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3-31-2021

Dan Logsdon, Director
National Center for Interstate Compacts
The Council of State Governments
1776 Avenue of the States
Lexington, KY 40511

Dear Mr. Logsdon:

On behalf of the Kentucky Counseling Association please accept this as an expression of our strong support for the Counseling Compact. KCA is the state-level membership organization for professional counselors in Kentucky, representing over 4,000 counselors.

Much like the existing licensure compacts for nurses, physical therapists, physicians, psychologists and EMS personnel, the Counseling Compact will increase licensure portability for practitioners while allowing member state regulatory boards to better protect consumers through enhanced sharing of licensure information. Existing interstate occupational licensure compacts have been successful in reducing barriers for practitioners who wish to provide services in other states.

We recognize that the Counseling Compact will benefit consumers, our members and the counseling profession by:

- Enhancing mobility for counselors who meet uniform licensure requirements;
- Increasing access to care for clients;
- Ensuring continuity of care when clients or counselors relocate or travel to other states;
- Allowing military personnel and spouses to more easily maintain their certifications when relocating; and
- Preserving and strengthening the current system of state licensure.

Importantly, the Counseling Compact preserves each member state's authority to regulate the profession. Counselors utilizing the Compact must abide by the laws and rules of the state in which they are practicing, including adhering to that state's scope of practice.

With these benefits in mind, the Kentucky Counseling Association is excited to endorse the Counseling Compact.

We look forward to supporting the Counseling Compact in Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Pender Baum

Dawn Hinton, Executive Director
Rebecca Pender Baum, President
Kentucky Counseling Association