

Dear Chair Lipps,

My name is Dr. Kelly Cloonan DNP, CNE, MSN, RN, IAC. I am a Registered Nurse in the State of Ohio testifying in support of Senate Bill 3.

I have worked in nursing education for 10 years and have encountered many challenges due to Ohio not being in the nursing compact. Not allowing Ohio in the compact may prevent future Ohio nursing students from receiving a timely education due to instructors being required to have an Ohio nursing license. This limits Ohio students from continuing their nursing degrees and furthering their careers in Ohio. As an online educator, I have been denied positions due to not having a compact license. It forces me to get licenses from many other states to teach students outside of Ohio. It has been a hurdle in my career along with many of my fellow Ohio colleagues. I have been teaching online for the past 7 years. It has proven to be an excellent avenue of choice for me and many Ohio nurses. Online education will only continue to grow and being a part of the Nurse Compact will allow educational opportunities for Ohio-based instructors and students. Entering the compact may also allow our Ohio colleges to offer education on-site and around the country. I now am in a position to hire faculty for various positions within a large MSN program and we are not even considering nurses without a compact. This is a disservice to Ohio nurses who wish to teach part-time and give their expertise in the field of nursing.

As nurses, we take one national examination to prove we are ready for care at the bedside. We have one set of ethical principles as our guide. We should have one license to provide our country with the best care possible where the needs are the greatest. Adding Ohio into the compact allows Ohioans to have more opportunities, both through job opportunities and educational opportunities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I can be reached at KCloonan@chamberlain.edu and am happy to answer any questions.