

# PAR CAPITOL REPORT

## *November 2021*

### **First-time Homebuyers Savings Account Update**

In October, the Senate passed [Senate Bill 157](#) (Mensch, R-Montgomery and Fontana, D-Allegheny) which would create a First-time Homebuyer Savings Accounts program in Pennsylvania. This legislation will allow first-time homebuyers to deposit money pre-tax into a savings account where it grows tax-free for the exclusive purpose of purchasing a first home.

The bill passed the Senate by a vote of 46-3 and has now been referred to the House Urban Affairs Committee where it awaits further consideration.

The House Urban Affairs Committee previously approved [House Bill 730](#) (Brown, R-Monroe and Bizzarro, D-Erie), companion legislation to SB157. HB730 is currently awaiting consideration by the full House before moving to the Senate.

PAR strongly supports this legislation and is working to advance the bills in the House.

### **Livestream Education Update**

During the pandemic, an emergency regulatory waiver allowed real estate education courses to be conducted via livestream and this temporary waiver was due to expire on Sept. 30. However, during the last week of September, the General Assembly and Gov. Tom Wolf agreed to extend all the emergency regulatory waivers until March 31, 2022.

We continue to see movement on PAR's supported bill that would permanently allow livestream education. [House Bill 1849](#) (Polinchock, R-Bucks) unanimously passed the House on Sept. 22, and was unanimously reported out of the Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee at the end of September. It was then referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee in mid-October where we await further movement.

PAR strongly supports this legislation and expect to see continued movement in the Senate in the coming weeks.

### **Legislation Tracking**

To see a list of the state legislation the association is currently monitoring visit [PARealtors.org](https://PARealtors.org).