

**FAVORABLE
House Bill 118
Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact**

**House Ways and Means Committee
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The Maryland State Education Association supports House Bill 118, which would enter Maryland into the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact for the purpose of establishing licensure portability for teachers between participating states.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our almost 900,000 students so they can pursue their dreams. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3-million-member National Education Association (NEA).

The Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact is a dynamic agreement that would make active, in-good-standing teaching licenses portable between participating states. Too often, fully certified teachers seeking to move to another state are required to complete additional coursework, assessments, or other requirements that make it difficult and expensive to continue their teaching career. As we face not only statewide but nationwide teacher shortages, we ought to remove barriers to continuing in the education profession, especially for experienced teachers who are relocating.

The Compact was developed with the input of a range of public education stakeholders, including the National Education Association, the National Association of State Boards of Education, the National School Boards Association, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. Joining the Compact is an opportunity to make teaching more accessible for committed, already-certified educators who may be considering a move to Maryland.

We urge the committee to issue a Favorable Report on House Bill 118.