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The mission of ADEA is to lead
and support the health professions
community in preparing future-ready
oral health professionals.

655 K Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: 202.289.7201
Fax: 202.289.7204
adea.org

June 7, 2023
Daniel Logsdon
Director
National Center for Interstate Compacts
The Council of State Governments
1776 Avenue of the States
Lexington, KY 40511

Dear Mr. Logsdon:

On behalf of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA), I write to express our support for the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact.

Much like the existing licensure compacts for nurses, physical therapists, physicians, psychologists and EMS personnel, the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact will increase licensure portability for practitioners while allowing member state regulatory boards to better protect consumers through enhanced sharing of licensure information. Existing interstate occupational licensure compacts have been successful in reducing barriers for practitioners who wish to provide services in other states.

We recognize that the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact will benefit consumers, licensure boards and the dentistry profession by:

- Enhancing mobility for practitioners who meet uniform licensure requirements,
- Increasing access to care for patients,
- Ensuring continuity of care when patients or practitioners relocate or travel to other states,
- Allowing military personnel and spouses to more easily maintain their licenses when relocating and
- Preserving and strengthening the current system of state licensure.

Importantly, the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact preserves each member state's authority to regulate the profession. Practitioners using the compact must abide by the laws and rules of the state in which they are practicing and adhere to that state's scope of practice.

With these benefits in mind, ADEA supports the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact.

Sincerely,

Karen P. West, D.M.D., M.P.H.
President and CEO