



December 6, 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 ASHA Special Interest Group 18, Telepractice, I write to express our support for the Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). SIG 18, one of a group of 19 special interest groups that allow members to promote specific professional interests among members and to develop communication and networking in diverse professional settings.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 204,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students.

Interstate occupational licensure compacts are game changers for professions that want to reduce barriers for practitioners, particularly for those of us providing services via telepractice as well as military spouses. Like compacts that already exist for nurses, physical therapy, physicians, psychologist and EMTs, ASLP-IC, will enhance licensure portability while simultaneously improving the ability of state boards to protect consumers.

We understand the ASLP-IC will benefit consumers, members and the professions by:

- increasing access to care for patients, clients, and/or students;
- facilitating continuity of care when patients, clients, and/or students relocate or travel to another state; and
- allowing military personnel and spouses to more easily maintain their profession when relocating.

SIG 18 is particularly excited to support this opportunity for our members. We look forward to supporting the ASLP-IC.

Sincerely,

Melissa Jakubowitz

Melissa Jakubowitz, MA, CCC-SLP
SIG 18 Coordinator