

February 3, 2022

Senator Curtis S. Bramble 3663 North 870 East Provo, UT, 84604

Re: ATA Action in Support of S.B. 151: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact

Dear Senator Bramble,

On behalf of ATA Action, I am writing to express strong support of *S.B. 151: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact.* ATA Action is pleased to see Utah take an important step towards adopting the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Compact and expanding access to care and telehealth services.

ATA Action, the American Telemedicine Association's affiliated trade association focused on advocacy, advances policy to ensure all individuals have permanent access to telehealth services across the care continuum. ATA Action supports the enactment of state and federal telehealth coverage and fair payment policies to secure telehealth access for all Americans, including those in rural and underserved communities. ATA Action recognizes that telehealth and virtual care have the potential to truly transform the health care delivery system – by improving patient outcomes, enhancing safety and effectiveness of care, addressing health disparities, and reducing costs – if only allowed to flourish.

The title of APRN is inclusive of nurse practitioners (NP), clinical nurse specialist (CNS), certified nurse midwifes (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 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 Action's perspective on this critical issue, please contact me at kzebley@ataaction.org.

Kind regards,

Kyle Zebley Executive Director

ATA Action