



**Ohio Senate Health Committee  
SB 320 (Roegner) AT Compact Licensure  
Proponent Testimony  
February 18, 2026**

Chairman Huffan, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Liston and the members of Senate Health Committee thank you for the opportunity to provide support for Senate Bill 320 (Roegner) Athletic Training Compact. Senator Roegner, thank you for the work you have done for this bill and the previous compact license bills that you have championed over the years. My name is Ryan Weible I have been a licensed athletic trainer in Ohio for nearly 17 years working in secondary schools, physician practices, and as an instructor and preceptor at Ohio University and Ohio State University. I am the most recent past president of the Ohio Athletic Trainers' Association (OATA) and I have served in various volunteer positions at the state and national levels for 15 years.

I am testifying today on behalf of the OATA, which is a statewide trade association representing over 1,300 licensed athletic trainers, serving across many different sectors, including industrial, higher education, professional sports, secondary and middle schools, and in our military. Currently, the state of Ohio has over 3,000 licensed athletic trainers. Ohio was one of the first states to pass licensure in 1991 and in 2021 Governor DeWine signed HB 176 (Carfagna, Hall) updating and modernizing the Ohio Athletic Training Licensure. Ohio's athletic training licensure has been a leader across the country, since its enactment, and many states look to Ohio's licensure for ATs as the model for their states. One more example of Ohio being a pioneer and continued leader in the health care field.

Licensure compacts are a proven model utilized by more than 20 health professions in the U.S. They increase mobility and expand workforce capacity while decreasing administrative costs in each state. Compacts also increase public safety by allowing states to share data systems and coordinate investigations and oversight. Healthcare professionals who enter a compact are no longer encumbered by needing to hold multiple state licenses if their employment takes them across state lines, which Ohio would greatly benefit especially in our rural counties. Moreover, compacts support military families when active duty member's spouses can quickly gain employment as they move state-to-state.

The OATA considers the AT compact as one of our key strategic initiatives to help fill the vacant jobs in the state, and improve access to AT services in rural areas, state border communities, and underserved areas. According to the most recent data available, compact licenses have assisted in mobility for other health care providers in 2023 alone, physicians saw a 3% increase in out-of-state practice, nurses 11%, and the physical therapy compact issued 8,372 compact licenses across 31 jurisdictions. It is our belief that athletic trainers will see the same benefits as these other healthcare professions, but more importantly the athletes and active individuals who need these services will be able to improve their health as a result.

On behalf of the OATA members and our profession, I want to thank you all for your time and consideration of SB 320 and respectfully request your support of this important legislation. I am happy to answer any questions that you may have at this time.