



Maryland Academy of Audiology

P.O. Box 710

Parkville, MD 21234

<http://maaudiology.org/>

Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

January 22, 2021

Chairman Pinsky, Vice-Chair Kagan, Members of the Education, Health & Environmental Affairs
Committee Members,

The Maryland Academy of Audiology (MAA) is **favorable with amendment** for the Senate Bill 183/HB 288, the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact. The MAA would like an amendment to the "Residing" state of audiologists and speech-language pathologists (SLP) (page 10).

As written, the legislation implies that if any audiologist (or SLP) lives outside of Maryland but works in Maryland, the state where they live **MUST** also be a member of the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). The states on the East Coast are relatively small and many Maryland providers live in a different state than their place of employment. As a result, the legislation as written would require one of the following untenable conditions:

- 1.) All of the states around Maryland must immediately become members of the ASLP-IC, or
- 2.) Providers working in Maryland and living outside Maryland must move inside the state, or
- 3.) Providers must apply and pay for two separate licenses, one of which they may not use since they do not practice in their state of residence.

Additionally, practices that have multiple locations across different states may not benefit from the ASLP-IC until ALL states pass the Compact. If passed without amendment, the legislation would effectively punish audiologists (and SLPs) for living out of state.

The MAA requests an amendment to the "Residing" state to include the situation when:

- 1.) An audiologist and/or speech-language pathologist lives outside Maryland, and
- 2.) Is employed only in Maryland, and
- 3.) The state where they reside is not part of ASLP-IC, then
- 4.) The provider needs only a license in Maryland.



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Thank you for allowing the MAA to provide information and obtain clarification on the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact legislation. Please reach out to the MAA or Bellamy Genn Group if we can be assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alicia D.D. Spoor, Au.D.".

Alicia D.D. Spoor, Au.D.
Legislative Chair
Maryland Academy of Audiology

Greg Snyder
Government Relations Associate
Bellamy Genn Group