

TO: The Honorable Joselyn Pena-Melnyk, Chair Members, House Health
and Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Ken Kerr & Jamila Woods
FROM: Lisa D. Fisher, LCSW-C

DATE: February 21, 2025

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 345 - Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact

Chairperson Pena-Melnyk and Distinguished Members of the House & Government Operations Committee:

Thank you for considering my written statement supporting House Bill 345 on the “Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact” for inclusion in the public hearing record. I am Lisa D. Fisher, a Licensed Certified Social Worker- Clinical (LCSW-C) in Maryland; a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in Virginia, and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in Delaware. I live in Harford County, Maryland.

The significance of the Social Worker Interstate Licensure Compact resonates with me as a mental health professional due to the movement of clients – moving because of family needs, work relocation, cost of living, and any other meaningful reason to the client. The continuum of care is more critical than an abrupt termination of care. The interstate social work licensure compact will lessen the effects of termination and starting all over again for the client.

The ability to practice across state lines is like a driver’s license. I have a Maryland driver’s license in good standing. I can drive in the United States without limitations and follow each State’s law. It is the same with the interstate social work licensure. I must respect the law and obey the law.

When I was a graduate student, the tier explained to me was psychiatrist, psychologist, and licensed certified/clinical social worker. Whether this is accurate, other healthcare professions allow licensure portability for practitioners such as psychologists and nurses. Let’s allow the licensed, certified clinical social worker to do the same.

Thank you for your time, attention, and support to the Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact.

Respectfully, I am,



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