

January 22, 2020

Dan Logsdon, Director
Council of State Governments
1776 Avenue of the States
Lexington, KY 40511

Dear Mr. Logsdon:

On behalf of The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) Communication Sciences and Disorders Program, we are writing to express our support for the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). As an organization committed to educating future speech-language pathologists and advocating for positive change within the healthcare system, we stand by the proposed legislation to allow audiologists and speech-language pathologists to practice across state lines.

Interstate occupational licensure compacts are game changers for professions that want to reduce barriers for practitioners. Like compacts that already exist for nurses, physical therapy, physicians, psychologists 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;
- allowing military personnel and spouses to more easily maintain their profession when relocating; and
- permitting practitioners to provide service to underserved or geographically isolated populations through telepractice.

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at UTRGV is pleased to support the ASLP-IC and thank you for your efforts in this regard.

Sincerely,



Donald Fuller, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Professor and Chair

Communication Sciences & Disorders



Betsaida Rodriguez, M.A., CCC-SLP
Clinical Manager