

December 6, 2017

Phil Mendelson, Chair
Committee of the Whole

Vince Gray, Chair
Committee on Health

Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Councilmembers Mendelson and Gray:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia, our 2,600 physician members and the thousands of patients whom they treat each and every day, I am writing to you to express the Medical Society's strong support for the **Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Approval Act of 2017 (Bill 22-177)**. This legislation, introduced by Committee on Health Chairman Vince Gray, addresses problems and inefficiencies in the licensing of physicians in multiple jurisdictions.

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact) was crafted in 2013 and today twenty-two states have already joined the Compact. You have heard the Medical Society often say that we are one market with three jurisdictions. Many physicians in the Washington area practice in more than one jurisdiction, some in all three, so the Compact would have particular benefit to District physicians who also practice in Maryland and/or Virginia. Next month the Maryland General Assembly will take up Compact legislation which I fully expect to pass. While the Commonwealth of Virginia has yet to sign on to the Compact, with the District of Columbia and Maryland as participants, the benefits to Virginia physicians will become even more compelling.

The Medical Society is pleased to join with others, both physician groups and healthcare providers including MedStar and Kaiser Permanente, throughout our region and the nation in supporting the **Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Approval Act of 2017**. The legislation is clearly good public policy that will bring physician licensing into the 21st century.

Please don't hesitate to call upon the Medical Society whenever we can be of assistance. I can be reached at (202) 466-1800 or shanbacker@msdc.org.

Sincerely,



K. Edward Shanbacker
Executive Vice President