

Submitted via email: ovandervoort@leg.ne.gov

January 15, 2020

The Honorable Sara Howard Chair Health and Human Services Committee Nebraska Unicameral Legislature Room #1402 P.O. Box 94604 Lincoln, NE 68509

RE: LB 753

Dear Senator Howard:

On behalf of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, I write to support LB753, which adopts the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact, and request to have this testimony entered into the official record.

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 1,440 ASHA members reside in Nebraska.

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 LB753, 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 sadams@asha.org.

Sincerely,

Theresa H. Rodgers, MA, CCC-SLP

2020 ASHA President

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