

Dear Members of the Senate State and Local Government and Veterans:

The Minnesota Counseling Association (MnCA) urges you to support the Counseling Compact contained within SF2394. We are currently amid a mental health crisis across the country and Minnesota adopting the Counseling Compact would significantly create greater access for those seeking and others providing mental health care. Adoption of the Counseling Compact in Minnesota would especially help individuals living in rural areas, veterans, snowbirds, business travelers, and college students, ensuring vitally important continuity of care.

The Counseling Compact allows Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCC) privilege to practice across state lines in states that have ratified the compact. The Counseling Compact is currently law in 35 states and pending in 9 others. The Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy is also in support of the Counseling Compact. In addition to the benefits listed above, the Counseling Compact would also:

- Enhance mobility for counselors who meet uniform licensure requirements.
- Increase access to care for clients, ensuring continuity of care when clients or counselors relocate or travel to other states.
- Allow military personnel and spouses to maintain their certifications when relocating with greater ease.
- Preserve and strengthen the current system of state licensure.

We urge you to support and pass the Counseling Compact in the State of Minnesota. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions.

Sincerely, The MnCA Board Hannah Daniels President of MnCA presidentmnca@gmail.com