

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 25, 2015

Humayun J. Chaudhry, DO, MACP
President and CEO
Federation of State Medical Boards
1300 Connecticut Ave NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20036

James Daniel Gifford, MD, FACP
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Federation of State Medical Boards
1300 Connecticut Ave NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Drs. Chaudhry and Gifford,

We are writing to congratulate the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB), and the medical and osteopathic boards it represents, on the progress made in implementing an Interstate Medical Licensure Compact to support medical license portability and expand access to care. As strong supporters of the state-based system of physician licensure, we believe the Compact represents a significant step forward in the licensure of physicians and we applaud the work of the FSMB and its member boards in this area.

The Compact will provide physicians with another avenue to seek expedited licensure which will facilitate practice in multiple states. This is critically important to ensure the expansion of telehealth technology, which we believe plays an important role improving access to health care for our constituents. In addition, we are pleased the Compact does not increase the regulatory burden placed on physicians. Doctors that would like to continue to seek licensure through each individual state medical board may continue to do so. However, by adopting the Compact, states are recognizing the need to provide doctors with an additional option to fulfill their licensure needs.

Since the model Interstate Medical Licensure Compact drafting process was completed in September 2014, the Compact has already been enacted in Wyoming, South Dakota, Utah, Idaho, West Virginia, Montana, Alabama, Minnesota, Nevada, Iowa, and Illinois. Furthermore, an additional 8 state legislatures (including Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, and Wisconsin) introduced the Compact this session.

We are pleased to learn that you have surpassed your target of a minimum of seven states joining the Compact, thereby formally establishing the administrative role of the Compact Commission. We understand that nearly 30 state medical and osteopathic boards have endorsed the Compact, many of which will seek to join the Compact in the years ahead.

In the coming months, we encourage you to continue to work with your member medical boards and states to consider participation in the Compact, which will simultaneously facilitate multistate practice while ensuring states' ability to regulate medicine and ensure patient safety. Please keep us apprised as the Compact continues to be enacted by states throughout the nation.

Sincerely,

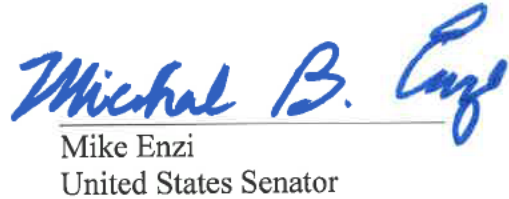

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United States Senator


John Thune
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Thad Cochran
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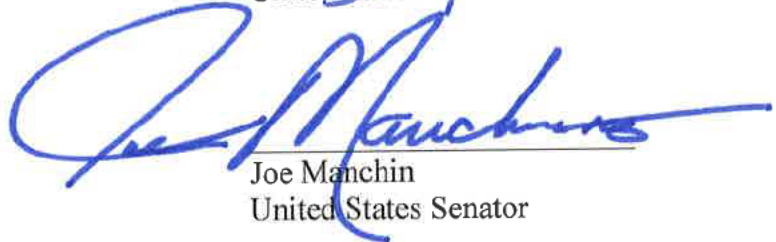

Steve Daines
United States Senator

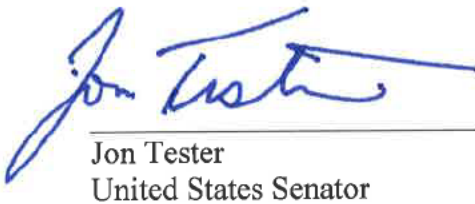

Mike Enzi
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James M. Inhofe
United States Senator

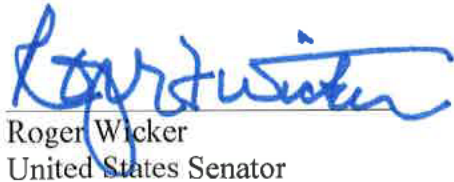

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