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500 New Jersey Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001-2020 Phone 202-383-1194 WWW.NAR.REALTOR January 14, 2020

The Honorable Abagail Spanberger U.S. House of Representatives 1239 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rob Wittman U.S. House of Representatives 2468 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Spanberger and Wittman:

On behalf of the 1.4 million members of the National Association of REALTORS<sup>®</sup>, and its affiliates, the CCIM Institute, the Institute of Real Estate Management, and the REALTORS<sup>®</sup> Land Institute, we thank you for introducing H.R. 5339, the "Freedom To Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act". This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow the use of funds in a qualified tuition savings account to pay for expenses associated with obtaining or maintaining professional certifications or designations.

REALTORS® and many other professionals can benefit from certifications or designation programs to increase their professional knowledge and expertise. 529 savings plans reduce the costs associated with college, graduate schools and trade schools, by allowing contributions and withdrawals to and from these funds to be tax free, when used for qualified education expenses. H.R. 5339 will expand the use of these funds to include professional programs. Like college, these programs can help professionals increase their work skills and proficiency in a variety of fields. This can also be beneficial in professions where college is not required, or when retraining into a new fields of work.

NAR strongly supports H.R. 5339, and look forward to working with you on its passage.

Sincerely,

Vince Malta 2020 President, National Association of REALTORS®



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