



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

TREATING OUR FAMILY AND YOURS



TO: Members of the Maryland State House Health and Government Operations Committee

FROM: Maryland Association of Osteopathic Physicians  
American Osteopathic Association

DATE: February 13, 2018

SUBJECT: House Bill 596

**The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the Maryland Association of Osteopathic Physicians (MAOP) are writing in support of HB 596.** This bill enacts the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact). The AOA and MAOP believe that joining the Compact would ease administrative burdens for physicians interested in holding a license to practice medicine in multiple states, while allowing states to maintain control over medical licensure, discipline and patent protection.

The AOA represents 137,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) and osteopathic medical students, promotes public health, encourages scientific research, serves as the primary certifying body for DOs and is the accrediting agency for osteopathic medical schools. More information on DOs/osteopathic medicine can be found at [www.osteopathic.org](http://www.osteopathic.org). MAOP is a professional medical organization that represents over 1,000 DOs providing patient care in Maryland.

#### **The benefits of the Compact:**

- **It allows states to continue to oversee medical regulation and the discipline of physicians. It also encourages states to work together to ease the burdens of holding a license to practice medicine in multiple states.**
- **Physician interest in holding licenses in multiple states has grown with the increasing use of telemedicine nationally, and the Compact will promote appropriate licensure for physicians using this technology to treat patients across state lines.**

**The AOA and MAOP urge you to support HB 596.** Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact Raine Richards, JD, Director, State Government Affairs at [richards@osteopathic.org](mailto:richards@osteopathic.org) or (312) 202-8199.

Sincerely,



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President, AOA



Brian Kahan, DO  
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