

## **Support the OT Interstate Licensure Compact**

Please co-sponsor the States Handling Access to Reciprocity for Employment (SHARE) Act (H.R. 1310) to help ensure access to health services, like occupational therapy, particularly for patients in underserved or rural areas.

## **Discussion Points**

- Occupational therapy practitioners have had difficulties in obtaining multiple state licenses to practice due to administrative burdens.
- If a practitioner relocates to another state or would like to practice across state lines in-person
  or via telehealth, they must complete the full licensure or certification process again for any
  additional state.
- Professional interstate compacts, like the Occupational Therapy Compact, are entities
  consisting of state licensing bodies that facilitate the ability of licensed professionals to provide
  their services in multiple states.
- This is especially important in helping to address the medical provider shortage in many rural and underserved areas.
- The SHARE Act would simply make a technical correction by allowing a state licensing or certification entity to share the fact that a criminal background check was completed with the interstate compact commission.
- Fixing this technicality will expand the reach of health care professionals, improving access to medical specialists, and leveraging the use of new medical technologies, such as telehealth, would benefit every participating state in the compact.

## Your Ask

Support access to critical health care services in underserved areas across the nation.

Please cosponsor the SHARE Act (H.R.1310).