



Senate Health & Long-Term Care

RE: Support for SHB 2088, concerning the Dietician Licensure Compact

February 17, 2026

Chair Cleveland, members of the committee,

On behalf of the Northwest Kidney Council, thank you for the opportunity to provide support for SHB 2088. Our organization partners with patient advocates, health care professionals, care providers, and researchers to advance kidney care in both Washington and Oregon. Together, we are committed to ensuring that all kidney patients receive high-quality care and that treatment is accessible to all.

We strongly support SHB 2088, allowing Washington to join the Dietitian Licensure Compact. This legislation is an important step toward strengthening the state's health care workforce and improving patient access to licensed dietitians.

Nutrition care is a cornerstone of managing kidney health. Kidney patients rely on specialized dietary guidance to slow disease progression and improve their quality of life. For patients receiving dialysis, dietary needs become even more complex and medically essential, making access to expert nutrition care especially critical. However, many patients, especially those in rural or underserved communities, face barriers to accessing licensed dietitians.

SHB 2088 addresses these challenges by allowing qualified dietitians licensed in other compact states to practice in Washington, including through telehealth. This flexibility expands kidney patients' access to care, supports continuity for those who relocate or receive care across state lines, and reduces administrative burdens limiting workforce mobility without compromising patient safety or professional standards.

We urge the committee to support SHB 2088 and make dietary guidance for kidney patients more accessible and patient-centered. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

JP Newmann
[Northwest Kidney Council](#)