

April 17, 2017

The Honorable Charles Sargent
Chairman
Tennessee State House Ways and Means Committee
301 6th Avenue North
War Memorial Building
Suite 206
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Dear Chairman Sargent:

The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) are writing to encourage you to support HB 664. This bill enacts the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact). The AOA and TOMA 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 nearly 130,000 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. TOMA is a professional medical organization that represents approximately 2,000 DOs providing patient care in Tennessee.

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.**

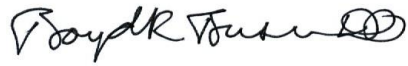
The AOA and TOMA urge you to support HB 664. Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact Nick Schilligo, MS, Associate Vice President, State Government Affairs at nenschilligo@osteopathic.org or (800) 621-1773, ext. 8185.

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Sincerely,



Boyd R. Buser, DO
President, AOA



Michael Bernui, DO
President, TOMA

CC: Mark A. Baker, DO, AOA President-elect
William J. Burke, DO, Chair, AOA Department of Governmental Affairs
Richard Thacker, DO, Chair, AOA Bureau of State Government Affairs
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