



House Committee of Corporations

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

Cassie Costello

**Support for H 5067 - DIETITIAN LICENSURE COMPACT**

Hearing: Tuesday Feb 4, 2025

Dear Chairman Solomon and Members of the Committee,

My name is Cassie Costello and I am a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist and resident of Rhode Island. 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.

I am currently licensed in the following three states: Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. It is an onerous process to maintain licensure for these states, as they each have different requirements, paperwork, and renewal deadlines. This is also financially burdensome as I have to pay for the initial license for each state and subsequent renewals on top of continuing education fees.

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. This is especially important for college students, a group at high risk of eating disorders, who necessarily spend large blocks of time in two states and need stable care.

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. 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.

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.

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