



ROB SUMMERFIELD

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 67th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
MAJORITY CAUCUS CHAIR

December 19, 2023

Senator Stafsholt, Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Sporting Heritage

Testimony on 2023 Senate Bill 626 *Relating to: notarial acts performed for remotely located individuals*

Senator Stafsholt and Committee Members:

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to testify at today's public hearing on Senate Bill 626. I appreciate your time and consideration of this legislation.

Senate Bill 626, as amended, allows remote notarization of a limited financial power of attorney for real estate transactions.

In 2019, Wisconsin Act 125 was created to allow Wisconsin notaries to perform notarial acts for a remotely located individual. However, remote notarization still does not apply to transactions related to powers of Attorney.

This important removal of the prohibition on remote transactions related to limited financial power of attorney for a real estate transactions will make Wisconsin's laws surrounding notaries more consistent and will promote efficiency for Wisconsin residents and the real estate industry.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I ask that you join me in supporting this bill.



Romaine Robert Quinn

STATE SENATOR • 25TH SENATE DISTRICT

From: Senator Romaine Robert Quinn
To: Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Sporting Heritage
Re: **Testimony on Senate Bill 626**
Relating to: notarial acts performed for remotely located individuals
Date: December 19, 2023

Thank you committee members for receiving my testimony today on Senate Bill 626 regarding notarial acts performed for remotely located individuals.

2019 Wisconsin Act 125 enabled Wisconsin notaries to perform a notarial act for a remotely located individual using communication technology. However, remote notarization does not apply to certain transactions, including transactions related to powers of attorney. Senate Bill 626, as amended, creates an exception to that exclusion by allowing remote notarization of a limited financial power of attorney for a real estate transaction.

This change will make things more efficient for Wisconsin residents and removes a hurdle from real estate business transactions.

This bill has bipartisan support and is supported by the Wisconsin Land Title Association, Wisconsin Realtors Association, and the State Bar. The substitute amendment addresses feedback received from the State Bar.

Thank you again for your time today and I would be happy to follow up with anyone who might have questions.