



March 17th, 2026

Alaska House of Representatives
House Labor and Commerce Committee

Re: HB 352 HealthCare Licensing Compacts

On behalf of the EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases, we are pleased to submit testimony in support of HB 352 HealthCare Licensing Compacts. The EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases is powered by the rare disease community to improve health outcomes by driving change through evidence-based policy, leading science-driven policy and regulatory research, activating the community to advocate for their rights and needs, and strengthening the rare disease community.

House Bill 352 would add Alaska to the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, reducing duplicative paperwork for physicians to a single application while retaining the states' rigorous medical licensing standards. Since April 2017, more than 150,000 new licenses have been issued nationally, with another 60,000 issued in 2023 and 2024.¹ This streamlined process provides an expedited pathway to licensure for qualified physicians and in turn increases patient access to out-of-state providers. In addition, the compact does not place a financial burden on states. Every state that has joined the compact has remained revenue-neutral or revenue-positive.²

For patients with complex medical conditions who are unable to travel to receive care this increased access is extremely beneficial, especially for specialty care that is often outside their state. Rare disease patients who have a diagnosis can still face significant barriers to receiving expert care from a distance. A 2019 survey found that 39% of rare disease patients had to travel more than 60 miles for care. In some instances, approximately 17% of survey respondents, rare disease families, face the need to permanently relocate just to be closer to the few experts for their disease.³ Expanding access to reach expert care will help ensure patients with one or more of the estimated 10,000 rare diseases receive the expert clinical care they need.⁴

¹ American Medical Association (AMA). [Issue Brief: Interstate Medical Licensure Compact \(2025\)](#).

² Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC). <https://imlec.com/>

³ The National Organization for Rare Disorders. November 2020. [Barriers To Rare Disease Diagnosis Care And Treatment In The US: A 30-Year Comparative Analysis](#).

⁴ National Human Genome Research Institute. (2019, March 9). *Rare Diseases FAQ*. Genome.gov. <https://www.genome.gov/FAQ/Rare-Diseases>

By joining the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, Alaska can complement its previous efforts to increase patient access to expert care via telemedicine by further streamlining the licensing process for physicians. We hope that Alaska will join the other 41 states that have joined the compact to retain continuity of care for all patients, including those with rare diseases. We urge you to support this bill and thank you for your dedication to our rare disease patient community.

Sincerely,



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Kathryn Poe
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CC:

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Amy Gaviglio, Chair, Board of Directors, EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases