

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** Marianne Kelly <mkelly5915@ymail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2026 3:58 PM  
**To:** House Health and Human Services Committee; Rep. Costantino, Gregory J.  
**Subject:** SUPPORT for House Bill No. 7273 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT

RE: House Bill No. 7273 ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT {LC3608/1} (Requires the state to implement the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact no later than July 1, 2026.)

Dear Chairwoman Donovan and members of the House Health and Human Services Committee,

I write in strong support of House Bill No. 7273, which would require Rhode Island to implement the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC) no later than July 1, 2026.

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact creates an efficient, streamlined pathway for physicians licensed in one state to obtain licensure in multiple states. Since its creation in 2017, more than 100,000 medical licenses have been issued nationwide through the Compact—demonstrating both its demand and its effectiveness.

Although Rhode Island enacted legislation to join the Compact in 2022, implementation delays have prevented our physicians from fully participating. As a result, Rhode Island providers are currently unable to access the same opportunities as their peers in other states—limiting both professional mobility and patient access to care.

By making it easier for qualified physicians to practice across state lines, the IMLC helps address provider shortages, ensures continuity of care, and expands access to high-quality healthcare. This is especially important for rural and medically underserved communities, where even small increases in provider availability can make a meaningful difference.

The Compact also supports the growth of telemedicine, allowing physicians to care for patients across state lines more easily. This is particularly beneficial for older adults who travel seasonally or live part of the year in another state, ensuring they can maintain consistent relationships with their healthcare providers.

Additionally, for physicians practicing near state borders, the IMLC provides critical flexibility—enabling them to respond quickly in emergencies and deliver lifesaving care without unnecessary administrative barriers. In a small state like Rhode Island, where state lines are never far away, this flexibility is both practical and essential.

Timely implementation of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact is a commonsense step toward strengthening our healthcare system, supporting our physicians, and improving access to care for all Rhode Islanders.

I respectfully urge you to support House Bill No. 7273. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marianne Kelly  
Johnston, RI