

Dear Legislators-

My name is Katie Kuijper and I'm a licensed nurse in Alaska. I also have inactive licenses in Wisconsin, Arizona, and Washington. I do not keep them active due to cost. I have worked as a travel nurse in the past and it is cumbersome, untimely, and expensive to apply to each state to get licensure to work. I feel that when making a choice about where to work, I would decide based on my existing nursing licenses to cut down on wait time and cost. I stayed in Alaska after committing to a travel assignment and licensure and have been here for 21 years now. For Alaska to get the help needed for our hospitals and other facilities, joining the NLC would expedite this and increase the ease of nurses who would come to help us. It may also open exposure to the great state we live in. Nurses may decide to stay for all that Alaska offers, just like myself.

I recently have needed to work from home and many jobs required an NLC or an application to get a nursing license in their state. The NLC would ease this process and make my availability to work a broader spectrum of jobs while remaining here in Alaska and not needing to move. I'm supportive of HB 149 so Alaska can join the NLC. Thank you for your consideration.

Katie Kuijper
Registered Nurse
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