

April 27, 2020

The Honorable Asa Hutchinson
Governor of Arkansas
State House
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Governor Hutchinson,

The ERISA Industry Committee (ERIC) and our nationwide employer member companies commend you for taking swift and strategic actions to address the COVID-19 crisis. In addition to our [previous ask](#) to temporarily waive medical licensure requirements for all out of state providers, we also want to urge your administration to take a critically important step to more permanently accelerate the adoption of interstate licensures. To do so, **we ask that you officially join the Interstate Medical Licensure Commission Compact (IMLCC)**. The IMLCC is an agreement among participating U.S. states to expedite the pathway to licensure for physicians who qualify. Joining the compact will eliminate barriers to care during this pandemic crisis when families need access to telehealth more than ever before. For a state to join the IMLCC, the legislature must introduce and enact a bill authorizing the state to join the compact. The next step is to ensure the language of the compact is consistent amongst the participating states. Finally, your state must accept the terms of the legislation, adopt and sign the bill into law.

Many states participate in the IMLCC, taking the proactive measure of waiving burdensome state medical licensure requirements for out-of-state providers, allowing telehealth providers to practice in multiple states without having to endure a cumbersome and often delayed application process. The compact allows qualified providers to receive licenses for each participating state through a singular and streamlined application process. Permitting providers to practice in multiple states compensates for provider shortages in COVID-19 hotspots as well as rural regions that lack access to care.

Thank you for considering our additional request. We know joining the compact can help patients in your state get the care they need. ERIC is here to answer any questions or be a resource in any way. Please contact ERIC's Carly Sternberg at cssternberg@eric.org or 202.627.1914, or me. Thank you again for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

