



For Immediate Release

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Leading Policymakers, Stakeholders Underscore the Benefits of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact to Patients, Nation at National Press Club Event

WASHINGTON – Following the enactment of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact by nine states, leading federal and state policymakers and key stakeholders gathered in the nation’s capital to examine the success of the recently established Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. Hosted by the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) at the National Press Club, the morning event highlighted the Compact’s beneficial impacts on the delivery of and access to high quality medical care for patients across the country.

“The Interstate Compact will benefit rural America, especially in Wyoming,” said **U.S. Senator John Barrasso, MD (WY)**, whose state was the first in the nation to adopt the Compact. “States like ours, with patients who live in small, remote areas, need access to physicians who do not live here. I’m proud of Wyoming for leading the way to ensure that patients have access to the medical care they need.”

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, which offers a new pathway for expedited medical licensure, is expected to significantly reduce barriers to the process of gaining licensure in multiple states, helping facilitate licensure portability and telemedicine while expanding access to health care by physicians, particularly in underserved areas of the nation.

“The Interstate Compact for Medical Licensure would help thousands of Utahns, especially those living in remote corners of the state,” said **Utah State Representative Raymond Ward, MD**, sponsor of the Compact legislation in Utah. “This bill would increase access to healthcare services for our most vulnerable residents and I am proud that Utah has joined eight other states in supporting this bipartisan, states’ driven effort.”

Additional panelists at the National Press Club event, who also spoke to the beneficial impact of the newly enacted Compact, included representatives of state medical and osteopathic boards, the American Medical Association (AMA), Council of Medical Specialty Societies, Gundersen Health System, and the National Patient Safety Foundation.

The Compact drafting process was completed in September 2014. Since then, the Compact legislation has been enacted by nine states including Alabama, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming and has been introduced in ten other state legislatures this year.

For more information about the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, visit: <http://licenseportability.org/>

To read the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact legislation, [click here](#).

About the Federation of State Medical Boards: The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) is a national non-profit organization representing all medical boards within the United States and its territories that license and discipline allopathic and osteopathic physicians and, in some jurisdictions, other health care professionals. FSMB leads by promoting excellence in medical practice, licensure, and regulation as the national resource and voice on behalf of state medical boards in their protection of the public. To learn more about FSMB visit: <http://www.fsmb.org/>. You can also follow FSMB on Twitter (@theFSMB) and Facebook by liking the Federation of State Medical Boards page.

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