



MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

January 4, 2024

Senator Donna Bailey
Representative Anne Perry
Chairs, Joint Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

RE: Physician Assistants Licensure Compact

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry, and Honorable Committee Members:

I write on behalf of the Department of Defense to request your consideration of the policies outlined in LD 2043, An Act to Add the State of Maine to the Compact for Licensing Physician Assistants. Much like other licensing compacts the Department supports, the Physician Assistants Licensure Compact is a best practice approach for one of the DoD's ten key priorities for personnel and readiness.

Military spouses, while not wearing a uniform, serve alongside our active-duty military members, and their sacrifices often go unnoticed. Most of our military families rely on two incomes to meet their financial needs, and many military spouses hold professional licenses. These professionals are disproportionately affected by state-specific licensure requirements that can cause delays and gaps in employment, especially when they are forced to relocate every few years as part of their family's military service obligation.

The Physician Assistants Licensure Compact will increase license portability for PA professionals in Maine, support military families, and improve access to services for Maine residents, while maintaining the current system of state licensure. Should you have any questions regarding this statement, please feel free to contact me at any time.

I can be reached at 703-623-2035 or melissa.j.willette3.civ@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by
WILLETTE.MELISSA.JANICE.1538337591
Date: 2024.01.04 13:07:20 -05'00'

MELISSA WILLETTE
New England Regional Liaison
Defense-State Liaison Office

CC: Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services
Rep. Kristen Cloutier
Senator Matthea E.L. Daughtry

President Troy Jackson
Senator Trey L. Stewart
Senator Eloise Vitelli
Rep. Michael Brennan
Rep. Sally Jeane Cluchey
Rep. Janice Dodge
Rep. Joshua Morris
Rep. Kelly Noonan Murphy