

April 14, 2020

Dan Logsdon

Director

National Center for Interstate Compacts Council of State Governments

1776 Avenue of the States,

Lexington, KY 40511

Topic: Letter of Support, Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC)

Dear Mr. Logsdon,

Faculty from the Communication Sciences and Disorders Program at the University of Arkansas would like to express our unanimous support for the Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). The University of Arkansas is a public land-grant research university located in Fayetteville, AR with a student population of over 25,000. Our program is housed in the College of Education and Health Professions and has over 250 undergraduate students and over 50 graduate students currently enrolled. We help to train speech-language pathologists and audiologists who end up working with individuals across the lifespan all over the world.

The ASLP-IC would allow audiologists and speech-language pathologists to practice across state lines. The availability of these services is critical, especially to a state like ours that has multiple pockets of rural populations that are often unable to readily access health care services. Additionally, our state has professionals with unique skills sets and areas of expertise that could benefit children and families in other states. This legislation would be a leap forward in fulfilling the mission of our program as well as the mission of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association.

The ASLP-IC would benefit our country by:

- Promoting cooperation between ASLP-IC states
- Permitting audiologists and speech-language pathologists to provide services to currently underserved populations or populations that are geographically isolated
- Allowing military personnel and spouses to more easily maintain access to care and to maintain their profession when relocating

Faculty in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Program at the University of Arkansas strongly support this legislation.

Sincerely,



Rachel Glade, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, LSLC Cert. AVT
Program Director, Communication Sciences and Disorders
College of Education and Health Professions
University of Arkansas