



May 21, 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 American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB), I write to express our support for the Counseling Compact process. Since 1986, AASCB has been the only organization that represents the regulatory concerns and needs of the counseling profession, bringing together regulators from our member boards and interested affiliate organizations. AASCB promotes regulatory excellence in the counseling profession by providing leadership, education, and services to our member boards.

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, licensure boards, 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 and adhere to that state's scope of practice.

With these benefits in mind, AASCB supports the Counseling Compact.

Sincerely,

Kevin Doyle, AASCB President

Cc: AASCB Board of Directors, Jolie Long, AASCB Executive Director (*via email*)