

Memo

To: Members, House Health Policy Committee
From: Adam Carlson, Vice President, Advocacy
Date: April 29, 2021
Re: Senate Bill (SB) 18
Position: Support

Michigan hospitals continue to struggle to meet staffing needs as the pandemic has led to early retirements and further use of mobile staffing agencies. The Michigan Health and Hospital Association (MHA) supports SB 18, which would join Michigan into the interstate Physical Therapist Licensure Compact (PTLC). This grants certified physical therapists the ability to have one multistate license with the privilege to practice in their home state and other PTLC states. The compact gives Michigan another tool to care for patients during the current staffing shortage, which is expected to worsen after the nation recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

There are 21 states currently in the PTLC, which was founded in 2017. All physical therapists practicing under the multistate license must meet the same set of licensure requirements. With the evolving crisis, Michigan should take the initiative to position our healthcare professionals for success in treating our citizens or helping our neighboring states in need.

The MHA asks that the committee support SB 18, introduced by Senator Dale Zorn (R – Ida). Any members with questions can reach out to Adam Carlson at the MHA at acarlson@mha.org.

Brian Peters, Chief Executive Officer