



01/23/2025

Senator Axtman
4010 Ridge Way
North Dakota Legislative Assembly
Bismarck, ND 58503

Dear Senator Axtman,

On behalf of the North Dakota Association of School Psychologists (NDASP), I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 2341 which proposes the adoption of the Interstate Compact for School Psychologists (ICSP). This legislation represents a significant step forward in addressing the growing need for school psychological services across North Dakota and other member states by streamlining licensure processes and facilitating professional mobility.

The proposed Interstate Compact will allow specialist- or doctoral-level school psychologists licensed in North Dakota to practice in other compact member states and vice versa, without the burden of duplicative licensing requirements. By promoting this mobility, the compact directly addresses critical workforce shortages in school psychology, ensuring that all students—especially those in rural or underserved areas—have access to safe, reliable, and high-quality psychological services.

This compact also acknowledges the unique needs of military families by easing the relocation process for licensed school psychologists who are active-duty military members or their spouses. By simplifying the process to transfer licensure between states, this legislation demonstrates a commitment to supporting military families and maintaining continuity of care for students.

Additionally, the ICSP enhances inter-state cooperation, maintains high professional standards, and preserves the authority of individual states to regulate school psychology within their borders. It ensures that all practitioners meet rigorous qualifications while fostering collaboration and information-sharing among states, thereby protecting the public and enhancing the quality of services provided to students and families.

The ICSP aims to support the school psychology profession and state workforces by streamlining the licensure mobility system in member states. In a time when districts across the country face widespread shortages in education workforces, the ICSP provides a practical solution for school psychologists who relocate and struggle to become licensed in another state.

Benefits for School Psychologists:

- Eliminates barriers to school psychology licensure while maintaining a high level of professional practice.
- Prevents the need for reexamination, additional testing, and administrative fees immediately after a move.
- Expands opportunities for school psychologists to seek employment in a broader pool of schools and districts, ensuring the best fit for their experience and career.
- Supports the ability for school psychologists to work in multiple states through remote practice.
- Facilitates the careers of military spouses, enabling them to reenter the classroom and continue their school psychology career after a permanent change of station.

Benefits for State Education Licensing Authorities:

- Creates a compact information system to facilitate licensure and discipline information for relocating school psychologists.
- Provides a direct line of communication to peer agencies to collaborate on field-specific challenges and share information.
- Supports public safety efforts in the licensure of school psychologists by maintaining high standards.

Benefits for State Education Workforces:

- Increases the ability of states to attract school psychologists from across the country.
- Enables states to grant licenses efficiently and place school psychologists in schools to make an immediate impact.
- Fosters greater coordination and cooperation among state licensing authorities on matters such as discipline and licensure requirements.

The NDASP is committed to advocating for initiatives that strengthen the field of school psychology and increase access to essential services. The adoption of the ICSP aligns with our mission to promote the mental health and educational success of children and adolescents across North Dakota. This legislation has the potential to make a profound and positive impact on the lives of students, families, and educators.

We strongly urge the members of the North Dakota Legislative Assembly to support Senate Bill 2341. By passing this bill, North Dakota can take a leadership role in improving access to critical school psychological services while fostering professional growth and collaboration among states.

Thank you for considering this important legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require additional information or wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Campbell, on behalf of North Dakota Association of School Psychologists

President

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