

February 14, 2020

The Honorable Charles Scott, Chair The Honorable Sue Wilson, Chair Labor, Health & Social Services Committee 200 West 24th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002

RE: SF 87

Dear Senator Scott and Representative Wilson:

On behalf of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, I write to support SF 87, which adopts the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact. I also want to extend my thanks to Committee members, Senators Pappas and Schuler, and Representative Hallinan for sponsoring this important legislation.

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 370 ASHA members reside in Wyoming.

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 SF 87, 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. Therese H. K

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