



January 28, 2020

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

RE: Audiology & Speech-language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC)

Dear Mr. Logsdon,

The National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA) is providing this statement of support for the Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact; legislation that would allow audiologists and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) to practice across state lines.

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. A growing number of licensed professions—including medicine, nursing, physical therapy, psychology, and emergency medical services—have developed interstate occupational licensure compacts to enhance licensure portability from one state to another.

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.

The mission of the NHCA is to prevent hearing loss due to noise and other environmental factors in all sectors of society. Our membership often provide occupational hearing conservation services across state lines requiring multiple state licenses. This legislation would ease the burden of financial costs and administrative time associated with application processing, testing requirements, and maintaining varying continuing education requirements.

National Hearing Conservation Association
3030 W. 81st Avenue, Westminster, CO 80031
Phone: 303-224-9022 | Fax: 303-458-0002 | Email: nhcaoffice@hearingconservation.org
www.hearingconservation.org

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The National Hearing Conservation Association strongly supports the ASLP-IC. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at 334-447-3337 or email me at amy_blank@yahoo.com.

Respectively,

Amy A. Blank

Amy A. Blank
NHCA President