



TESTIMONY

Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

HB 2456

March 8, 2016

My name is Bob Williams, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine (KAOM). Thank you for this opportunity to address the Committee regarding HB 2456. KAOM is in support of HB 2456.

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact is designed to be an express lane for physicians seeking licensure in multiple states. It will centralize credential review and verification so physicians only need to submit information one time to receive licenses in the participating states. Physicians will still have to pay licensing fees to each state in which they are licensed and comply with each state's CME requirements. Participating states retain full disciplinary authority for their licensed physicians.

The compact rewards physicians who are well-qualified and have clean practice records. The compact allows the interstate exchange of physician practice and disciplinary information that has not always been available to licensure boards. The simplified licensure process will help small community hospitals and rural clinics recruit physicians.

The Medical Licensure Compact recognizes the right of states to regulate the practice of medicine and preserves the vital funding of state-based licensure and regulation while allowing for the growing emphasis on multi-state health care systems. Additionally, the Compact will provide local accountability for the practice of telemedicine.

The Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine encourages the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare to support HB 2456 and pass it out of committee favorably.

Thank you.