



November 2, 2022

The Honorable Joseph F. Vitale
Chair, Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
New Jersey State Senate
First Floor, State House Annex,
Trenton, NJ 08625

RE: ATA ACTION LETTER IN SUPPORT OF S3236

Dear Chair Vitale and the New Jersey Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee,

On behalf of ATA Action, I am writing to express strong support of S3236. The Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC) has been enacted in 23 states and territories and ATA Action is pleased to see New Jersey take an important step towards adopting the ASLP-IC 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 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 ASLP-IC is an occupational licensure compact which allows professionals to practice in multiple states without having to obtain additional state licenses. The compact addresses increased demand to provide/receive audiology and speech-language pathology services and authorizes in-person and telepractice across state lines. Utilizing telehealth audiology & speech-language pathology services 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 audiology & speech-language pathology 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 Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee, to advance the ASLP-IC legislation.

ATA ACTION

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We believe the ASLP-IC 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Zebley".

Kyle Zebley
Executive Director
ATA Action