



June 26, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: ATA ACTION SUPPORT OF AB 2566 – *Counseling Compact***

Dear Chair Wicks,

On behalf of ATA Action, I am writing to express support for Assembly Bill 2566 to enact the interstate Counseling Compact. The Counseling Compact has been enacted in 33 states and ATA Action is pleased to see California take an important step towards joining this coalition of states in expanding access to care.

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 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.

The Counseling Compact is an occupational licensure compact which allows professionals to practice in multiple states without having to obtain additional state licenses. The compact helps to address increased demand for counseling services and authorizes both in-person and tele-practice across state lines. Additionally, utilizing telehealth counseling 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 for enabling and delivering efficient, 21<sup>st</sup> century counseling care across state lines using digital health technologies.

The Counseling Compact will protect patients as well as enable better care coordination and outcomes for constituents throughout California. 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](mailto:kzebley@ataaction.org).

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Zebley", written in a cursive style.

Kyle Zebley  
Executive Director  
ATA Action

**ATA ACTION**

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