



OVERVIEW

- Legislation: SB 179 / HB 238: Multistate Nurse Licensure Compact
Position: ASHNHA supports the nurse licensure compact to reduce barriers to licensure, address nursing workforce shortages, and improve patient care.
Bill Summary: Seeks to streamline the licensure and regulation of nurses by allowing Alaska to join a multistate compact that consists of a single nursing license with uniform qualifications and practice expectations that can be used in any member state. 34 other states participate.

How Does the Nurse Licensure Compact Benefit Alaska?

Improve Access to Care and Patient Safety

- Helps reduce nurse workforce shortages and expands access to nursing services quickly and efficiently, which is essential for the health of many rural and underserved communities.
Fully staffed clinics and shifts assist our members in maintaining stable patient centered care teams.
Adequate staffing reduces nursing stress.

Telehealth

- Enables Alaska nurses to practice in-person or provide telehealth nursing services to patients located across the country without having to obtain additional licenses.
Allows nurse educators from Alaska to teach online courses to nursing students in other states.

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief

- Allows nurses to quickly and easily provide nursing services in Alaska in response to disasters such as flu pandemics, natural disasters such as earthquakes and mass casualty events.

Military Families

- Allows military spouse nurses to seamlessly continue working without having to obtain a new license each time they relocate.

Cost Effective and Efficient

- Avoids delays to the licensing process and allows nurses to get to work quickly and efficiently.
Eliminates redundant, duplicative regulatory processes and unnecessary fees.
Allows nurses who do not wish to have a multistate license or those who are ineligible for a multistate license to still obtain a single state license based on Alaska's requirements and statutes.
Nurses with a state or federal felony convictions are ineligible for multistate license.

