



To: House Committee on Health and Human Services
From: Care New England
Date: February 15, 2024
Subject: **Support for HB 7442**

Dear Chair Donovan and members of the Committee,

Care New England (CNE) is in support of HB 7442, and we would like to thank Minority Leader Chippendale for championing this effort in the House. CNE would also like to thank the Rhode Island Medical Society and their members who have been a leader on this topic for nearly a decade.

CNE Health System is a trusted, integrated health care organization that fuels the latest advances in medical research, attracts the nation's top specialty-trained doctors, hones renowned services and innovative programs, and engages in the important discussions people need to have about their health. CNE is helping to transform the future of health care, providing a leading voice in the ongoing effort to ensure the health of the individuals and communities we serve.

In 2022, Chairwoman Fogarty helped pass the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact HB 8047-A, which is an agreement among participating states to work together to significantly streamline the licensing process for physicians who want to practice in multiple states. It offers a voluntary, expedited pathway to licensure for physicians who qualify. Since this has passed, there has not been any updates from the administration on when this licensure compact would be implemented.

Rhode Island has an enormous challenge in that the healthcare industry is facing historic staffing shortages. Giving medical professionals this voluntary option to practice in Rhode Island has vast benefits for the health and wellbeing of our residents and for the economy of our state.

CNE urges you to pass HB 7442. We are appreciative of the opportunity to provide testimony and if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Robert Dulski, Director of Government Affairs, RDulski@CareNE.org. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Dulski".

Robert Dulski
Director of Government Affairs
Care New England



(401) 227-3669



4 Richmond Square
Providence, RI 02906



www.carenewengland.org