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

Holli Mootz Support for H 5067 - DIETITIAN LICENSURE COMPACT

Hearing: Tuesday Feb 4, 2025

Dear Chairman Solomon and Members of the Committee,

My name is Holli Mootz and I am a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (dietitian) from Warwick, RI who is actively working on expanding my reach to help people in other states with their nutrition goals. I testify in strong support of H 5067, Dietitian Licensure Compact, which would decrease the administrative burden required for dietitians to be licensed in multiple states.

This compact would benefit both patients and dietitians. It benefits patients as it allows them to continue working with their current dietitian via telehealth instead of being forced to change providers when they move or when their dietitian moves. Not only will the passing of this compact allow us to better focus on our patients while providing stable care, but it will help us be a stronger resource for all our nation's citizens while we all struggle to utilize our healthcare. This compact will help us make the lives of others easier, healthier, and happier. Help us be that foundation for everyone we meet.

It also benefits dietitians who must move frequently as a result of their spouse's profession (for example a military spouse). This compact would reduce the difficulty of their move, allow them to continue their work with less interruption and allow them to continue seeing patients from their previous state after they move via telehealth. It will also give dietitians more flexibility to care for family such as aging loved ones without an additional financial risk from obtaining more state licensure while simultaneously providing us with more job stability every citizen deserves. In the current system, dietitians licensed in multiple states have to keep track of the timing of renewal, fee payment methods and differing continuing education requirements for each state, creating a high administrative burden and taking away important time from patient care. As a profession that requires passing a nationally recognized and extensive exam to be registered, it would be appreciative for us to be granted more license flexibility at the national level, or the very least a regional level so we can help more people better. This would also put us on more respectable ground as other healthcare professions who take similar nationally recognized exams before legally practicing. Help us care for our family, friends, and US citizens by streamlining our legal requirements and lessening our financial burdens. We want to help everyone we touch, and that is something you can help us achieve.

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

Thank you for your time and consideration and I would also like to thank you on behalf of my current and future patients.

Holli Mootz

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