



NDSA-15-2425

A Resolution in Support of Interstate Licensure Compacts

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) represents the voice of North Dakota's 45,000 public college and university students; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of NDSA is to represent all students enrolled in the North Dakota University System (NDUS) and advocate on issues of higher education in support of access, affordability, quality, and the student experience; and,

WHEREAS, during the 69th Legislative Session, legislators have introduced HB 1035, SB 2146, SB 2341, and SB 2223, bills that create interstate compacts for Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, School Psychologists, and Dieticians respectively; and,

WHEREAS, according to the National Center for Interstate Compacts¹ (CSG), interstate licensure compacts lower barriers for professionals in health care occupations to practice across state lines, reducing costs and shortening the time for acquiring licensure in different states for these professions; and,

WHEREAS, the CSG goes further stating that the public benefit from licensure compacts as they have increased access to services, an increased diversity of practitioners, and elevated safety standards; and,

WHEREAS, according to a research article by MollyMaeve Lusk exploring the role of interstate compacts in modernizing the healthcare workforce, the author mentions that occupational licensure compacts have a crucial impact on military families, stating that more than 30 percent of military spouses in the workforces in careers that require an occupational license are negatively impacted, and states that easing the burden of occupational licensure in critical; and,

WHEREAS, in addition, Lusk states that licensure compacts promote career agility, allowing professionals to choose career paths that may have otherwise been unavailable to them, stating that compacts boost interstate migration; and,

WHEREAS, many students attending institutions of Higher Education in these disciplines are impacted positively by these compacts, reducing the cost of licensing for them, giving them a vaster variety of options of where to practice in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, these compacts open the door for out of state students to practice in North Dakota, and could incentivize students going into disciplines affected by these compacts to transfer to North Dakota, all further addressing our workforce shortages in these areas; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the North Dakota Student Association supports HB 1035, SB 2146, 2341 and SB 2223, which create interstate compacts for these professions.

¹[Occupational Licensure Compacts – National Center for Interstate Compacts | The Council of State Governments](#)

²Lusk M. 2023. The Role of Interstate Compacts in Modernizing the Healthcare Workforce. Policy Perspective 14(1):81-4. [The Role of Interstate Compacts in Modernizing the Healthcare Workforce - Journal of Nursing Regulation](#)

*Approved by the North Dakota Student Association General Assembly
Saturday, January 25th, 2025*