

House Committee of Corporations
State of Rhode Island General Assembly
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Diana Beaton

Support for H 5067 - DIETITIAN LICENSURE COMPACT

Hearing: Tuesday Feb 4, 2025

Dear Chairman Solomon and Members of the Committee,

My name is Diana Beaton; I am a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (dietitian) from Warwick, RI. **I testify in support of H 5067, Dietitian Licensure Compact**, which would decrease the administrative burden required for dietitians to be licensed in multiple states.

I am in support of this legislation because I would like to be able to become licensed in other states that are participating in this Compact. It would enable me to easily remain licensed in the states where I see patients. There is a great need in the U.S. for nutrition counseling services (currently called Medical Nutrition Therapy). I currently see patients for in-person visits but will be starting a new business and would like to be able to provide telehealth services in Maine and New Hampshire (These New England states are also pursuing participation in the Dietitian Licensure Compact).

In the current system, dietitians need to be individually licensed in multiple states to see patients in those states. With the advent of telehealth, it's possible to have a broader business opportunity for dietitians in private practice. With the compact, the requirements for licensure in RI would satisfy the licensure requirements in the other states. That would be a huge time savings for a business owner. You would still have to pay each state where you are licensed a fee.

This compact would decrease the burden to become qualified to practice in multiple states and expand access to nutrition care to patients across the U.S. that participate in the compact. I respectfully ask for your support of **House Bill 5067, the Dietitian Licensure Compact**.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

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