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January 17, 2020

Mr. 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 Educational Audiology Association (EAA), I am writing in support of the Audiology & Speech Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC), which will allow our members to practice across state lines and to provide much needed services to students with hearing loss living in underserved areas.

The Educational Audiology Association is an international organization of audiologists and related professionals who deliver a full spectrum of hearing services to all children, particularly those in educational settings. EAA is a member organization comprised of nearly 550 audiologists, speech-language pathologists (SLPs), and other related professionals who work in the educational setting providing support to children with hearing loss. Many members receive specialized training to work with this population and many also continue to remain up-to-date through continuing education. Many EAA members provide services to children who live in rural and remote school districts and it can be challenging to find qualified providers to adequately serve the needs of these children. Allowing service providers to practice across state lines through an interstate compact, without having to hold multiple state licenses reduces the burden on professionals and also increases the likelihood these providers may be able to serve these students. If these children do not have access to specialized providers, they will likely be unserved by anyone with knowledge about how hearing loss can impact learning and language, or they will be underserved by other school personnel.

Thank you in advance for your attention and support of this compact agreement.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Ward, Au.D., CCC-A  
2020 EAA President