



ASHA
American
Speech-Language-Hearing
Association

Via email: Bud.Estes@senate.ks.gov

March 11, 2020

The Honorable Bud Estes
Chair
Federal and State Affairs Committee
Kansas Legislature
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612

RE: SB 490

Dear Senator Estes:

On behalf of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, I write to support SB 490, 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 211,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students. Over 2,000 ASHA members reside in Kansas.

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 SB 490, 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