



April 1, 2026

Erica Layon, Chair
Committee on Executive Departments and Administration
New Hampshire House of Representatives
1 Granite Place South, Room 231
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

RE: Support SB 425, adopting the Physician Associate licensure compact

Dear Chairman Layon and Members of the Committee:

The New Hampshire Society of Physician Associates (NHSPA) supports SB 425, which would have New Hampshire adopt the Physician Associate (PA) licensure compact.

If adopted, SB 425 would have PAs join other healthcare providers who enjoy the benefits of a multistate licensure compact, including nurses, psychologists, physical therapists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, and counselors. New Hampshire physicians also enjoy a licensure compact. Physicians, like PAs, are regulated by the Board of Medicine. To date, twenty four states have adopted the compact, including Maine and Connecticut. Additionally, ten states have compact legislation pending, including Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The compact should be “live” in April 2027.

We are pleased to see the federal government place a priority on the PA licensure compact by including it as part of the scoring criteria for the Rural Health Transformation (RHT) grant process. Moreover, we are pleased to see the Governor and Department of Health and Human Services support the state adopting the PA licensure compact in the state’s RHT grant application. Of note, many of the states recently adopting the compact did so to leverage RHT grant funding.

Policymakers in Concord have made great strides in improving licensure and certification by removing barriers to employment for those already working in New Hampshire, and those looking to work in the state. Licensure compacts are an important tool to help ease the licensure process for professionals moving from one state to another, especially in the healthcare field. Joining the PA licensure compact will benefit New Hampshire by attracting more PAs, which will increase access to highly qualified healthcare providers. Facilitating multistate practice through license portability and allowing PAs mobility in public health emergencies will be beneficial to PAs, their employers, and their patients.

It is important to note what joining the PA compact does NOT do. It does not change the scope of PA practice in any participating state, as scope of practice is set forth in state statutes and regulations. A PA would be required to follow all applicable laws and regulations governing a



PA practicing medicine in our state. And under this compact, no state can “reach in to” another state to supersede the laws and regulations of another state. Any assertion otherwise is false.

Thank you for your consideration of NHSPA’s support of SB 425. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or our lobbyist, David Cuzzi of Prospect Hill Strategies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm Hawthaway', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Malcolm Hawthaway, PA-C
President