



March 3, 2022

Senator Mary Daugherty Abrams, Co-Chair
Representative Jonathan Steinberg, Co-Chair
Public Health Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
Legislative Office Building, Room 3000
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: House Bill 5046, the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact

Dear Chairwoman Abrams and Chairman Steinberg,

On behalf of ATA Action, the American Telemedicine Association's affiliated trade association focused on advocacy, I am writing to express support for House Bill 5046. To date, the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC) has been enacted in 34 states, the District of Columbia, and the Territory of Guam. ATA Action is pleased to see Connecticut take an important step towards adopting the IMLC and expanding access to medical care and telehealth services.

ATA Action 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 IMLC offers an expedited and streamlined pathway to licensure for physicians who wish to practice both physically and remotely in multiple states. Utilizing telehealth improves continuity of care for both urban and rural patients in underserved communities who may not have access to care otherwise. The IMLC is particularly important to enabling and delivering efficient, 21st century medical care across state lines using digital health technologies.

Furthermore, while ATA Action continues to support the IMLC and other professional licensure compacts, we also support measures that streamline and accelerate the ability of out-of-state providers to become licensed, certified, or registered to practice in Connecticut. To that end, we encourage the legislature to continue exploring options to reduce the often-antediluvian barriers facing the highly qualified providers who are otherwise willing and able to serve patients in Connecticut but are presently unable to do so.

We applaud your efforts for taking action to advance this vital legislation and encourage all Connecticut legislators to vote in favor of these bills. We believe the IMLC not only would continue to protect patients but also would help drive better care coordination and healthcare outcomes for constituents throughout the state.

ATA ACTION

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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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Zebley", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Kyle Zebley
Executive Director
ATA Action

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