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PA BANKERS ASSOCIATION APPLAUDS ENACTMENT OF PERMANENT REMOTE NOTARIZATION LEGISLATION

Harrisburg, Pa. – The Pennsylvania Bankers Association (PA Bankers) thanks Governor Tom Wolf for signing HB 2370, introduced by Rep. Mark Keller (R-Perry) into law as Act 97 of 2020, which will permanently authorize remote notarization. During the remote notarization process, a signer is permitted to personally appear before a notary by means of real-time audio-video communication.

Specifically, this bill allows notaries to permanently execute the following duties remotely:

- Perform acknowledgements;
- Administer an oath or affirmation;
- Take a verification on oath or affirmation; and
- Witness or attest electronic signatures and certify or attest a copy.

“Notaries are required for many legal documents, including car titles, mortgages, wills and trusts, to name a few. In today’s world, it can be challenging to physically appear before a notary for a myriad of reasons,” said Duncan Campbell, PA Bankers’ president & CEO. “PA Bankers applauds the signing of Act 97, as it allows the Pennsylvania banking industry to continue to effectively provide this service and serve their communities and customers.”

This bill is an extension of Senate Bill 841, which was signed into law in April and authorized remote notarization for the remainder of the COVID-19 pandemic and an additional 60 days thereafter.

“PA Bankers thanks Leader Jake Corman, Leader Kerry Benninghoff and Rep. Mark Keller for their leadership and constant effort to get this bill passed so that notarization access may continue to be provided to all individuals – through the pandemic and beyond,” said Campbell.

The new law will go into effect immediately.

PA Bankers has been bringing banks and bankers together for 125 years to learn, grow, serve and engage with their peers, communities and lawmakers. The association has

built a strong reputation as a leading advocate for pro-banking policies at the state and federal levels, as well as the delivery of quality education, products and services for banks of all sizes and their employees. Follow the Pennsylvania Bankers Association on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter (@PABankers).

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