



ASHA
American
Speech-Language-Hearing
Association

Submitted via email: Adam.Koenig@lrc.ky.gov

January 29, 2020

The Honorable Adam Koenig
Chair
Licensing, Occupations and Admin Regs Committee
Kentucky House of Representatives
702 Capital Ave
Annex Room 367A
Frankfort, KY 40601

RE: HB 218

Dear Representative Koenig:

On behalf of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, I write to support HB 218, 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 2,775 ASHA members reside in Kentucky.

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 218, 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