



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS

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May 6th, 2025

The Honorable Jesse Bjorkman
Chair, Senate Labor & Commerce Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 427
Juneau, Alaska 99801

The Honorable Zack Fields & the Honorable Carolyn Hall
Chair, House Labor & Commerce Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Rooms 24 & 434
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: Letter of Support for SB 124 & HB 131: NURSING: LICENSURE; MULTISTATE
COMPACT

Dear Chairs Bjorkman, Fields, and Hall,

The Alaska Board of Veterinary Examiners ("board") supports SB 124 and HB 131: Nursing:
Licensure; Multistate Compact.

Though regulation over the licensing and practice of nursing is outside of our board's purview, we do recognize the nursing shortage in the State of Alaska and trust the opinion of our fellow board – the Alaska Board of Nursing – that the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) is the right move for Alaska, just as we'd hope other professional licensing boards would defer to our expertise when it comes to the regulation of veterinary practice in the state.

Additionally, this legislation does have an indirect positive impact on all professional licensing programs within the Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing because it will increase efficiencies within the division. The Nurse licensing team is the division's largest licensing team, by far. The NLC will reduce that team's need to process redundant licensure applications by thousands, according to the department, which will allow division resources to be better allocated across all of its 43 licensing programs and therefore helps all professional licensees.

For these reasons, we support these bills and urge the Legislature to hear and pass the NLC bills.

Sincerely,

Robert Gerlach, VMD
Chair, Alaska Board of Veterinary Examiners