

January 15, 2020

Susan Adams, Esq.
Director, State Legislative & Regulatory Affairs
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
2200 Research Boulevard, #220
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Susan,


I am writing to support the Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-C). This important legislation would allow audiologists and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) to practice across state lines. This is necessary given the combination of increased mobility of practitioners and clients, changes to the health care system, and the rise of telehealth highlights the need for clinicians to have the ability to practice across state boundaries with minimal barriers. This is consistent with a growing number of licensed professions— including medicine, nursing, physical therapy, psychology, and emergency medical services.

The ASLP-IC provides benefits for consumers, states, and practitioners by:

- improving consumer protections across state lines;
- increasing access to care for patients, clients, and students;
- promoting cooperation between ASLP-IC member states;
- facilitating greater investigatory resources for state regulatory boards;
- providing support for relocating military spouses; and
- permitting practitioners to provide service to underserved or geographically isolated populations through telepractice.

I support the passage of the proposed ASLP-IC legislation.

Sincerely,



J. Ron Nelson, Ph.D.
Interim Chair of the Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders
Roos Family Professor of Special Education