



House Bill 807 – Real Estate Brokers, Salespersons, and Associate Brokers – Continuing Education Courses – Verification of Identity

Position: Favorable

Maryland REALTORS® represents 30,000 REALTORS® across the state and is pleased to support HB 807 which will help continuing education providers and students taking real estate continuing education classes.

When a real estate licensee takes mandatory continuing education classes, the regulations require a licensee to produce a photo I.D. if the class is held in person or in certain virtual-remote formats. Although the photo I.D. requirement has not posed significant issues for in-person classes, the requirement has created problems for the virtual-remote classes which are conducted live over Zoom. For very large classes, it can take a significant amount of time to verify individuals and their I.D. In addition, some students are uncomfortable showing I.D. that may contain personal information over the web.

Rather than requiring a photo I.D., HB 807 would clarify that all remote education classes be allowed to use a signed affidavit. Maryland already permits signed affidavits for the remote real estate education classes that are prerecorded and both Washington D.C. and Virginia permit an affidavit to be filled out for remote zoom-type classes.

The remote zoom-type classes have proved to be very popular with licensees who don't have to travel and has expanded the course options for many. The Real Estate Commission has also created several regulations around these classes to ensure licensees are attending them, including a requirement that the class be recorded.

For these reasons, the Maryland REALTORS® support HB 807.

**For more information contact bill.castelli@mdrealtor.org,
susan.mitchell@mdrealtor.org, lisa.may@mdrealtor.org, or
theresa.kuhns@mdrealtor.org**