

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 9/23/99

BILL NO. Senate Bill 305 / Assembly 305

OR

SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

(NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

Sandy Peterson  
(Street Address or Route Number)

2649 Mason St.  
(City and Zip Code)

Madison WI 53705  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:

Speaking Against:

Registering in Favor:  
but not speaking:

Registering Against:  
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O.Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 9/23/99

BILL NO. Senate Bill R9 / Assembly Bill 305

OR

SUBJECT Nurse Licensure Compact

(NAME) Thomas B. Peterson

2649 Mason St.  
(Street Address or Route Number)

Madison, WI 53705  
(City and Zip Code)

(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:

Speaking Against:

Registering in Favor:  
but not speaking:

Registering Against:  
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O.Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 9/23/99

BILL NO. SB 129 AB 305

OR

SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

(NAME) Donna Waypucki

3242 Larry Dr.  
(Street Address or Route Number)

Plouy, WI 54467  
(City and Zip Code)

UNA  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:

Speaking Against:

Registering in Favor:  
but not speaking:

Registering Against:  
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O.Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 9-23-99

BILL NO. SB 129 / AB 305

OR

SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary Markene A. Cummings  
(NAME)

1400 E. Washington Ave.  
(Street Address or Route Number)

Madison 53703  
(City and Zip Code)

Dept. of Regulation & Licensing  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:

Speaking Against:

Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:

Registering Against:   
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 9-23-99

BILL NO. SB 129 / AB 305

OR

SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Tom Neumann, Director-Office  
(NAME) of Education

1400 E. Washington Ave.  
(Street Address or Route Number)

Madison 53703  
(City and Zip Code) Secretary Cummings,

Department of Regulation & Licensing  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:   
(Written Testimony Submitted)

Speaking Against:

Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:

Registering Against:   
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 9-23-99

BILL NO. SB 129 / AB 305

OR

SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Ann E. Brewer, RN, BSN -  
(NAME) Board of Nursing - member

430 Oak Crest Ave.  
(Street Address or Route Number)

Madison, WI 53705  
(City and Zip Code)

SELF  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:

Speaking Against:

Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:

(Written Testimony Submitted)  
Registering Against:

but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 9-23-99  
BILL NO. SB 129 / AB 305  
OR  
SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Ruth Kindgren - Vice Chair  
(NAME) BOARD OF NURSING  
245 S. Cottage Street  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
White Water 53190  
(City and Zip Code)  
SELF  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:   
Speaking Against:   
Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:  
*(Written Testimony Submitted)*  
Registering Against:   
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.  
Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O.Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: Sept 23, 1999  
BILL NO. SB 129 AB 305  
OR  
SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

LINDA CALPARK OLSON  
(NAME) 5100 W31365 HYLD  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
Mukwonago WI 53149  
(City and Zip Code)  
Self  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:   
Speaking Against:   
Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:  
Registering Against:   
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.  
Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O.Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 9-23-99  
BILL NO. SB 129 / AB 305  
OR  
SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Tim Buens, Chair  
(NAME) 1400 E. Washington Ave  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
Madison 53703  
(City and Zip Code) Wisconsin  
BOARD OF NURSING  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:   
*(Written Testimony Submitted)*  
Speaking Against:   
Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:  
Registering Against:   
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.  
Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O.Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Rosenzweig #407, 100 N. Hamilton



**JUDITH B. ROBSON**

STATE SENATOR • WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE  
CHAIR, HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING COMMITTEE  
CO-CHAIR, JOINT COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

November 8, 1999

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging:

Attached please find a paper ballot on Assembly Bill 305. This bill would adopt the interstate compact on nurse licensure. Under the compact a nurse licensed in one state that has adopted the compact would be able to practice in any other state that has also adopted the compact.

The Human Services and Aging committee held a hearing on the companion bills regarding the nurse licensure compact (AB 305 and SB 129) on September 23.

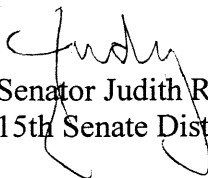
The motion on the paper ballot is to recommend concurrence in AB 305.

I would like to have the paper ballot completed by 2:00 p.m. this afternoon so the bill can be placed on the Senate calendar. Please fill out the ballot and return it to David Austin in my office by that time.

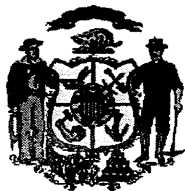
You may also contact David if you have any questions about the bill. He can be reached at 6-2253.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Judith Robson  
15th Senate District

JR:da



**JUDITH B. ROBSON**

STATE SENATOR • WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE  
CHAIR, HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING COMMITTEE

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING**

**Paper Ballot on AB 305**

**Moved By:** Senator Robson

**AB 305** would adopt the interstate compact on nurse licensure. The compact was approved by the national council of state boards of nursing in December, 1997. Under the compact, a nurse who is licensed in a state that has adopted the compact may practice nursing in any other state that is a party to the compact without obtaining a license in the second state.

**Motion:** Recommend concurrence in AB 305.

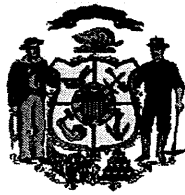
Aye

No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Peggy Rosenzweig*  
11/8/99



**JUDITH B. ROBSON**

---

STATE SENATOR • WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE  
CHAIR, HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING COMMITTEE

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING**

**Paper Ballot on AB 305**

**Moved By:** Senator Robson

**AB 305** would adopt the interstate compact on nurse licensure. The compact was approved by the national council of state boards of nursing in December, 1997. Under the compact, a nurse who is licensed in a state that has adopted the compact may practice nursing in any other state that is a party to the compact without obtaining a license in the second state.

**Motion:** Recommend concurrence in AB 305.

Aye

No

Signature: Carol Koessler

Date: 11-8-99



**JUDITH B. ROBSON**

STATE SENATOR • WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE  
CHAIR, HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING COMMITTEE

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING**

**Paper Ballot on AB 305**

**Moved By:** Senator Robson

**AB 305** would adopt the interstate compact on nurse licensure. The compact was approved by the national council of state boards of nursing in December, 1997. Under the compact, a nurse who is licensed in a state that has adopted the compact may practice nursing in any other state that is a party to the compact without obtaining a license in the second state.

**Motion:** Recommend concurrence in AB 305.

Aye

No

Signature: Bob Wich

Date: 11/8/99



**JUDITH B. ROBSON**

STATE SENATOR • WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE  
CHAIR, HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING COMMITTEE

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING**

**Paper Ballot on AB 305**

**Moved By:** Senator Robson

**AB 305** would adopt the interstate compact on nurse licensure. The compact was approved by the national council of state boards of nursing in December, 1997. Under the compact, a nurse who is licensed in a state that has adopted the compact may practice nursing in any other state that is a party to the compact without obtaining a license in the second state.

**Motion:** Recommend concurrence in AB 305.

Aye

No

Signature: Judith Robson

Date: 11-8-98





Tommy G. Thompson  
Governor

State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING

Marlene A. Cummings  
Secretary

1400 E. WASHINGTON AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 8935  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8935  
E-Mail: dorl@mail.state.wi.us  
(608) 266-2112  
FAX#: (608) 267-0644

**Testimony on SB 129/AB 305  
Before The  
Committee on Human Services and Aging  
Thursday, September 23, 1999, 10:00 A.M.  
201 Southeast, State Capitol**

Good morning, Chairperson Robson and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on Senate Bill 129/Assembly Bill 305 relating to the mutual recognition model and interstate compact for nurse licensure. My name is Ruth Lindgren and I support SB 129/AB 305. I am a nurse educator and consultant and the vice-chair of the Wisconsin Board of Nursing. I'd like to share with you some of my experiences since joining the Board of Nursing.

Each year since I was appointed in 1994 I have been privileged to be the board's delegate to the National Council State Boards of Nursing's (NCSBN) annual and regional meetings. I have also attended several other meetings devoted to planning and ironing out the fine details of the compact. I have listened to and participated in discussions and reports since 1994 as NCSBN thoughtfully and carefully planned this new licensure model. They have sought input from many sources and particularly from their legal counsel and a very prominent legal firm in Washington, D.C. Every aspect and every potential problem has been thoroughly provided for in these discussions in the planning and developing the interstate compact.

I'd like to summarize what I think are the basic provisions of the interstate compact, which will be very important as we move into the next century. They are as follows:

- ◆ The Wisconsin consumer of health care will have access to qualified nurses regardless of state boundaries. (This will become very important as we embark upon another serious nurse shortage.)
- ◆ Streamlined processes for interstate nursing practice will contribute to the accessibility of qualified nurses to Wisconsin citizens.

Regulatory Boards

Accounting; Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers and Land Surveyors; Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists; Auctioneer; Barbering and Cosmetology; Chiropractic; Controlled Substances; Dentistry; Dietitians; Funeral Directors; Hearing and Speech; Medical; Nursing; Nursing Home Administrator; Optometry; Pharmacy; Physical Therapists; Podiatry; Psychology; Real Estate; Real Estate Appraisers; Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors; and Veterinary.

Committed to Equal Opportunity in Employment and Licensing

**Page 2-Ruth Lindgren  
Testimony- SB 129/AB 305**

- ◆ Better interstate tracking of nurses with practice problems will occur because of better communication and a centralized data system. This will contribute significantly to consumer health and safety.
- ◆ Sets the stage for a modernized model of licensure for many health and non-health related professions. Our current licensure model came in with the late horse-and-buggy days of the very early 1900s.

The individual licensed nurse holds the responsibility of knowing and adhering to the practice regulations of the state in which s/he is practicing nursing. The nurse's employer will also want to ensure that all employees have adequate knowledge of the state's practice rules and regulations. It is important to remember that every nursing school curriculum provides for content related to the nurse's legal responsibility for identifying and practicing according to these state rules and regulations and in some way tests that knowledge. Nursing students learn early on that legally they must practice nursing within the parameters of their EDUCATION, TRAINING, and EXPERIENCE.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation. I will be happy to answer any questions, if the committee would like to email or write to me at [lindgren@idcnet.com](mailto:lindgren@idcnet.com) or 245 S. Cottage Street, Whitewater, Wisconsin, 53190.

RL/mls



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING

Tommy G. Thompson  
Governor

September 23, 1999

Marlene A. Cummings  
Secretary

1400 E. WASHINGTON AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 8935  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8935  
E-Mail: dori@mail.state.wi.us  
(608) 266-2112  
FAX#: (608) 267-0644

Dear Chairperson Robson and Committee Members:

I have been on the Wisconsin State Board of Nursing for the past four years and as a member of that body and as a professional nurse, I would like to express my support and commitment for the adoption of the Mutual Recognition Interstate Compact. It is fully supported by the Wisconsin Board of Nursing, the Wisconsin Nurses Association and the Department of Regulation and Licensing.

Today you are presented with SB 129/AB 305 which would allow professional nurses in the State of Wisconsin to join with other states in forming interstate compacts for mutual recognition of licenses. This is an extremely important step as we enter the new millennium. It has been studied, researched and evaluated for thoroughness over the last several years by many professional nursing groups as well as the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. This will provide the opportunity for professional nurses to cross state lines to practice in the area of medical telecommunications, patient transport across state lines, as well as many other areas yet to be developed. For those who support the interstate compact for mutual recognition of state licensure, the primary focus is on the public's improved ability to access health care. The mutual recognition model for nurse licensure allows a nurse to have one license (in state of residency) and practice in other state, as long as that individual acknowledges he or she is subject to each state's practice laws and discipline.

I thank you for your consideration and request your support for this very important advancement in the practice of professional nurses. If you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Cordially,

Ann E. Brewer, RN, BSN  
430 Oak Crest Ave.  
Madison, WI 53705  
(608) 233-8880

AEB:KMNL:dms

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**Wisconsin Nurses Association**

6117 Monona Drive  
Madison, Wisconsin 53716-3995  
(608) 221-0383  
FAX (608) 221-2788

**TO:** Senator Judy Robson and members of the Senate Human Services and Aging Committee  
**FROM:** Deborah Schwallie MSN, RN, APNP  
President of the Wisconsin Nurses Association  
**DATE:** September 23, 1999  
**RE:** Support of SB 129 - Adopting the Nurse Licensure Compact and Granting Rule-Making Authority

---

Good Morning Chairwoman Robson and members of the Senate Human Services Committee. My name is Deborah Schwallie. I am a Registered Nurse and the President of the Wisconsin Nurses Association (WNA). The WNA is the voice for professional nurses in Wisconsin. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to relay WNA's reasons for why we support SB 129 and the Companion Bill AB 305.

As nurses we are finding health care and nursing practice to be less and less bound by state boundaries. The electronic technology of telehealth is blind to whether the patient is located in Wisconsin or Iowa or Minnesota. We are seeing health plans that may use a nurse in California to triage a patient in Wisconsin. We have an increase in nurses physically practicing across state boundaries. A traveling nurse for example, may be in Florida one week and in Wisconsin the next. Businesses like Home Health Care may border Michigan and Wisconsin. These agencies may wish to use nurses to care for patients in both Michigan and Wisconsin.

These are all examples of how nursing practice is becoming less bound by state boundaries. Licensure however, remains tied to state boundaries. Nurses must be licensed in each and every state in which they practice. If a nurse who is employed by the Mayo Health System works in Wisconsin and provides health care to a patient in Minnesota via telehealth, that nurse must be licensed in Minnesota. These situations are becoming more and more of a reality. Obviously, one can imagine situations in which a nurse may have to hold up to 50 licenses. Such a system is not cost effective to the nurse or to the state. Since licensure qualifications for nurses are almost identical for all states (they take the same national exam) and most states license nurses through endorsement, obtaining a license in a second state is usually an administrative process of filling out an application and paying a licensure fee. Unfortunately, in some cases, the process may take months since the new licensing board has to verify the license status of the nurse in every state in which the nurse is licensed and some state are slow in verifying licensure status. This can affect patient care by creating a shortage situation and a negative impact on the nurses economic status.

If enacted, SB 129, will establish a state-based system of licensure that is recognized nationally. A single state participating in the Compact would be recognized by all other states participating in the Compact. The nurse would have only one license that would authorize the nurse to practice in every state participating in the Compact. The Compact will work very much like the Driver License Compact under which states have agreed to recognize a driver's license issued by another state.

SB 129 will require that nurses providing care to citizens of Wisconsin provide that care in conformity with the laws passed by the Wisconsin State Legislature to assure safe patient care. In other words, even if a nurse is licensed in another state, the nurse must comply with Wisconsin laws governing nursing practice when practicing in Wisconsin. SB 129 also provides that if such a nurse engages in unacceptable nursing practice with respect to a Wisconsin patient, the Wisconsin Board of Nursing can take action against that nurse's privilege to practice in Wisconsin. Again, the Driver License Compact provides a good analogy. If a driver licensed by another state wants to drive in Wisconsin, the driver has to comply with Wisconsin's driving laws and if the driver violates one of them is subject to sanction by the Wisconsin legal system.

SB 129 represents an entirely new approach to licensing nurses. WNA believes it is good for the citizens of Wisconsin and good for Nurses and Nursing.

I also want to personally thank Senator Robson for sponsoring this bill and the many committee members who have signed on as co-sponsors. It is truly appreciated. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to present WNA's position on SB 129 and I will gladly answer any questions that you may have.

Thank you.



Tommy G. Thompson  
Governor

State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING

Marlene A. Cummings  
Secretary

1400 E. WASHINGTON AVENUE  
P. O. BOX 8935  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8935  
E-Mail: dori@mail.state.wi.us  
(608) 266-2112  
FAX#: (608) 267-0644

Testimony on Senate Bill 129/Assembly Bill 305  
Before The  
Committee on Human Services and Aging  
Thursday, September 23, 1999, 10:00 A.M.  
201 SE, State Capitol

Good morning, Chairperson Robson and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Bill 129/Assembly Bill 305 that relates to the mutual recognition model and interstate compact for nurse licensure. My name is Tim Burns, Chair of the Board of Nursing. The Board of Nursing supports AB 305 as amended, and supports SB 129.

In today's changing health care delivery environment, new modes of practice via advances in technology have caused boards of nursing to take a new look at the current nurse licensure system. Increased practice across state lines through direct care, consultation, client assessment and through telecommunications has raised questions about current compliance with state licensure laws. Expedient access to qualified nurses is needed and expected by consumers without regard to state lines. Expedient authorization to practice is expected by employers and nurses. Having a nurse demonstrate the same licensure qualifications to multiple states for comparable authority to practice is cumbersome, and is neither cost-effective nor efficient. The practice of nursing via telecommunications technology, which is a burgeoning industry and a current reality, has effectively made state boundary lines more transparent, thereby increasing the difficulty of sound nursing regulation.

In August 1997, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, composed of 61 member boards, unanimously endorsed the mutual recognition model for nursing regulation. In December 1997, the National Council's member boards approved proposed language for the interstate compact.

A mutual recognition model for nurse licensure utilizing an interstate compact provides a mechanism for enabling mobility of nurses while maintaining a state-based system of licensure and discipline. The consumer's access to safe and qualified nurses is expanded. The mutual recognition model provides that the nurse is held accountable for the nursing practice laws and other regulations in the state where the nurse provides nursing services. Under this model a nurse holds only one license in the state of residence, and is granted a practice privilege by other states which are party to an interstate compact. Each state continues to establish licensure requirements, which already are very similar for both RN and LPN licensure. All states currently require graduation from an approved nursing education program and the passing of a national licensure examination. A central data bank at the National Council of State Boards of Nursing will contain relevant licensure and disciplinary information submitted by state boards of nursing to enable tracking and coordination of nursing practice among states.

Regulatory Boards

Accounting; Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers and Land Surveyors; Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists; Auctioneer; Barbering and Cosmetology; Chiropractic; Controlled Substances; Dentistry; Dietitians; Funeral Directors; Hearing and Speech; Medical; Nursing; Nursing Home Administrator; Optometry; Pharmacy; Physical Therapists; Podiatry; Psychology; Real Estate; Real Estate Appraisers; Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors; and Veterinary.

This model will have significant positive effects on the public. Nurses can be freely accessible, in person or via telecommunications, to consumers where they are located. Competition, based on quality and cost, will favorably impact the provision of cost-effective health care to the public. Under rules, which are being drafted, the consumer will have access to some of the information in the central data bank, which will aid in decision-making about nursing care.

The Wisconsin Board of Nursing wholeheartedly supports this model and the interstate compact. The board requests your support of the bill which would enact the language of the compact in statute, and establish authority for implementation of mutual recognition of nurse licensure in Wisconsin. The states of Utah, Arkansas, Maryland, Texas, and North Carolina have already passed legislation adopting the compact. Twelve more states are planning to introduce legislation adopting the compact next year.

The Board of Nursing and staff of the Department of Regulation & Licensing are available to respond to any questions about the model and compact.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 129/AB 305. We hope the committee members will vote in favor of this important piece of legislation.



Tommy G. Thompson  
Governor

State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING

Marlene A. Cummings  
Secretary

1400 E. WASHINGTON AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 8935  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8935  
E-Mail: dori@mail.state.wi.us  
(608) 266-2112  
FAX#: (608) 267-0644

Testimony on Senate Bill 129/Assembly Bill 305  
Before The  
Committee on Human Services and Aging  
Thursday, September 23, 1999, 10:00 A.M.  
201 SE, State Capitol

Good morning, Chairperson Robson and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Bill 129/Assembly Bill 305. My name is Tom Neumann, and I am representing the Department of Regulation & Licensing on behalf of Secretary Marlene A. Cummings. I also am the immediate past-president of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. The Department of Regulation & Licensing supports SB 129/AB 305.

Nursing practice is increasingly occurring across state lines through telecommunications and through direct care, as health care organizations expand beyond mere border areas across the country. Telephone triage and interactive television currently are utilized by nurses to assess, teach, counsel, and treat patients in multiple states. Flight nurses, transport nurses, and even nursing school faculty are practicing in states outside their state of residence. Under the current regulatory system, all are required to be licensed in all states where they practice. This may be considered a barrier to practice for the nurse, as well as a duplicative approach which denies the consumer timely and cost-effective access to care.

From a regulator's perspective, it is redundant to require the same practitioner to verify the same licensure qualifications to multiple states which already have established largely uniform licensure requirements and authorize the same scope of practice. The mutual recognition model has significant benefits for both the practicing nurse and for the consumer. It is the closest model to the existing system, reflects the legal concept of full faith and credit among jurisdictions, and can be implemented incrementally. It promotes safe practice through an expeditious, cooperative discipline process while ensuring protection of due process for all parties. Patients in rural, remote or underserved areas will have better access to quality nursing care across the United States and its island territories.

The Department of Regulation & Licensing commends the National Council of State Boards of Nursing for its endorsement of this model, for its approval of the interstate compact language, and for its vision of a new millennium licensing system. The department would like to see other regulatory boards, including both health care and business professions, strongly consider support and adoption of this same model for credentialing. Like nursing, many of the other professions are already engaged in cross-jurisdictional practice, yet must pursue licensure through the same antiquated process.

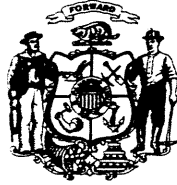
Regulatory Boards

Accounting; Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers and Land Surveyors; Professional Geologists and Soil Scientists; Auctioneer; Barbering and Cosmetology; Chiropractic; Controlled Substances; Dentistry; Dietitians; Funeral Directors; Hearing and Speech; Medical; Nursing; Nursing Home Administrator; Optometry; Pharmacy; Physical Therapists; Podiatry; Psychology; Real Estate; Real Estate Appraisers; Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors; and Veterinary.



The department strongly urges you to support SB 129/AB 305 and hopes that you will vote in favor of the interstate compact. I would be happy to respond to any questions you may have about the model or compact.

Thank you again for the opportunity to present testimony.



# Judith B. Robson

Wisconsin State Senator

September 28, 1999

BY INTER-D MAIL

Ms. Myra Shelton  
Executive Assistant to the Secretary  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
1400 E. Washington Ave.

Dear Ms. Shelton:

Enclosed please find the committee report from last week's meeting of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging. The report lists all those who spoke or registered regarding Senate Bill 129/Assembly Bill 305, the nurse licensure compact.

The key people you want to speak with from the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) are Molly Kealy, 4313 Maher Ave., Madison and Kristin LaRose, from the Washington, D.C. office of that organization.

If you set up a meeting with the opponents of the nurse licensure compact, please let me know since I am sure the Senator Robson would like to have someone attend the meeting.

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David A. Austin".

David A. Austin

Committee Clerk for the Senate Committee  
on Human Services and Aging

Enc.



# Judith B. Robson

Wisconsin State Senator

September 27, 1999

Mr. Dennis Stalsberg  
Wisconsin Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
2550 Madison Place  
LaCrosse, WI 54601

Re: Interstate Nurse Licensing Compact

Dear Mr. Stalsberg:

Thank you for attending the September 23, 1999 hearing of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging and for testifying in favor of Senate Bill 129/Assembly Bill 305, relating to the nurse licensing compact.

During your testimony, you indicated that some of the language in the amendment to the Assembly version of this bill was incorrect as it related to nurse anesthetists. I am writing to see if you could provide what you feel is the correct language. If you provide me with that language, I will see about getting an amendment drafted that will put the correct language into the final version of the bill.

Thanks again for your testimony and for your support of the nurse licensing compact. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David A. Austin".

David A. Austin  
Committee Clerk, Senate Committee on  
Human Services and Aging