



**House Bill 795– Federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program - Employee Certification and Awareness Materials**

**Position: Support**

Maryland REALTORS® asks for your support for HB 795, which seeks to increase awareness of federal student loan forgiveness program for public servants.

A January 2025 poll by Maryland REALTORS® revealed that 78% of state residents say having too much student loan debt is a huge or medium obstacle to becoming a homeowner. This is part of the overall trend of Millennials and Gen Z continuing to lag the homeownership rates achieved by Gen X and Baby Boomers at the same age. It has resulted in a first-time homebuyer rate of 24% - by far the lowest percentage ever recorded by the National Association of REALTORS®.

By assuring that eligible public sector employees are aware of their ability to apply for loan forgiveness, they can achieve greater economic stability and better facilitate their financial goals. For this reason, Maryland REALTORS® asks for a favorable vote on HB 795.

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