

## **Testimony of Free State PTA In Support of House Bill 118 - Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact**

To the Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Free State PTA, which represents families and students across Maryland, we submit this testimony in support of House Bill 118, the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact.

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future sets high expectations for public education, including smaller class sizes, expanded programs, and equitable opportunities for all students. However, these goals are only achievable if our schools are fully staffed with qualified educators. Maryland's current teacher shortage poses a serious obstacle to delivering on this promise.

HB 118 provides a clear solution by streamlining the licensure process for out-of-state teachers. By joining this compact, Maryland can attract talented educators who are ready to contribute immediately, especially in high-demand areas such as special education and career and technical programs. Importantly, the compact also supports military families and ensures state standards are upheld.

To meet the staffing demands of the Blueprint, Maryland must adopt policies that make teaching here more accessible while maintaining our strong commitment to quality. HB 118 achieves this balance, and we urge the committee to pass this bill to help fulfill our shared vision of success for every Maryland student.

Thank you for your consideration.



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### **Notes:**

EdWeek [article](#) (2023)

Current members [map](#)

The Compact was drafted by a collaboration:

- National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification
- National Association of Elementary School Principals
- American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- National Education Association

- Council of Chief State School Officers
- Education Commission of the States
- Southern Regional Education Board
- American Association of School Administrators
- National Conference of State Legislatures
- National Association of State Boards of Education
- National Governors Association
- National Council on Teacher Quality
- National School Boards Association