



National Council of State Boards of Examiners
for Speech - Language Pathology and Audiology

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August 15, 2019

Dan Logsdon
Director
National Center for Interstate Compacts
Council of State Governments
1776 Avenue of the States
Lexington, KY 40511

Dear Mr. Logsdon:

On behalf of the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (NCSB), I am writing in support of the proposed Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). We commend the Council of State Governments for working with the professions and associated professional associations in the publication of the proposed compact.

The NCSB is a national organization that represents state licensure boards in audiology and speech-language pathology across the country. In our work with licensing boards nationwide, we gather data relative to licensing characteristics and national trends and appreciate and respect the importance and effectiveness of statutory authority imposed by states in the interest of consumer protection.

NCSB's primary purpose is to:

- **Facilitate communication and interaction among state boards**
- **Promote the protection of consumers**
- **Stimulate interest in and discussion of issues pertaining to licensure boards**
- **Provide a forum for discussion**
- **Assist licensing boards in fulfilling statutory, professional and ethical obligations**
- **Promote uniform standards for licensure**

Although there is not a uniform practice act, and standards do vary to some extent from state to state, licensure boards nevertheless share the responsibility to protect consumers regardless of the mode of service delivery. The establishment of a compact, whereby licensure boards can expand services to individuals with speech, language, or hearing problems, can remove barriers to care while also ensuring that protection of the public's health, safety and welfare is maintained. It shall be the responsibility of each state licensing board to develop rules, policies, and procedures consistent with the laws of that state for the regulation and enforcement of services provided by the compact.

NCSB supports licensure as an important means of consumer protection, and encourages your leadership in this matter with state licensure boards so that individuals are fully informed about the issue of the compact. If you have questions or comments concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,

Kerri Phillips
2019 NCSB President