



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND
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January 13, 2015

The Honorable Paul Seaton
Alaska House of Representatives
270 W. Pioneer Avenue, Suite B
Homer, AK 99603

Representative Seaton,

Thank you for the letter to the Alaska State Medical Board and Alaskan Healthcare Providers concerning your examination of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact created by the Federation of State Medical Boards to streamline licensure in Alaska.

The Board has expressed interest in participating in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and has seen the model language for the compact which is what is being enacted in the other compact states. There are 12 states now participating with another 12 that have introduced legislation.

Things to keep in mind as participation in the compact are considered:

- It is our belief that the Alaska language must be the same as other states and Alaska will not be able to have different provisions and still participate;
- The Compact Commission has set standards to equal the most stringent even though they may exceed some requirements in some states. That would not preclude applicants from applying in our state if they are unable to meet the higher compact standards, but do meet the "normal" Alaska standards.
- In Alaska, as in all other states, the practice of medicine does occur where the patient is located. This is not inconsistent with telemedicine authority.

Please look forward to a response from Dr. Miller, Chair of the Alaska State Medical Board in the near future and thank you for your interest and examination of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact as a possible fit for Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janey Hovenden".

Janey Hovenden, Director

cc: Alaska State Medical Board
Alaska State Medical Association
Alaska Academy of Family Physicians
Alaska Academy of Physicians Assistants