

April 7, 2023

Dan Logsdon  
Director National Center for Interstate Compacts  
Council of State Governments

Via email

Dear Mr. Logsdon:

On behalf of the Washington Dental Hygienists' Association (WDHA), I write to express our support for the Dentist/Dental Hygienist Compact. Washington was the first state to introduce [legislation](#) on this topic. Our bill has passed the House of Representatives and the Senate unanimously and will soon be delivered to Governor Inslee for his signature into law.

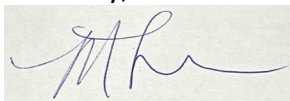
There are about 200,000 licensed dentists and about 215,000 licensed dental hygienists in the United States. These licensees are limited to providing care within state borders. The Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact seeks to provide dentists and hygienists with opportunities for multistate practice and to increase mobility for individuals who are relocating. This compact also seeks to improve public safety and promote workforce development by reducing unnecessary licensure burdens.

Benefits for dentists and hygienists are many. This compact helps licensees be more mobile and eases the burden of applying for and maintaining multiple licenses. The Compact also supports relocating military spouses and families.

There are benefits for patients, as well. This compact promotes workforce development and strengthens labor markets. It expands consumer access to highly qualified practitioners while at the same time enhancing public safety.

WDHA fully supports the Dentist/Dental Hygienist Compact and looks forward to being one of the first states to join this compact.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored background, appearing to read 'MLea'.

Megan Lea, RDH  
President