IONL Position Statement on Nursing Licensure Compact (NLC)
Endorsed by the IONL Policy & Advocacy Committee, January 5, 2011
Approved by the IONL Board of Directors, January 14, 2011

Background:
Much like our parent organization, the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE), we thoughtfully decide which particular issues the Illinois Organization of Nurse Leaders (IONL) must take a position.

In January 2000, AONE 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, AONE has supported individual efforts at the state level to enact model legislation in 24 states providing for participation in the Compact.

AONE has recognized the importance of the Compact as 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 nurse advice lines, Tele-nursing, home health, long distance 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.

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.