve customers.

Please contact me or our Government Affairs Consultant, Alex Rahn (717-378-3388 or <u>arahn@wannerassoc.com</u>) if you would like to discuss further.

Yours truly,

Robin Kelsh, Executive Director <a href="mailto:rkelsh@plta.org">rkelsh@plta.org</a>

Cc: Senate Members