Submitted via email: jordan.hill@wvhouse.gov



January 27, 2020

The Honorable Jordan Hill Chair Health and Human Resources Committee West Virginia House of Delegates 1900 Kanawha Blvd E # 212 Charleston, WV 25305

RE: HB 4375

Dear Delegate Hill:

On behalf of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, I write to support and thank you for your sponsorship of HB 4375, which adopts the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 204,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students. Over 1,000 ASHA members reside in West Virginia.

ASHA members often have difficulty obtaining multiple state licenses to practice due to administrative burdens. These burdens hinder their ability to provide quality services and restrict consumer access in underserved and rural communities. I am pleased to support HB 4375, which will address these issues by:

- · increasing access to care for patients, clients, and/or students; and
- facilitating continuity of care when patients, clients, and/or students relocate or travel to another state, specifically with members of the military and their spouses.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Susan Adams, ASHA's director of state legislative and regulatory affairs, at <u>sadams@asha.org.</u>

Sincerely,

unios 1

Theresa H. Rodgers, MA, CCC-SLP 2020 ASHA President