



# RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY

Chairperson Melissa Murray  
Senate Health & Human Services Committee  
Rhode Island Senate  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Support – S 2458

March 3, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Rhode Island Medical Society (RIMS), representing physicians and physicians-in-training across the state, we write in support of Senate Bill 2458, which establishes a deadline of July 1, 2026 for implementation of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC).

Rhode Island joined the Compact nearly five years ago to improve licensure efficiency, strengthen physician workforce flexibility, and expand patient access to care. While we recognize the administrative challenges associated with implementation, the Compact has not yet been operationalized, and Rhode Island patients and physicians have therefore not realized the benefits intended by the General Assembly.

Timely implementation is particularly important given ongoing physician workforce shortages and growing reliance on regional care networks. Participation in the IMLC will help reduce unnecessary administrative barriers while maintaining Rhode Island's licensing standards and oversight.

S2458 provides a clear and reasonable timeline to move this long-standing policy commitment into practice and ensure promulgation of the necessary regulations.

RIMS respectfully urges the Committee to support this legislation and stands ready to assist as implementation moves forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nadine Himelfarb, MD  
President