



House Bill 709 – Licensed Real Estate Brokers - Branch Offices - Designation of Managers

Position: Support

Maryland REALTORS® supports the House Bill 709, which addresses an inconsistency in the brokerage act by allowing real estate brokers to oversee branch office locations in the state.

Current law limits the number of offices a real estate broker may directly supervise to a single location. Once the broker expands to additional locations, they must designate an office manager. However, that office manager may oversee any number of office locations, so long as the supervision they provide is deemed “reasonable and adequate.”

Particularly for smaller brokerages looking to expand from a single location to a second, the need to hire additional personnel to oversee the new location can be cost prohibitive. This deters small business growth and investment in Maryland. Under this bill, that small broker would have the same ability to properly oversee more than one location as an office manager does currently.

Maryland REALTORS® asks for a favorable vote on HB 709 to aid small real estate brokerages in the state.

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