SENATE BILL NO. 251–SENATORS HARDY, ROBERSON, BROWER, FARLEY, HARRIS; FORD, GOICOECHEA AND GUSTAVSON

MARCH 11, 2015

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN OSCARSON AND TITUS

Referred to Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy

SUMMARY—Ratifies the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. (BDR 54-576)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to professions; ratifying the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law generally provides for the regulation of physicians and osteopathic physicians in this State. (Chapters 630 and 633 of NRS) This bill ratifies the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. If a physician or osteopathic physician is licensed in this State, the Compact provides for reciprocal licensure for that physician or osteopathic physician in all other member states of the Compact. The Compact regulates the licensure and discipline of physicians and osteopathic physicians holding reciprocal licenses through the Compact. The Compact becomes effective upon ratification by seven states. Currently, no state has yet ratified the Compact.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Title 54 of NRS is hereby amended by adding 2 thereto a new chapter to read as follows:

3 The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact is hereby ratified

4 and entered into with all other jurisdictions legally joining the

5 Compact, in substantially the form set forth in this chapter:





INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT

ARTICLE 1. PURPOSE

5 In order to strengthen access to health care, and in recognition of the advances in the delivery of health care, the member states of 6 7 the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact have allied in common 8 purpose to develop a comprehensive process that complements the existing licensing and regulatory authority of state medical boards 9 10 and provides a streamlined process which allows physicians to 11 become licensed in multiple states, thereby enhancing the 12 portability of a medical license and ensuring the safety of patients. 13 The Compact creates another pathway for licensure and does not otherwise change a state's existing Medical Practice Act. The 14 Compact also adopts the prevailing standard for licensure and 15 affirms that the practice of medicine occurs where the patient is 16 17 located at the time of the physician-patient encounter, and therefore, requires the physician to be under the jurisdiction of the 18 state medical board where the patient is located. State medical 19 20 boards that participate in the Compact retain the jurisdiction to 21 impose an adverse action against a license to practice medicine in that state issued to a physician through the procedures in the 22 23 Compact.

ARTICLE 2. DEFINITIONS

In this Compact:

1 2

3 4

24 25

26 27

(a) "Bylaws" means those bylaws established by the Interstate
 Commission pursuant to Article 11 for its governance, or for
 directing and controlling its actions and conduct.

31 (b) "Commissioner" means the voting representative appointed 32 by each member board pursuant to Article 11.

(c) "Conviction" means a finding by a court that an individual
is guilty of a criminal offense through adjudication, or entry of a
plea of guilt or no contest to the charge by the offender. Evidence
of an entry of a conviction of a criminal offense by the court shall
be considered final for purposes of disciplinary action by a
member board.

39 (d) "Expedited license" means a full and unrestricted medical
40 license granted by a member state to an eligible physician through
41 the process set forth in the Compact.

42 (e) "Interstate Commission" means the Interstate Medical 43 Licensure Compact Commission created pursuant to Article 11.





1 (f) "License" means authorization by a state for a physician to 2 engage in the practice of medicine, which would be unlawful 3 without the authorization.

4 (g) "Medical Practice Act" means laws and regulations 5 governing the practice of allopathic and osteopathic medicine 6 within a member state.

7 (h) "Member board" means a state agency in a member state 8 that acts in the sovereign interests of the state by protecting the 9 public through licensure, regulation and education of physicians 10 as directed by the state government.

11 (i) "Member state" means a state that has enacted the 12 Compact.

(j) "Practice of medicine" means the clinical prevention,
diagnosis or treatment of a human disease, injury or condition
requiring a physician to obtain and maintain a license in
compliance with the Medical Practice Act of a member state.

 (\bar{k}) "Physician" means any person who:

18 (1) Is a graduate of a medical school accredited by the 19 Liaison Committee on Medical Education, the Commission on 20 Osteopathic College Accreditation of the American Osteopathic 21 Association or a medical school listed in the International Medical 22 Education Directory or its equivalent;

(2) Has passed each component of the United States
Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) or the Comprehensive
Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX-USA)
within three attempts, or any of its predecessor examinations
accepted by a state medical board as an equivalent examination
for licensure purposes;

(3) Has successfully completed graduate medical education
approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical
Education or the American Osteopathic Association;

32 (4) Holds specialty certification or a time-unlimited 33 specialty certificate recognized by the American Board of Medical 34 Specialties or the American Osteopathic Association's Bureau of 35 Osteopathic Specialists;

36 (5) Possesses a full and unrestricted license to engage in
 37 the practice of medicine issued by a member board;

(6) Has never been convicted, received adjudication,
deferred adjudication, community supervision or deferred
disposition for any offense by a court of appropriate jurisdiction;

41 (7) Has never held a license authorizing the practice of 42 medicine subjected to discipline by a licensing agency in any state, 43 federal or foreign jurisdiction, excluding any action related to 44 nonpayment of fees related to a license;



17



(8) Has never had a controlled substance license or permit 1 2 suspended or revoked by a state or the United States Drug 3 **Enforcement Administration; and**

(9) Is not under active investigation by a licensing agency 4 or law enforcement authority in any state, federal or foreign 5 6 *iurisdiction*.

7 (1) "Offense" means a felony, gross misdemeanor or crime of 8 *moral turpitude.*

(m) "Rule" means a written statement by the Interstate 9 10 Commission promulgated pursuant to Article 12 of the Compact that is of general applicability, implements, interprets or prescribes 11 a policy or provision of the Compact, or an organizational, 12 13 procedural or practice requirement of the Interstate Commission, and has the force and effect of statutory law in a member state, 14 and includes the amendment, repeal or suspension of an existing 15 16 rule.

17 (n) "State" means any state, commonwealth, district or territory of the United States. 18

(o) "State of principal license" means a member state where a 19 20 physician holds a license to practice medicine and which has been 21 designated as such by the physician for purposes of registration 22 and participation in the Compact.

ARTICLE 3. ELIGIBILITY

26 (a) A physician must meet the eligibility requirements as 27 defined in Article 2(k) to receive an expedited license under the 28 terms and provisions of the Compact.

29 (b) A physician who does not meet the requirements of Article 30 2(k) may obtain a license to practice medicine in a member state if the physician complies with all laws and requirements, other than 31 32 the Compact, relating to the issuance of a license to practice *medicine in that state.* 33 34

ARTICLE 4. DESIGNATION OF STATE OF PRINCIPAL LICENSE

38 (a) A physician shall designate a member state as the state of principal license for purposes of registration for expedited 39 licensure through the Compact if the physician possesses a full 40 and unrestricted license to practice medicine in the state, and the 41 42 state is: 43

(1) The state of primary residence for the physician;

(2) The state where at least 25 percent of the practice of 44 45 *medicine occurs;*



23 24

25

35 36

37



-4-

(3) The location of the physician's employer; or 1 2 (4) If no state qualifies under paragraph (1), (2) or (3), the 3 state designated as the state of residence for the purpose of federal 4 income tax. 5 (b) A physician may redesignate a member state as the state of 6 principal license at any time, as long as the state meets the 7 requirements in subsection (a). 8 (c) The Interstate Commission is authorized to develop rules to 9 facilitate redesignation of another member state as the state of 10 principal license. 11 12 **ARTICLE 5. APPLICATION AND ISSUANCE OF** 13 **EXPEDITED LICENSURE** 14 15 (a) A physician seeking licensure through the Compact shall file an application for an expedited license with the member board 16 17 of the state selected by the physician as the state of principal 18 license. (b) Upon receipt of an application for an expedited license, the 19 20 member board within the state selected as the state of principal 21 license shall evaluate whether the physician is eligible for 22 expedited licensure and issue a letter of qualification, verifying or 23 denying the physician's eligibility, to the Interstate Commission. 24 For purposes of this subsection: 25 (1) Static qualifications, which include verification of 26 medical education, graduate medical education, results of any 27 medical or licensing examination and other qualifications as 28 determined by the Interstate Commission through rule, shall not 29 be subject to additional primary source verification where the primary source has already been verified by the state of principal 30 31 license. 32 (2) The member board within the state selected as the state

of principal license shall, in the course of verifying eligibility, perform a criminal background check of an applicant, including the use of the results of fingerprint or other biometric data checks compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with the exception of federal employees who have a suitability determination in accordance with 5 C.F.R. § 731.202.

39 (3) Appeal on the determination of eligibility shall be made
40 to the member state where the application was filed and shall be
41 subject to the law of that state.

42 (c) Upon verification in subsection (b), physicians eligible for 43 an expedited license shall complete the registration process 44 established by the Interstate Commission to receive a license in a





1 member state selected pursuant to subsection (a), including the 2 payment of any applicable fees.

3 (d) After receiving verification of eligibility under subsection 4 (b) and any fees under subsection (c), a member board shall issue 5 an expedited license to the physician. This license shall authorize 6 the physician to practice medicine in the issuing state consistent 7 with the Medical Practice Act and all applicable laws and 8 regulations of the issuing member board and member state.

9 (e) An expedited license shall be valid for a period consistent 10 with the licensure period in the member state and in the same 11 manner as required for other physicians holding a full and 12 unrestricted license within the member state.

(f) An expedited license obtained through the Compact shall
be terminated if a physician fails to maintain a license in the state
of principal licensure for a nondisciplinary reason, without
redesignation of a new state of principal licensure.

17 (g) The Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of 18 Osteopathic Medicine, in conjunction with the Interstate 19 Commission, are authorized to develop rules regarding the 20 application process, including payment of any applicable fees and 21 the issuance of an expedited license.

22 23

24

33 34

35

ARTICLE 6. FEES FOR EXPEDITED LICENSURE

(a) A member state issuing an expedited license authorizing
the practice of medicine in that state may impose a fee for a
license issued or renewed through the Compact.

(b) The Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of
 Osteopathic Medicine, in conjunction with the Interstate
 Commission, are authorized to develop rules regarding fees for
 expedited licenses.

ARTICLE 7. RENEWAL AND CONTINUED PARTICIPATION

(a) A physician seeking to renew an expedited license granted
in a member state shall complete a renewal process with the Board
of Medical Examiners or the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine,
as applicable, in conjunction with the Interstate Commission, if
the physician:

41 (1) Maintains a full and unrestricted license in a state of 42 principal license;

43 (2) Has not been convicted, received adjudication, deferred 44 adjudication, community supervision or deferred disposition for 45 any offense by a court of appropriate jurisdiction;





1 (3) Has not had a license authorizing the practice of 2 medicine subject to discipline by a licensing agency in any state, 3 federal or foreign jurisdiction, excluding any action related to 4 nonpayment of fees related to a license; and

5 (4) Has not had a controlled substance license or permit 6 suspended or revoked by a state or the United States Drug 7 Enforcement Administration.

8 (b) Physicians shall comply with all continuing professional 9 development or continuing medical education requirements for 10 renewal of a license issued by a member state.

(c) The Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of
 Osteopathic Medicine, as applicable, shall collect any renewal fees
 charged for the renewal of a license and distribute the fees to the
 Interstate Commission.

15 (d) Subject to the renewal requirements in this Article and 16 those specific to license renewal by the Board of Medical 17 Examiners or the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, as 18 applicable, and upon receipt of any renewal fees collected in 19 subsection (c), a member board shall renew the physician's 20 license.

(e) Physician information collected by the Interstate
 Commission during the renewal process will be distributed to all
 member boards.

(f) The Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of
Osteopathic Medicine, in conjunction with the Interstate
Commission, are authorized to develop rules to address renewal of
licenses obtained through the Compact.

- 28
- 29 30

ARTICLE 8. COORDINATED INFORMATION SYSTEM

(a) The Interstate Commission shall establish a database of all
 physicians licensed, or who have applied for licensure, pursuant to
 Article 5.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, member
boards shall report to the Interstate Commission any public action
or complaints against a licensed physician who has applied for or
received an expedited license through the Compact.

(c) Member boards shall report disciplinary or investigatory
 information determined as necessary and proper by rule of the
 Interstate Commission.

41 (d) Member boards may report any nonpublic complaint, 42 disciplinary or investigatory information not required by 43 subsection (c) to the Interstate Commission.





(e) Member boards shall share complaint or disciplinary 1 2 information about a physician upon request of another member 3 board. (f) All information provided to the Interstate Commission or 4 5 distributed by member boards shall be confidential, filed under seal and used only for investigatory or disciplinary matters. 6 7 (g) The Interstate Commission is authorized to develop rules 8 for mandatory or discretionary sharing of information by member 9 boards. 10 11 **ARTICLE 9. JOINT INVESTIGATIONS** 12 13 (a) Licensure and disciplinary records of physicians are 14 deemed investigative. 15 (b) In addition to the authority granted to a member board by its respective Medical Practice Act or other applicable state law, a 16 17 member board may participate with other member boards in joint investigations of physicians licensed by the member boards. 18 19 (c) A subpoena issued by a member state shall be enforceable 20 in other member states. 21 (d) Member boards may share any investigative, litigation or 22 compliance materials in furtherance of any joint or individual 23 investigation initiated under the Compact. 24 (e) Any member state may investigate actual or alleged violations of the statutes authorizing the practice of medicine in 25 26 any other member state in which a physician holds a license to 27 practice medicine. 28 **ARTICLE 10. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS** 29 30 31 (a) Any disciplinary action taken by any member board against 32 a physician licensed through the Compact shall be deemed unprofessional conduct which may be subject to discipline by 33 34 other member boards, in addition to any violation of the Medical 35 **Practice Act or regulations in that state.** (b) If a license granted to a physician by the member board in 36 the state of principal license is revoked, surrendered or 37 relinguished in lieu of discipline, or suspended, then all licenses 38 issued to the physician by member boards shall automatically be 39 placed, without further action necessary by any member board, on 40 the same status. If the member board in the state of principal 41 42 license subsequently reinstates the physician's license, a license 43 issued to the physician by any other member board shall remain 44 encumbered until that respective member board takes action to





reinstate the license in a manner consistent with the Medical
 Practice Act of that state.

3 (c) If disciplinary action is taken against a physician by a 4 member board not in the state of principal license, any other 5 member board may deem the action conclusive as to matter of law 6 and fact decided, and:

7 (1) Impose the same or lesser sanctions against the 8 physician so long as such sanctions are consistent with the 9 Medical Practice Act of that state; or

10 (2) Pursue separate disciplinary action against the 11 physician under its respective Medical Practice Act, regardless of 12 the action taken in other member states.

13 (d) If a license granted to a physician by a member board is 14 revoked, surrendered or relinguished in lieu of discipline, or 15 suspended, then any license issued to the physician by any other 16 member board shall be suspended, automatically and immediately without further action necessary by the other member board, for 17 90 days upon entry of the order by the disciplining board, to 18 permit the member board to investigate the basis for the action 19 20 under the Medical Practice Act of that state. A member board may terminate the automatic suspension of the license it issued prior to 21 the completion of the 90 day suspension period in a manner 22 consistent with the Medical Practice Act of that state. 23

- 24 25
- 26 27

ARTICLE 11. INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT COMMISSION

(a) The member states hereby create the "Interstate Medical
 Licensure Compact Commission."

30 (b) The purpose of the Interstate Commission is the 31 administration of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, 32 which is a discretionary state function.

(c) The Interstate Commission shall be a body corporate and
joint agency of the member states and shall have all the
responsibilities, powers and duties set forth in the Compact, and
such additional powers as may be conferred upon it by a
subsequent concurrent action of the respective legislatures of the
member states in accordance with the terms of the Compact.

39 (d) The Interstate Commission shall consist of two voting 40 representatives appointed by each member state who shall serve as 41 Commissioners. In states where allopathic and osteopathic 42 physicians are regulated by separate member boards, or if the 43 licensing and disciplinary authority is split between multiple 44 member boards within a member state, the member state shall





-9-

1 appoint one representative from each member board. A 2 Commissioner shall be:

(1) An allopathic or osteopathic physician appointed to a 3 4 *member board*;

5 (2) An executive director, executive secretary or similar 6 executive of a member board; or 7

(3) A member of the public appointed to a member board.

8 (e) The Interstate Commission shall meet at least once each calendar year. A portion of this meeting shall be a business 9 meeting to address such matters as may properly come before the 10 Commission, including the election of officers. The Chairperson 11 12 may call additional meetings and shall call for a meeting upon the 13 request of a majority of the member states.

(f) The bylaws may provide for meetings of the Interstate 14 15 *Commission to be conducted by telecommunication or electronic* 16 communication.

(g) Each Commissioner participating at a meeting of the 17 18 Interstate Commission is entitled to one vote. A majority of Commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of 19 20 business, unless a larger quorum is required by the bylaws of the Interstate Commission. A Commissioner shall not delegate a vote 21 22 to another Commissioner. In the absence of its Commissioner, a 23 member state may delegate voting authority for a specified 24 meeting to another person from that state who meets the 25 requirements of subsection (d).

26 (h) The Interstate Commission shall provide public notice of 27 all meetings, and all meetings must be open to the public. The 28 Interstate Commission may close a meeting, in full or in portion, 29 where it determines by a two-thirds vote of the Commissioners 30 present that an open meeting would be likely to:

31 (1) Relate solely to the internal personnel practices and 32 procedures of the Interstate Commission;

33 (2) Discuss matters specifically exempted from disclosure 34 by a federal statute:

35 (3) Discuss trade secrets, commercial or financial 36 information that is privileged or confidential;

(4) Involve accusing a person of a crime or formally 37 38 censuring a person;

(5) Discuss information of a personal nature where 39 40 disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of 41 *personal privacy;*

42 (6) Discuss investigative records compiled for law 43 enforcement purposes; or

44 (7) Specifically relate to the participation in a civil action or 45 other legal proceeding.





(i) The Interstate Commission shall keep minutes which shall
 fully describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide
 a full and accurate summary of actions taken, including a record
 of any roll call votes.

5 (j) The Interstate Commission shall make its information and 6 official records, to the extent not otherwise designated in the 7 Compact or by its rules, available to the public for inspection.

8 (k) The Interstate Commission shall establish an Executive Committee, which must include officers, members and others as 9 determined by the bylaws. The Executive Committee shall have the 10 power to act on behalf of the Interstate Commission, with the 11 12 exception of rulemaking, during periods when the Interstate 13 Commission is not in session. When acting on behalf of the 14 Interstate Commission, the Executive Committee shall oversee the administration of the Compact, including enforcement and 15 compliance with the provisions of the Compact, its bylaws and 16 17 rules and other such duties as necessary.

(l) The Interstate Commission may establish other committees
 for governance and administration of the Compact.

20 21

21 22 23

24

25

ARTICLE 12. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

The Interstate Commission shall have the duty and power to:

(a) Oversee and maintain the administration of the Compact;

(b) Promulgate rules which shall be binding to the extent and
 in the manner provided for in the Compact;

(c) Issue, upon the request of a member state or member
board, advisory opinions concerning the meaning or interpretation
of the Compact, its bylaws, rules and actions;

(d) Enforce compliance with Compact provisions, the rules
promulgated by the Interstate Commission and the bylaws, using
all necessary and proper means, including, but not limited to, the
use of judicial process;

(e) Establish and appoint committees, including, but not
limited to, an Executive Committee as required by Article 11,
which shall have the power to act on behalf of the Interstate
Commission in carrying out its powers and duties;

39 (f) Pay, or provide for the payment of, the expenses related to 40 the establishment, organization and ongoing activities of the 41 Interstate Commission;

42 (g) Establish and maintain one or more offices;

43 (h) Borrow, accept, hire or contract for services of personnel;

44 (i) Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;





(i) Employ an Executive Director who shall have such powers 1 2 to employ, select or appoint employees, agents or consultants, and 3 to determine their qualifications, define their duties and fix their 4 compensation:

5 (k) Establish personnel policies and programs relating to 6 conflicts of interest, rates of compensation and qualifications of 7 personnel;

8 (1) Accept donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, 9 materials and services, and to receive, utilize and dispose of it in a manner consistent with the conflict of interest policies established 10 11 by the Interstate Commission:

12 (m) Lease, purchase, accept contributions or donations of, or 13 otherwise to own, hold, improve or use, any property, real, 14 personal or mixed:

15 (n) Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal or mixed; 16

(o) Establish a budget and make expenditures;

18 (p) Adopt a seal and bylaws governing the management and 19 operation of the Interstate Commission;

20 (q) Report annually to the legislatures and governors of the 21 member states concerning the activities of the Interstate Commission during the preceding year. Such reports shall also 22 23 include reports of financial audits and any recommendations that 24 may have been adopted by the Interstate Commission:

25 (r) Coordinate education, training and public awareness 26 regarding the Compact, its implementation and its operation; 27

(s) Maintain records in accordance with the bylaws;

(t) Seek and obtain trademarks, copyrights and patents; and

29 (u) Perform such functions as may be necessary or 30 appropriate to achieve the purposes of the Compact.

31 32 33

28

17

ARTICLE 13. FINANCE POWERS

(a) The Interstate Commission may levy on and collect an 34 35 annual assessment from each member state to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the Interstate Commission and its staff. 36 37 The total assessment must be sufficient to cover the annual budget approved each year for which revenue is not provided by other 38 sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be 39 allocated upon a formula to be determined by the Interstate 40 Commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all 41 42 *member states.*

43 (b) The Interstate Commission shall not incur obligations of 44 any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same.





1 (c) The Interstate Commission shall not pledge the credit of 2 any of the member states, except by, and with the authority of, the 3 member state.

4 (d) The Interstate Commission shall be subject to a yearly 5 financial audit conducted by a certified or licensed public 6 accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in the 7 annual report of the Interstate Commission.

- 8 9
- 10 11

ARTICLE 14. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

12 (a) The Interstate Commission shall, by a majority of 13 Commissioners present and voting, adopt bylaws to govern its 14 conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the 15 purposes of the Compact within 12 months of the first Interstate 16 Commission meeting.

17 (b) The Interstate Commission shall elect or appoint annually from among its Commissioners a Chairperson, 18 a Vice Chairperson and a Treasurer, each of whom shall have such 19 20 authority and duties as may be specified in the bylaws. The 21 Chairperson, or in the Chairperson's absence or disability, the 22 Vice Chairperson, shall preside at all meetings of the Interstate 23 Commission.

(c) Officers selected in subsection (b) shall serve without
 remuneration from the Interstate Commission.

26 (d) The officers and employees of the Interstate Commission 27 shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in 28 their official capacity, for a claim for damage to or loss of property 29 or personal injury or other civil liability caused or arising out of, 30 or relating to, an actual or alleged act, error or omission that 31 occurred, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing 32 occurred, within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties or responsibilities, provided that such person shall not be 33 protected from suit or liability for damage, loss, injury or liability 34 caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of 35 such person. For purposes of this subsection: 36

37 (1) The liability of the Executive Director and employees of the Interstate Commission or representatives of the Interstate 38 Commission, acting within the scope of such person's employment 39 or duties for acts, errors or omissions occurring within such 40 person's state, may not exceed the limits of liability set forth under 41 42 the constitution and laws of that state for state officials, employees 43 and agents. The Interstate Commission is considered to be an instrumentality of the states for the purposes of any such action. 44 45 Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to protect such





1 person from suit or liability for damage, loss, injury or liability 2 caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of 3 such person.

(2) The Interstate Commission shall defend the Executive 4 5 Director, its employees and, subject to the approval of the attorney general or other appropriate legal counsel of the member state 6 7 represented by an Interstate Commission representative, such 8 Interstate Commission representative in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of an actual or alleged act, error or 9 omission that occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission 10 11 employment, duties or responsibilities, or that the defendant had a 12 reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of 13 Interstate Commission employment, duties or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error or omission did not 14 15 result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the 16 part of such person.

17 (3) To the extent not covered by the state involved, the 18 member state or the Interstate Commission, the representatives or employees of the Interstate Commission shall be held harmless in 19 20 the amount of a settlement or judgment, including attorney's fees 21 and costs, obtained against such persons arising out of an actual 22 or alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties or responsibilities, or 23 24 that such persons had a reasonable basis for believing occurred 25 within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties or 26 responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error or 27 omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such persons. 28

- 29
- 30 31

ARTICLE 15. RULEMAKING FUNCTIONS OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

32

33 (a) The Interstate Commission shall promulgate reasonable rules in order to effectively and efficiently achieve the purposes of 34 35 the Compact. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the Interstate Commission exercises its rulemaking authority in a 36 37 manner that is beyond the scope of the purposes of the Compact, or the powers granted hereunder, then such an action by the 38 Interstate Commission shall be invalid and have no force or effect. 39 (b) Rules deemed appropriate for the operations of the 40 Interstate Commission shall be made pursuant to a rulemaking 41 42 process that substantially conforms to the Model State 43 Administrative Procedure Act of 2010, and subsequent 44 amendments thereto.





(c) Not later than 30 days after a rule is promulgated, any 1 2 person may file a petition for judicial review of the rule in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the 3 federal district where the Interstate Commission has its principal 4 5 offices, provided that the filing of such a petition shall not stay or otherwise prevent the rule from becoming effective unless the 6 court finds that the petitioner has a substantial likelihood of 7 success. The court shall give deference to the actions of the 8 Interstate Commission consistent with applicable law and shall not 9 find the rule to be unlawful if the rule represents a reasonable 10 11 exercise of the authority granted to the Interstate Commission.

- 12
- 13 14

ARTICLE 16. OVERSIGHT OF INTERSTATE COMPACT

15 (a) The executive, legislative and judicial branches of state 16 government in each member state shall enforce the Compact and 17 shall take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the 18 Compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of the Compact 19 and the rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as 20 statutory law but shall not override existing state authority to 21 regulate the practice of medicine.

(b) All courts shall take judicial notice of the Compact and the rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in a member state pertaining to the subject matter of the Compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities or actions of the Interstate Commission.

(c) The Interstate Commission shall be entitled to receive all
service of process in any such proceeding, and shall have standing
to intervene in the proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide
service of process to the Interstate Commission shall render a
judgment or order void as to the Interstate Commission, the
Compact or promulgated rules.

33 34

- 35
- 36

ARTICLE 17. ENFORCEMENT OF INTERSTATE COMPACT

(a) The Interstate Commission, in the reasonable exercise of
 its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of the
 Compact.

40 (b) The Interstate Commission may, by majority vote of the 41 Commissioners, initiate legal action in the United States District 42 Court for the District of Columbia or, at the discretion of the 43 Interstate Commission, in the federal district where the Interstate 44 Commission has its principal offices, to enforce compliance with 45 the provisions of the Compact, and its promulgated rules and





1 bylaws, against a member state in default. The relief sought may 2 include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial 3 enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all

3 enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all
4 costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

5 (c) The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of 6 the Interstate Commission. The Interstate Commission may avail 7 itself of any other remedies available under state law or the 8 regulation of a profession.

9 10 11

ARTICLE 18. DEFAULT PROCEDURES

12 (a) The grounds for default include, but are not limited to, 13 failure of a member state to perform such obligations or 14 responsibilities imposed upon it by the Compact, or the rules and 15 bylaws of the Interstate Commission promulgated under the 16 Compact.

17 (b) If the Interstate Commission determines that a member 18 state has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or 19 responsibilities under the Compact, or the bylaws or promulgated 20 rules, the Interstate Commission shall:

(1) Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other
member states of the nature of the default, the means of curing the
default and any action taken by the Interstate Commission. The
Interstate Commission shall specify the conditions by which the
defaulting state must cure its default; and

26 (2) Provide remedial training and specific technical 27 assistance regarding the default.

(c) If the defaulting state fails to cure the default, the
defaulting state shall be terminated from the Compact upon an
affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners and all rights,
privileges and benefits conferred by the Compact shall terminate
on the effective date of the termination. A cure of the default does
not relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred
during the period of the default.

(d) Termination of membership in the Compact shall be
imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have
been exhausted. Notice of intent to terminate shall be given by the
Interstate Commission to the governor, the majority and minority
leaders of the defaulting state's legislature and each of the
member states.

41 (e) The Interstate Commission shall establish rules and
42 procedures to address licenses and physicians that are materially
43 impacted by the termination of a member state, or the withdrawal
44 of a member state.





1 (f) The member state which has been terminated is responsible 2 for all dues, obligations and liabilities incurred through the 3 effective date of the termination, including obligations the 4 performance of which extends beyond the effective date of 5 the termination. 6 (g) The Interstate Commission shall not bear any costs

6 (g) The Interstate Commission shall not bear any costs 7 relating to any state that has been found to be in default or which 8 has been terminated from the Compact, unless otherwise mutually 9 agreed upon in writing between the Interstate Commission and the 10 defaulting state.

(h) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the Interstate Commission by petitioning the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Interstate Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

17

18 19

30

ARTICLE 19. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

(a) The Interstate Commission shall attempt, upon the request
of a member state, to resolve disputes which are subject to the
Compact and which may arise among member states or member
boards.

(b) The Interstate Commission shall promulgate rules
 providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution as
 appropriate.

28 ARTICLE 20. MEMBER STATES, EFFECTIVE DATE AND 29 AMENDMENT

31 (a) Any state is eligible to become a member state of the 32 Compact.

(b) The Compact shall become effective and binding upon
legislative enactment of the Compact into law by no less than
seven states. Thereafter, it shall become effective and binding on a
state upon enactment of the Compact into law by that state.

(c) The governors of nonmember states, or their designees,
shall be invited to participate in the activities of the Interstate
Commission on a nonvoting basis prior to adoption of the
Compact by all states.

(d) The Interstate Commission may propose amendments to
the Compact for enactment by the member states. No amendment
shall become effective and binding upon the Interstate
Commission and the member states unless and until it is enacted
into law by unanimous consent of the member states.





ARTICLE 21. WITHDRAWAL

(a) Once effective, the Compact shall continue in force and
remain binding upon each and every member state, provided that
a member state may withdraw from the Compact by specifically
repealing the statute which enacted the Compact into law.

7 (b) Withdrawal from the Compact shall be by the enactment of 8 a statute repealing the same, but shall not take effect until 1 year 9 after the effective date of such statute and until written notice of 10 the withdrawal has been given by the withdrawing state to the 11 governor of each other member state.

12 (c) The withdrawing state shall immediately notify the 13 Chairperson of the Interstate Commission in writing upon 14 the introduction of legislation repealing the Compact in the 15 withdrawing state.

(d) The Interstate Commission shall notify the other member
states of the withdrawing state's intent to withdraw within 60 days
of its receipt of notice provided under subsection (c).

19 (e) The withdrawing state is responsible for all dues, 20 obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of 21 the withdrawal, including obligations, the performance of which 22 extends beyond the effective date of the withdrawal.

(f) Reinstatement following withdrawal of a member state shall
 occur upon the withdrawing state reenacting the Compact or upon
 such later date as determined by the Interstate Commission.

(g) The Interstate Commission is authorized to develop rules to
address the impact of the withdrawal of a member state on licenses
granted in other member states to physicians who designated the
withdrawing member state as the state of principal license.

ARTICLE 22. DISSOLUTION

(a) The Compact shall dissolve effective upon the date of the
 withdrawal or default of the member state which reduces the
 membership in the Compact to one member state.

(b) Upon the dissolution of the Compact, the Compact becomes
null and void and shall be of no further force or effect, and the
business and affairs of the Interstate Commission shall be
concluded and surplus funds shall be distributed in accordance
with the bylaws.

41 42 43

30

31 32

 $\frac{1}{2}$

ARTICLE 23. SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION

44 (a) The provisions of the Compact shall be severable, and if 45 any phrase, clause, sentence or provision is deemed



- 18 -

1	unenforceable, the remaining provisions of the Compact shall be
2	enforceable.
3	(b) The provisions of the Compact shall be liberally construed
4	to effectuate its purposes.
5	(c) Nothing in the Compact shall be construed to prohibit the
6	applicability of other interstate compacts to which the states are
7	members.
8	
9	ARTICLE 24. BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND
10	OTHER LAWS
11	
12	(a) Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law
13	of a member state that is not inconsistent with the Compact.
14	(b) All laws in a member state in conflict with the Compact are
15	superseded to the extent of the conflict.
16	(c) All lawful actions of the Interstate Commission, including
17	all rules and bylaws promulgated by the Commission, are binding
18	upon the member states.
19	(d) All agreements between the Interstate Commission and the
20	member states are binding in accordance with their terms.
21	(e) In the event any provision of the Compact exceeds the
22	constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any member
23	state, such provisions shall be ineffective to the extent of the
24	conflict with the constitutional provision in question in that
25	member state.



