



Illinois Organization of Nurse Leaders
An affiliate of the American Organization of Nurse Leaders

IONL Position Statement on Nursing Licensure Compact (NLC)

Background:

Much like our parent organization, the American Organization for Nursing Leadership (AONL), we thoughtfully consider which issues the Illinois Organization of Nurse Leaders (IONL) will take a position on.

In January 2000, AONL published the Nurse Licensure Compact: Analysis and Recommendations to provide the membership and the public with a thorough understanding of the policy issues surrounding multi-state licensure and its implications for the profession. Since the publication of the monograph, AONL has supported individual efforts at the state level to enact Compact legislation in 34 states. Over the past 20 years, the Compact has allowed nurses to provide safe and effective care across state lines.

AONL has recognized the importance of the Compact as a vehicle to simplify government processes and remove regulatory barriers to increase access to safe nursing care. In today's fast-paced health care environment of new technology and practice modalities, it is critical that nurses are able to comply with state licensure laws that cross state lines. These types of situations occur with increasing regularity in areas such as telehealth, home health, remote monitoring of patients, hospital follow-up care, and the increased mobility of the nursing workforce across state lines. Threats of bioterrorism, manmade and natural disasters and the role of nursing as part of rapid response teams places, in our view, an increased urgency on the implementation of the Nurse Licensure Compact. The 2020 COVID-19 pandemic is a salient example of the need to deploy nurses across state lines at a moment's notice.

Position Statement:

The Illinois Organization of Nurse Leaders (IONL) and its membership of over 400 professional registered nurses in executive practice strongly support the Nursing Licensure Compact in Illinois.

Approved by the IONL Board of Directors: January 14, 2011. Revised February 16, 2022