

January 26, 2021

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The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chair  
Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee  
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

### RE: Senate Bill 139 - Interstate Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Pinsky,

The American Physical Therapy Association Maryland is writing to register our strong support of Senate Bill 139, the Interstate Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact (IOTLC). The IOTLC is a contract individual states can join to allow occupational therapists (OTs) easier access to extend their license privileges in other states. Under the IOTLC, OTs licensed in their home state and holding a Compact License are able to practice in any other participating state (s) without having to undergo a redundant, lengthy and costly licensure process in each state.

Passage of the IOTLC legislation is critical for a number of reasons including:

- Allow licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants to practice across state lines (e.g., telehealth)
- Improve consumer access to occupational therapy
- Enhance mobility of occupational therapy practitioners (e.g., spouses of relocating military families, staff of travel therapy companies)
- Improve continuity of care
- Address competition issues raised by the Federal Trade Commission and others
- Preserve and strengthen the state licensure system
- Enhance the exchange of licensure, investigatory, and disciplinary information between member states.

Again, on behalf of the 1,752 members of APTA Maryland, we support the passing of the IOTLC and ask for a FAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 139. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our feedback.

Sincerely,



Kevin Platt, PT, DPT, MBA  
President, APTA Maryland