



School of Allied Health Professions
Department of Communication Disorders

January 2, 2020

Dan Logsdon,
Director,
National Center for Interstate Compacts Council of State Governments,
1776 Avenue of the States,
Lexington, KY 40511

Dear Mr. Logsdon,

I am writing this letter in support of the Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). This compact will change the way speech-language pathology (SLP) services are provided for the better. It will enable speech-language pathologists to provide services to under-served and under-represented individuals in rural areas of the country where limited SLP services are available.

In the current world of technology where Telepractice is used extensively, this compact will help to promote SLP services in a timely and appropriate manner. It will ensure access to a choice of competent SLP providers within or out of the state where the client resides. Travel for individuals with multiple disabilities will be reduced to a minimum with possibility of providing assessment and intervention within the natural environment. Greater accuracy in assessment will be possible due to observation and evaluation of skills within the natural environment such as the home or school setting. Intervention within the natural environment also will help generalization of skills.

It is for these reasons that I support the Interstate Compact. Please feel free to contact me for further questions or concerns at mbanaj@lsuhsc.edu or at 504-568-4344.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Meher Banajee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the name.

Meher Banajee, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Associate Professor and Program Director
Speech-language Pathology,
LSU Health Sciences Center