



Governor Michael J. Dunleavy  
STATE OF ALASKA

February 4, 2020

The Honorable Cathy Giessel  
Senate President  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 208  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Giessel:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to a multistate nurse licensure compact.

This bill would allow Alaska to adopt the Multistate Nurse Licensure Compact, which would strengthen the state's healthcare delivery system by reducing barriers to licensure for registered and licensed practical nurses and by increasing opportunities for nurses from other states to practice in the state.

The Multistate Nurse Licensure Compact would allow registered and practical nurses in any of the almost three dozen participating states to practice in Alaska without having to go through a fairly duplicative and sometimes time-consuming licensing process. This bill would not affect certified nurse aides (CNAs), advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), or anyone else who wishes to practice under an Alaska-only nursing license. For those practitioners, this bill preserves the availability of temporary licenses and licensure by credentials.

This bill would codify the Nurse Licensure Compact as a new Chapter, AS 08.69. Conforming changes to the existing nursing statute AS 08.68 would be made to accommodate the compact's requirements. The compact's requirements for multistate licensure are rigorous, exceeding those in our present statute and supporting high quality care for all Alaskans.

The compact would establish a commission with rulemaking, enforcement, and financial assessment provisions. Alaska would appoint one person to be the compact administrator within the state.

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This bill is a win-win, keeping our present licensure options for CNAs, APRNs, and Alaska-only licensees, while opening Alaska's diverse communities to multistate licensed RNs and LPNs.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Dunleavy", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Dunleavy  
Governor

Enclosure