



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Delaware HB 318 Signed Into Law, Increasing Bankruptcy and Debt Proceeding Exemptions

Dover, DE— The National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) is pleased to announce that Delaware House Bill 318, an Act to Amend Title 10 and Title 19 of the Delaware Code Relating to Exemptions in Bankruptcy and Debt Proceedings, has been signed into law by Governor John Carney on August 2, 2024. This Act significantly increases the exemptions available to debtors in bankruptcy and other debt proceedings, marking a crucial step forward in consumer debtor protection.

Effective January 1, 2025, the amended law raises the exemption for a debtor's personal residence from \$125,000 to \$200,000. This adjustment addresses the substantial increase in home prices since the previous limit was set in 2012. Additionally, the Act increases the exemption for tools of the trade and vehicles from \$15,000 to \$25,000. The legislation also exempts workers' compensation awards under the laws of other states from attachment in bankruptcy or other proceedings, aligning with protections already in place for Delaware awards.

NACBA's Director of Government Affairs, Krista D'Amelio, expressed gratitude to NACBA member Vivian A. Houghton, Esq. for her dedicated advocacy in ensuring the passage of this critical legislation. "Vivian's tireless work and unwavering commitment to protecting consumer debtors in Delaware have been instrumental in achieving this legislative victory. Amid this affordability crisis and the rise in consumer bankruptcies, it is more important than ever to help families stay in their homes, retain their property, and have the opportunity to start fresh and continue contributing to their communities."

NACBA also extends appreciation to the Delaware legislative sponsors of the bill: Rep. Paul Baumbach, Rep. Larry Lambert, Rep. Sherry Dorsey Walker, and Sen. David Sokola, for their invaluable support and leadership in championing this legislation.

The passage of HB 318 represents the 11th state-level legislative win for NACBA in the past four years. NACBA remains steadfast in its commitment to state exemption law advocacy, ensuring that consumer debtor rights are protected across the country.

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About the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys

The National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) is the only national organization dedicated to serving the needs of consumer bankruptcy attorneys and protecting the rights of consumer debtors in bankruptcy. NACBA provides resources, education, and advocacy to empower bankruptcy attorneys in their mission to help individuals achieve financial stability.



**National Association of Consumer
Bankruptcy Attorneys**

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