



THE UNIVERSITY of
MISSISSIPPI
COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

January 7, 2020

Dan Logsdon
Director
National Center for Interstate Compacts
Council of State Governments
1776 Avenue of the States
Lexington, KY 40522

Dear Mr. Logsdon,

I am writing on behalf of the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders at the University of Mississippi (OleMiss) to provide a statement of 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.

Our department graduates approximately 30 to 40 highly qualified speech language pathologists each year who often wish to practice in different states to provide high quality services to clients located across state lines including rural areas with underserved clients. They often have difficulties in obtaining multiple licenses in different states due to administrative burdens.

The ASLP-IC compact will allow licensed audiologists and speech-language pathologists to more easily practice across state lines including the graduates of our program. It will permit audiologists and speech-language pathologists to provide services to underserved or geographically isolated populations through telepractice and facilitate continuity of care when patients, clients, and/or students relocate or travel to another compact state. Thus, the compact will increase access to care and improve consumer protections.

Our Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders at the University of Mississippi strongly supports the ASLP-IC compact to enhance the ability of speech-language pathologists and audiologists to provide high quality care across state line to positively impact the lives of patients they serve including underserved clients in rural areas.

Sincerely,

Vishakha W. Rawool, Ph.D., CCC-A, CPS/A, FRSM, FAAA
Chair & Professor,
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders
2301 South Lamar Blvd, Suite 1200, Office # NE 1107
The University of Mississippi
Oxford, MS 38677-1848
Phone: 662-915-5130
vrawool@olemiss.edu