



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1844</b>		DATE: <b>1/14/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Professional Registration and Licensing</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>BRENT HEMPHILL</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-893-4241</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>MO ASSN OF ATHLETICS TRAINERS</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>POB 156</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFF CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/14/2026 12:00 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAVID PEARCE</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>660-422-2433</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL MO</b>		TITLE: <b>EXEC. DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>208 E. SOUTH STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>WARRENSBURG</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64093</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/14/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JAY HOFFMAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SHANNON FLEMING</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>402-214-3982</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>BOC</b>		TITLE: <b>SR. VP OF CREDENTIALING</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>1411 HARNEY ST, STE 100</b>			
CITY: <b>OMAHA</b>		STATE: <b>NE</b>	ZIP: <b>68102</b>
EMAIL: <b>shannonf@bocatc.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/14/2026 1:34 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

The Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC), the national certification agency that develops and delivers the certification exam for Athletic Trainers (ATs), is writing to express strong support for [enter bill no.] to enact the Athletic Trainer Compact. Establishing licensure mobility through an interstate compact is a forward-looking solution that will strengthen public protection, expand access to qualified healthcare professionals, and modernize regulations to reflect today’s workforce realities.

Athletic Trainers are highly educated, state-regulated health care professionals. As a part of the health care team, services provided by ATs include injury and illness prevention, wellness promotion and education, emergent care, examination and clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention, and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions. As health care delivery continues to evolve, the ability for ATs to practice across state lines, while maintaining strong licensure standards and accountability, is increasingly important.

The AT Compact would enhance patient access to care, particularly in rural and underserved communities, during public health emergencies, and for individuals who travel or relocate frequently. It would also support employers, schools, and health care systems that operate in multiple states by allowing them to deploy qualified ATs where they are most needed, without unnecessary administrative barriers.

ATs have the knowledge and skills to be effective in many health care settings. This compact would allow ATs to practice across state lines both physically and remotely (e.g. digital health). Digital health not only opens doors for ATs but also provides patients with increased access to qualified health care professionals. An interstate compact is the most efficient way for ATs to use digital health in multiple states.

Imagine a patient of athletic training services at the University of Missouri who goes home for the summer (out of state) and the AT caring for this patient cannot have contact with them until they return to campus, causing the patient delayed return to play, recovery regression and/or additional costs. This is not a hypothetical situation, but rather one that happens frequently to athletic training patients. The AT Compact would improve continuity of care in these and similar situations.

The athletic training profession also has a strong relationship with all branches of the military. ATs have been increasingly employed by the various Armed Forces to assist in the health and welfare of both active-duty soldiers and their dependents. The BOC is a recognized organization for Army

**Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL) and the GI Bill. ATs in the military and/or ATs who have spouses in the military need to be able to make a living without interruption.**

**Importantly, interstate compacts preserve state authority over licensure and discipline while establishing a shared framework for cooperation, transparency, and public safety. Compacts have proven successful for other health care professions, improving workforce mobility while maintaining rigorous standards and consumer protection.**

**The AT Compact was finalized in fall 2025 and has already generated significant interest. To date, five states have formally introduced legislation to enact the AT Compact. In addition to Missouri, the other states include Indiana, Nebraska, Ohio, and Virginia. Additional states are expected to introduce the AT Compact legislation during the 2026 legislative cycle, including Kansas, Kentucky and Iowa.**

**The AT Compact becomes effective upon enactment by seven states. States that adopt the AT Compact early will have a direct role in establishing the rules, bylaws, and governance structure of the AT Compact Commission, thereby shaping the regulatory framework that will guide interstate practice and oversight moving forward.**

**Passing the AT Compact demonstrates a commitment to patient-centered care, workforce flexibility, and regulatory efficiency. We respectfully urge you to support HB 1844 and help ensure that ATs can continue to serve patients and communities effectively, no matter where care is needed.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 8:06 PM</b>	

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I respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to HB 1844.  
 HB 1844 would enter Missouri into an interstate athletic trainer compact, shifting professional licensing authority and regulatory control away from Missouri and toward a multistate compact structure. While framed as administrative efficiency, interstate compacts routinely reduce state-level oversight, transparency, and accountability.  
 Missouri’s licensing standards exist to protect Missouri patients, Missouri athletes, and Missouri institutions. Compact models often:  
 Limit the state’s ability to independently set or enforce professional standards  
 Create enforcement gaps when discipline or complaints cross state lines  
 Transfer meaningful regulatory authority to compact commissions that are not directly accountable to Missouri voters  
 This bill also advances a significant policy change without clear demonstration that Missouri currently faces a licensing shortage or regulatory failure requiring surrender of authority to an interstate body. Professional mobility should not come at the cost of public protection or state sovereignty. Missouri can modernize licensure processes without binding itself to external regulatory structures that dilute local control.  
 For these reasons, I urge the committee to oppose HB 1844.



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<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KEITH BUCKHOUT</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>859-244-8154</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS</b>		TITLE: <b>POLICY ANALYST</b>	
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CITY: <b>LEXINGTON</b>		STATE: <b>KY</b>	ZIP: <b>40511</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/14/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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