

January 13, 2021

Representative Gretchen Dobervich 1625 23rd Street South Fargo, North Dakota 58103

RE: Support/Comment Letters: HB 1044: A Bill for an Act to amend and reenact section 43-12.4-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the advanced practice registered nurse license compact

Rep. Dobervich

On behalf of the American Telemedicine Association (ATA), I am writing to express strong support of HB 1044. ATA is pleased to see the North Dakota legislature take an important step towards adopting the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Compact and expanding access to care and telehealth services.

As the only organization completely focused on advancing telehealth, the ATA is committed to ensuring that everyone has access to safe, affordable and appropriate care when and where they need it, enabling the system to do more good for more people. The ATA represents a broad and inclusive member network of technology solution providers and payers, as well as partner organizations and alliances, working to advance industry adoption of telehealth, promote responsible policy, advocate for government and market normalization, and provide education and resources to help integrate virtual care into emerging value-based delivery models.

The APRN Compact allows certified nurse practitioners (CNP), clinical nurse specialists (CNS), certified nurse midwives (CNM), and certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA) to have one multistate license, in his or her state of residency, that grants the privilege to practice in other participating state, both physically and remotely using telehealth. Utilizing telehealth nursing 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 to enabling and delivering efficient, 21st century nursing and primary care across state lines using digital health technologies.



We applaud your efforts for taking action to advance this vital legislation and encourage all legislators, including members of the Human Services Committee to advance the APRN Compact legislation.

We believe the APRN Compact not only would continue to protect patients but also would help drive better care coordination and healthcare outcomes for constituents throughout the state. If you have any questions or would like to further discuss the telehealth industry's perspective, please contact <u>kzebley@americantelemed.org</u>.

Kind regards,

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