



February 18, 2021

Senator David Wilson
Chair, Senate Health and Social Services
State Capitol Room 121
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: FOR SUPPORT: SB 67

Dear Chairman Wilson,

On behalf of the American Telemedicine Association (ATA), I am writing to express strong support of *SB 67: An Act relating to the licensure of nursing professionals; relating to a multistate nurse licensure compact*. The Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) has been enacted in 34 states and ATA is pleased to see the Alaska take an important step towards adopting the NLC and expanding access to care and telehealth services.

As the only organization completely focused on advancing telehealth, the ATA is committed to ensuring that everyone has access to safe, affordable and appropriate care when and where they need it, enabling the system to do more good for more people. The ATA represents a broad and inclusive member network of technology solution providers and payers, as well as partner organizations and alliances, working to advance industry adoption of telehealth, promote responsible policy, advocate for government and market normalization, and provide education and resources to help integrate virtual care into emerging value-based delivery models.

The NLC allows nurses to have one multistate license, in his or her state of residency, that grants the privilege to practice in other NLC participating state, both physically and remotely using telehealth. Utilizing telehealth nursing improves continuity of care for both urban and rural patients, especially those in underserved communities who may not have access otherwise. This is particularly important to enabling and delivering efficient, 21st century nursing care across state lines using digital health technologies.

We applaud your efforts for taking action to advance this vital legislation and encourage all legislators, including members of the Health and Social Services Committee to advance the NLC legislation.

We believe the NLC not only would continue to protect patients but also would help drive better care coordination and healthcare outcomes for constituents throughout the state. If you have any questions or would like to further discuss ATA's perspective on this critical issue, please contact me at kzebley@americantelemed.org.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Zebley".

Kyle Zebley
Public Policy Director
American Telemedicine Association