

January 29, 2021

David Benton
Chief Executive Officer
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
111 East Wacker Drive, Suite 2900
Chicago, IL 60601-4277

Dear Dr. Benton:

On behalf of our more than 10,000 member nurse leaders who manage and provide patient care across the health care continuum, the American Organization for Nursing Leadership (AONL) endorses the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Compact.

The COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed the way hospitals and health systems operate, as well as how health care practitioners provide patient care. This is especially true when it comes to APRNs and the expanded use of telehealth. Telehealth allows APRNs to screen and care for individuals within their geographic area and beyond, allowing patients to remain in their homes and increasing the number of patients a provider can safely see. While many state nursing licensure boards granted emergency licensing provisions to increase the nursing workforce available to meet the increased need for patient care during the pandemic, the APRN Compact creates a mechanism to sustain these gains after this public health emergency.

The convergence of multi-state health care systems, a looming physician shortage and increased utilization of telehealth make multi-state APRN licensure critical to the facilitation of quality and safe advanced nursing care. AONL recognized the Nurse Licensure Compact's ability to increase access to care and supported it from its inception. The APRN Compact builds on its success and expands APRNs' ability to care for underserved communities.

Thank you for your leadership on addressing the licensing barriers preventing APRNs from helping meet our nation's health care demands. If we can be of further assistance, please contact AONL Director of Advocacy and External Communications Stacey Chappell at schappell@aha.org.

Sincerely,



Robyn Begley
Chief Executive Officer, AONL
Senior Vice President Workforce, Chief Nursing Officer, AHA