

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

Mackenzie Blair RD, LDN  
Mackenzie Blair Nutrition Counseling  
**Support for H 5067 - DIETITIAN LICENSURE COMPACT**

Hearing: Tuesday Feb 4, 2025

Dear Chairman Solomon and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the Dietitian Licensure Compact legislation. My name is Mackenzie Blair, and I am the owner of Mackenzie Blair Nutrition Counseling, a private practice providing high-quality, evidence-based nutrition care to patients across multiple states. As a business owner and registered dietitian, I work tirelessly to improve the health and well-being of my patients. However, the current state-by-state licensure process presents a significant and unnecessary burden on our ability to deliver care effectively.

Unlike larger corporations and well-funded startups with millions of dollars in seed money, such as Weight Watchers, Fay Nutrition, Nourished, and Berry Street, small businesses like mine must navigate the costly and time-consuming process of obtaining multiple state licenses. The administrative and financial strain of licensing in multiple states is a major barrier to providing accessible, high-quality medical nutrition therapy to patients who need it.

The Dietitian Licensure Compact would help alleviate this burden by streamlining the licensure process and allowing dietitians to practice across state lines without the excessive costs and delays associated with obtaining and maintaining multiple licenses. Without this compact, small practices like mine are at a competitive disadvantage, as larger companies can leverage their financial resources to expand their services more easily while we struggle to keep up with regulatory requirements.

Moreover, the current system limits patient access to care. Many individuals seeking medical nutrition therapy for chronic disease management, weight concerns, and other nutrition-related conditions face unnecessary barriers because of outdated licensure restrictions. At a time when telehealth is expanding access to care, we must ensure that small businesses and independent dietitians are not pushed out of the market by regulatory hurdles that favor large corporations.

Supporting the Dietitian Licensure Compact will help level the playing field allowing small, patient-focused practices to continue serving their communities without being overwhelmed by administrative red tape. I urge you to pass this legislation to ensure that dietitians can provide the care patients need without undue burden on small businesses.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Mackenzie Blair*

**Mackenzie Blair RD, LDN**

Registered Dietitian & Founder

Mackenzie Blair Nutrition Counseling