



January 28, 2020

Senator Gayle Harrell, Chair
Health Policy Committee
Florida Senate
404 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Re: SB 926 and SB 928: Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

Dear Chairwoman Harrell:

On behalf of the American Telemedicine Association (ATA), I am writing to express our strong support for SB 926, *Healthcare Practitioner Licensure* and SB 928, *an Act relating to public records and meetings of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact*. To date, the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC) has been enacted in 29 states and the District of Columbia. The ATA is pleased to see Florida take an important step towards adopting the IMLC 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 IMLC offers an expedited and streamlined pathway to licensure for physicians who wish to practice both physically and remotely in multiple states. Utilizing telehealth improves continuity of care for both urban and rural patients in underserved communities who may not have access to care otherwise. The IMLC is particularly important to enabling and delivering efficient, 21st century medical care across state lines using digital health technologies.

We applaud your efforts to advance this vital legislation and encourage you and your colleagues to vote in favor of SB 926 and SB 928. We believe the IMLC would not only continue to protect patients but also help drive better care coordination and healthcare

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outcomes for constituents throughout the state. If you have any questions or would like to further discuss the ATA's perspective on this critical issue, please contact Kevin Harper, Director, Public Policy at kharper@americantelemed.org.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Mond Johnson", followed by a comma.

Ann Mond Johnson
CEO

cc: Members of the Senate Health Policy Committee