

January 14, 2020

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 Eastern Michigan University Communication Sciences and Disorders (EMU CSD) Program, I write to express our strong support for the Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC); legislation that would allow Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) to practice across state lines. The EMU CSD Master of Arts degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language Association and prepares speech-language pathologists to work across the country.

As the director of the program, I am aware of the benefits of this proposed compact, including benefits for states, consumers and practitioners. Our program fully recognizes the increased mobility of practitioners and clients and the rise of telepractice, which highlight the need for practitioners to have the ability to practice across state boundaries with minimal barriers, to improve access to highly qualified practitioners.

We understand the pressing need for Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists to follow on the steps of other licensed profession compacts that already exist to enhance licensure portability from one state to another (e.g., nurses, physical therapy, physicians, psychologist and EMTs), as ASLP-IC can facilitate, among other things,

- access to care for consumers, especially those from underserved or geographically isolated populations;

- continuity of care when consumers relocate or travel to another state;
- support for military spouses to more easily maintain their profession when relocating; and
- improvements in consumer protections across state lines.

Thank you in advance for your attention to and support of this legislation.

Sincerely,



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