

Dear Mr. Logsdon,

I am writing this letter in support of the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact; legislation that would allow audiologist and speech-language pathologists to practice across state lines.

I have been a licensed speech language pathologist since 1994. During my years of practice, I have lived in several states and as a result I have held multiple state licenses to practice speech-language pathology. I have spent hundreds of dollars and had to wait from 1-8 weeks for each new state license to be approved before I could practice. I am currently the department chair of a Speech Language Pathology Program. The new generations of Audiologists and Speech Language Pathologists are more mobile than ever. In addition, service delivery has changed with the development of telehealth.

I believe the proposed compact will offer the following benefits:

- Improve access to care for patients, clients and students (especially those in rural areas);
- Provide support for professionals who need to relocate for due to their spouse's job (e.g. military or otherwise);
- Promote cooperation between ASLP-IC member states to deliver the highest quality care to our clients and students.

Telehealth has changed the professions of medicine, nursing, physical therapy, and psychology. Interstate compacts exists for these professions and enhance licensure portability. It is time for Audiology and Speech Language Pathology to join these forward-thinking professions by establishing the ASLP-IC.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kathy L. Shapley".

Kathy L. Shapley Ph.D. CCC-SLP