



Health. Virtually. Everywhere.

January 13, 2022

Senator Adelaide C. Eckardt
322 James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Senator Paul Pinsky
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Senator Cheryl Kagan
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

For Support/Comment Letters: SB 154: Advanced Practice Registered Nurses Compact

Sen. Eckardt,

On behalf of the American Telemedicine Association (ATA), I am writing to express strong support of *SB 154*. The ATA is pleased to see Maryland take an important step towards adopting the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Compact 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 title of APRN is inclusive of nurse practitioners (NP), clinical nurse specialist (CNS), certified nurse midwives (CNM) and certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA). They are registered nurses educated at master's or post master's level and in a specific role and patient population. The compact allows nurses to have one multistate license, in his or her state of residency, that grants the privilege to practice in other participating states, 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.

Thank you for sponsoring this important legislation and we applaud your efforts for taking action to advance this vital legislation and encourage all legislators, including members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee to advance the APRN compact legislation.

We believe the APRN compact 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.

Sincerely,

Kyle Zebley
Vice President of Public Policy
American Telemedicine Association