

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

KATIE MULLIGAN MS, RDN  
**Support for H 5067 - DIETITIAN LICENSURE COMPACT**

Hearing: Tuesday Feb 4, 2025

Dear Chairman Solomon and Members of the Committee,

My name is Katie Mulligan and I am a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (dietitian) from District 22 in Warwick, RI. 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. 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. I'd like to share that I am currently working with a client who has been receiving nutrition services for an eating disorder with me for many years. She will be leaving for college in the fall and is already concerned about what she will do if we can no longer work together because she will be out of state. When patients and clinicians have formed a working relationship built on trust and experience, it is very challenging to have to start over with a new provider. The Dietitian Licensure Compact would help with situations such as this one by giving patients consistent care.

This Compact 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

*Katie*

Katie Mulligan MS, RDN  
WellFamily Nutrition Coaching, LLC

East Greenwich, RI