

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2024

---

Legislative Document

No. 2043

---

H.P. 1305

House of Representatives, December 13, 2023

---

### **An Act to Add the State of Maine to the Compact for Licensing Physician Assistants**

---

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 11, 2023. Referred to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and  
Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, DODGE of Belfast,  
MORRIS of Turner, MURPHY of Scarborough, Senators: President JACKSON of Aroostook,  
STEWART of Aroostook, VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 This bill proposes to enact the PA Licensure Compact to increase the availability of  
6 medical services provided by physician assistants by mutual recognition of a physician  
7 assistant's qualifying license by other states participating in the compact. This compact also  
8 would adopt the prevailing standard for physician assistant licensure and affirms that the  
9 practice and delivery of medical services by the physician assistant occurs where the patient  
10 is located at the time of the patient encounter, placing the physician assistant under the  
11 jurisdiction of the state licensing board where the patient is located. A state licensing board  
12 that participates in this compact would retain jurisdiction to impose adverse action against  
13 the authorization provided under the compact in that state and issued to a physician assistant  
14 through the procedures of the compact. The compact would alleviate burdens for military  
15 families by allowing active duty military personnel and their spouses to obtain  
16 authorization to provide medical services as long as those persons have an unrestricted  
17 license in good standing from a state participating in the compact.

18 The verbatim text of the PA Licensure Compact, which has not been edited to make  
19 necessary, nonsubstantive changes to conform to Maine legislative drafting standards,  
20 reads as follows.

21 **PA LICENSURE COMPACT**

22 **Section 1. Purpose**

23 In order to strengthen access to Medical Services, and in recognition of the advances in the  
24 delivery of Medical Services, the Participating States of the PA Licensure Compact have  
25 allied in common purpose to develop a comprehensive process that complements the  
26 existing authority of State Licensing Boards to license and discipline PAs and seeks to  
27 enhance the portability of a License to practice as a PA while safeguarding the safety of  
28 patients. This Compact allows Medical Services to be provided by PAs, via the mutual  
29 recognition of the Licensee's Qualifying License by other Compact Participating States.  
30 This Compact also adopts the prevailing standard for PA licensure and affirms that the  
31 practice and delivery of Medical Services by the PA occurs where the patient is located at  
32 the time of the patient encounter, and therefore requires the PA to be under the jurisdiction  
33 of the State Licensing Board where the patient is located. State Licensing Boards that  
34 participate in this Compact retain the jurisdiction to impose Adverse Action against a  
35 Compact Privilege in that State issued to a PA through the procedures of this Compact. The  
36 PA Licensure Compact will alleviate burdens for military families by allowing active duty  
37 military personnel and their spouses to obtain a Compact Privilege based on having an  
38 unrestricted License in good standing from a Participating State.

39 **Section 2. Definitions**

40 In this Compact:

41 **A. "Adverse Action"** means any administrative, civil, equitable, or criminal action  
42 permitted by a State's laws which is imposed by a Licensing Board or other

- 1 authority against a PA License or License application or Compact Privilege such  
2 as License denial, censure, revocation, suspension, probation, monitoring of the  
3 Licensee, or restriction on the Licensee's practice.
- 4 **B. "Compact Privilege"** means the authorization granted by a Remote State to allow  
5 a Licensee from another Participating State to practice as a PA to provide Medical  
6 Services and other licensed activity to a patient located in the Remote State under  
7 the Remote State's laws and regulations.
- 8 **C. "Conviction"** means a finding by a court that an individual is guilty of a felony or  
9 misdemeanor offense through adjudication or entry of a plea of guilt or no contest  
10 to the charge by the offender
- 11 **D. "Criminal Background Check"** means the submission of fingerprints or other  
12 biometric-based information for a License applicant for the purpose of obtaining  
13 that applicant's criminal history record information, as defined in 28 C.F.R. §  
14 20.3(d), from the State's criminal history record repository as defined in 28 C.F.R.  
15 § 20.3(f).
- 16 **E. "Data System"** means the repository of information about Licensees, including but  
17 not limited to License status and Adverse Actions, which is created and  
18 administered under the terms of this Compact.
- 19 **F. "Executive Committee"** means a group of directors and ex-officio individuals  
20 elected or appointed pursuant to Section 7.F.2.
- 21 **G. "Impaired Practitioner"** means a PA whose practice is adversely affected by  
22 health-related condition(s) that impact their ability to practice.
- 23 **H. "Investigative Information"** means information, records, or documents received  
24 or generated by a Licensing Board pursuant to an investigation.
- 25 **I. "Jurisprudence Requirement"** means the assessment of an individual's knowledge  
26 of the laws and Rules governing the practice of a PA in a State.
- 27 **J. "License"** means current authorization by a State, other than authorization pursuant  
28 to a Compact Privilege, for a PA to provide Medical Services, which would be  
29 unlawful without current authorization.
- 30 **K. "Licensee"** means an individual who holds a License from a State to provide  
31 Medical Services as a PA.
- 32 **L. "Licensing Board"** means any State entity authorized to license and otherwise  
33 regulate PAs.
- 34 **M. "Medical Services"** means health care services provided for the diagnosis,  
35 prevention, treatment, cure or relief of a health condition, injury, or disease, as  
36 defined by a State's laws and regulations.
- 37 **N. "Model Compact"** means the model for the PA Licensure Compact on file with  
38 The Council of State Governments or other entity as designated by the  
39 Commission.
- 40 **O. "Participating State"** means a State that has enacted this Compact.
- 41 **P. "PA"** means an individual who is licensed as a physician assistant in a State. For  
42 purposes of this Compact, any other title or status adopted by a State to replace the

1 term "physician assistant" shall be deemed synonymous with "physician assistant"  
2 and shall confer the same rights and responsibilities to the Licensee under the  
3 provisions of this Compact at the time of its enactment.

4 **Q. "PA Licensure Compact Commission," "Compact Commission," or**  
5 **"Commission"** mean the national administrative body created pursuant to Section  
6 7.A of this Compact.

7 **R. "Qualifying License"** means an unrestricted License issued by a Participating State  
8 to provide Medical Services as a PA.

9 **S. "Remote State"** means a Participating State where a Licensee who is not licensed  
10 as a PA is exercising or seeking to exercise the Compact Privilege.

11 **T. "Rule"** means a regulation promulgated by an entity that has the force and effect of  
12 law.

13 **U. "Significant Investigative Information"** means Investigative Information that a  
14 Licensing Board, after an inquiry or investigation that includes notification and an  
15 opportunity for the PA to respond if required by State law, has reason to believe is  
16 not groundless and, if proven true, would indicate more than a minor infraction.

17 **V. "State"** means any state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the United States.

### 18 **Section 3. State Participation in this Compact**

19 A. To participate in this Compact, a Participating State shall:

- 20 1. License PAs.
- 21 2. Participate in the Compact Commission's Data System.
- 22 3. Have a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints  
23 against Licensees and License applicants.
- 24 4. Notify the Commission, in compliance with the terms of this Compact and  
25 Commission Rules, of any Adverse Action against a Licensee or License  
26 applicant and the existence of Significant Investigative Information  
27 regarding a Licensee or License applicant.
- 28 5. Fully implement a Criminal Background Check requirement, within a time  
29 frame established by Commission Rule, by its Licensing Board receiving  
30 the results of a Criminal Background Check and reporting to the  
31 Commission whether the License applicant has been granted a License.
- 32 6. Comply with the Rules of the Compact Commission.
- 33 7. Utilize passage of a recognized national exam such as the NCCPA PANCE  
34 as a requirement for PA licensure.
- 35 8. Grant the Compact Privilege to a holder of a Qualifying License in a  
36 Participating State.

37 B. Nothing in this Compact prohibits a Participating State from charging a fee for  
38 granting the Compact Privilege.

1           **Section 4. Compact Privilege**

2           A. To exercise the Compact Privilege, a Licensee must:

- 3                   1. Have graduated from a PA program accredited by the Accreditation Review  
4                   Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. or other  
5                   programs authorized by Commission Rule.
- 6                   2. Hold current NCCPA certification.
- 7                   3. Have no felony or misdemeanor Conviction.
- 8                   4. Have never had a controlled substance license, permit, or registration  
9                   suspended or revoked by a State or by the United States Drug Enforcement  
10                   Administration.
- 11                  5. Have a unique identifier as determined by Commission Rule.
- 12                  6. Hold a Qualifying License.
- 13                  7. Have had no revocation of a License or limitation or restriction on any  
14                  License currently held due to an adverse action.
- 15                  8. If a Licensee has had a limitation or restriction on a License or Compact  
16                  Privilege due to an Adverse Action, two years must have elapsed from the  
17                  date on which the License or Compact Privilege is no longer limited or  
18                  restricted due to the Adverse Action.
- 19                  9. If a Compact Privilege has been revoked or is limited or restricted in a  
20                  Participating State for conduct that would not be a basis for disciplinary  
21                  action in a Participating State in which the Licensee is practicing or  
22                  applying to practice under a Compact Privilege, that Participating State  
23                  shall have the discretion not to consider such action as an Adverse Action  
24                  requiring the denial or removal of a Compact Privilege in that State.
- 25                  10. Notify the Compact Commission that the Licensee is seeking the Compact  
26                  Privilege in a Remote State.
- 27                  11. Meet any Jurisprudence Requirement of a Remote State in which the  
28                  Licensee is seeking to practice under the Compact Privilege and pay any  
29                  fees applicable to satisfying the Jurisprudence Requirement.
- 30                  12. Report to the Commission any Adverse Action taken by a non-participating  
31                  State within thirty (30) days after the action is taken.

32           B. The Compact Privilege is valid until the expiration or revocation of the Qualifying  
33           License unless terminated pursuant to an Adverse Action. The Licensee must also  
34           comply with all of the requirements of Subsection A above to maintain the  
35           Compact Privilege in a Remote State. If the Participating State takes Adverse  
36           Action against a Qualifying License, the Licensee shall lose the Compact Privilege

1 in any Remote State in which the Licensee has a Compact Privilege until all of the  
2 following occur:

- 3 1. The License is no longer limited or restricted; and
- 4 2. Two (2) years have elapsed from the date on which the License is no longer  
5 limited or restricted due to the Adverse Action.

6 C. Once a restricted or limited License satisfies the requirements of Subsection B.1  
7 and 2, the Licensee must meet the requirements of Subsection A to obtain a  
8 Compact Privilege in any Remote State.

9 D. For each Remote State in which a PA seeks authority to prescribe controlled  
10 substances, the PA shall satisfy all requirements imposed by such State in granting  
11 or renewing such authority.

12 **Section 5. Designation of the State from Which Licensee is Applying for a Compact**  
13 **Privilege**

14 A. Upon a Licensee's application for a Compact Privilege, the Licensee shall identify  
15 to the Commission the Participating State from which the Licensee is applying, in  
16 accordance with applicable Rules adopted by the Commission, and subject to the  
17 following requirements:

- 18 1. When applying for a Compact Privilege, the Licensee shall provide the  
19 Commission with the address of the Licensee's primary residence and  
20 thereafter shall immediately report to the Commission any change in the  
21 address of the Licensee's primary residence.
- 22 2. When applying for a Compact Privilege, the Licensee is required to consent  
23 to accept service of process by mail at the Licensee's primary residence on  
24 file with the Commission with respect to any action brought against the  
25 Licensee by the Commission or a Participating State, including a subpoena,  
26 with respect to any action brought or investigation conducted by the  
27 Commission or a Participating State.

28 **Section 6. Adverse Actions**

29 A. A Participating State in which a Licensee is licensed shall have exclusive power to  
30 impose Adverse Action against the Qualifying License issued by that Participating  
31 State.

32 B. In addition to the other powers conferred by State law, a Remote State shall have  
33 the authority, in accordance with existing State due process law, to do all of the  
34 following:

- 35 1. Take Adverse Action against a PA's Compact Privilege within that State  
36 to remove a Licensee's Compact Privilege or take other action necessary  
37 under applicable law to protect the health and safety of its citizens.
- 38 2. Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations that require the  
39 attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of  
40 evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Participating State

- 1 for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of  
2 evidence from another Participating State shall be enforced in the latter  
3 State by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and  
4 procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings  
5 pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees, travel  
6 expenses, mileage and other fees required by the service statutes of the  
7 State in which the witnesses or evidence are located.
- 8 3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, subpoenas may not be issued by a  
9 Participating State to gather evidence of conduct in another State that is  
10 lawful in that other State for the purpose of taking Adverse Action against  
11 a Licensee's Compact Privilege or application for a Compact Privilege in  
12 that Participating State.
- 13 4. Nothing in this Compact authorizes a Participating State to impose  
14 discipline against a PA's Compact Privilege or to deny an application for a  
15 Compact Privilege in that Participating State for the individual's otherwise  
16 lawful practice in another State.
- 17 C. For purposes of taking Adverse Action, the Participating State which issued the  
18 Qualifying License shall give the same priority and effect to reported conduct  
19 received from any other Participating State as it would if the conduct had occurred  
20 within the Participating State which issued the Qualifying License. In so doing,  
21 that Participating State shall apply its own State laws to determine appropriate  
22 action.
- 23 D. A Participating State, if otherwise permitted by State law, may recover from the  
24 affected PA the costs of investigations and disposition of cases resulting from any  
25 Adverse Action taken against that PA.
- 26 E. A Participating State may take Adverse Action based on the factual findings of a  
27 Remote State, provided that the Participating State follows its own procedures for  
28 taking the Adverse Action.
- 29 F. Joint Investigations
- 30 1. In addition to the authority granted to a Participating State by its  
31 respective State PA laws and regulations or other applicable State law,  
32 any Participating State may participate with other Participating States in  
33 joint investigations of Licensees.
- 34 2. Participating States shall share any investigative, litigation, or compliance  
35 materials in furtherance of any joint or individual investigation initiated  
36 under this Compact.
- 37 G. If an Adverse Action is taken against a PA's Qualifying License, the PA's Compact  
38 Privilege in all Remote States shall be deactivated until two (2) years have elapsed  
39 after all restrictions have been removed from the State License. All disciplinary  
40 orders by the Participating State which issued the Qualifying License that impose  
41 Adverse Action against a PA's License shall include a Statement that the PA's



1 Compact Privilege is deactivated in all Participating States during the pendency of  
2 the order.

3 H. If any Participating State takes Adverse Action, it promptly shall notify the  
4 administrator of the Data System.

5 **Section 7. Establishment of the PA Licensure Compact Commission**

6 A. The Participating States hereby create and establish a joint government agency and  
7 national administrative body known as the PA Licensure Compact Commission.  
8 The Commission is an instrumentality of the Compact States acting jointly and not  
9 an instrumentality of any one State. The Commission shall come into existence on  
10 or after the effective date of the Compact as set forth in Section 11.A.

11 B. Membership, Voting, and Meetings

12 1. Each Participating State shall have and be limited to one (1) delegate  
13 selected by that Participating State's Licensing Board or, if the State has  
14 more than one Licensing Board, selected collectively by the Participating  
15 State's Licensing Boards.

16 2. The delegate shall be either:

17 a. A current PA, physician or public member of a Licensing Board or  
18 PA Council/Committee; or

19 b. An administrator of a Licensing Board.

20 3. Any delegate may be removed or suspended from office as provided by the  
21 laws of the State from which the delegate is appointed.

22 4. The Participating State Licensing Board shall fill any vacancy occurring in  
23 the Commission within sixty (60) days.

24 5. Each delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all matters voted on by the  
25 Commission and shall otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the  
26 business and affairs of the Commission. A delegate shall vote in person or  
27 by such other means as provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide  
28 for delegates' participation in meetings by telecommunications, video  
29 conference, or other means of communication.

30 6. The Commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year.  
31 Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in this Compact and the  
32 bylaws.

33 7. The Commission shall establish by Rule a term of office for delegates.

34 C. The Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

35 1. Establish a code of ethics for the Commission;

36 2. Establish the fiscal year of the Commission;

37 3. Establish fees;

38 4. Establish bylaws;

39 5. Maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws;

- 1 6. Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this  
2 Compact and the bylaws;
- 3 7. Promulgate Rules to facilitate and coordinate implementation and  
4 administration of this Compact. The Rules shall have the force and effect  
5 of law and shall be binding in all Participating States;
- 6 8. Bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of the  
7 Commission, provided that the standing of any State Licensing Board to  
8 sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected;
- 9 9. Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;
- 10 10. Borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including, but not  
11 limited to, employees of a Participating State;
- 12 11. Hire employees and engage contractors, elect or appoint officers, fix  
13 compensation, define duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to  
14 carry out the purposes of this Compact, and establish the Commission's  
15 personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest,  
16 qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel matters;
- 17 12. Accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money, equipment,  
18 supplies, materials and services, and receive, utilize and dispose of the  
19 same; provided that at all times the Commission shall avoid any appearance  
20 of impropriety or conflict of interest;
- 21 13. Lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or otherwise own,  
22 hold, improve or use, any property, real, personal or mixed; provided that  
23 at all times the Commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety;
- 24 14. Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise  
25 dispose of any property real, personal, or mixed;
- 26 15. Establish a budget and make expenditures;
- 27 16. Borrow money;
- 28 17. Appoint committees, including standing committees composed of  
29 members, State regulators, State legislators or their representatives, and  
30 consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as may be  
31 designated in this Compact and the bylaws;
- 32 18. Provide and receive information from, and cooperate with, law enforcement  
33 agencies;
- 34 19. Elect a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and such other officers  
35 of the Commission as provided in the Commission's bylaws.
- 36 20. Reserve for itself, in addition to those reserved exclusively to the  
37 Commission under the Compact, powers that the Executive Committee may  
38 not exercise;
- 39 21. Approve or disapprove a State's participation in the Compact based upon its  
40 determination as to whether the State's Compact legislation departs in a  
41 material manner from the Model Compact language;

- 1                           22. Prepare and provide to the Participating States an annual report; and  
2                           23. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve  
3                           the purposes of this Compact consistent with the State regulation of PA  
4                           licensure and practice.

5           D. Meetings of the Commission

- 6                           1. All meetings of the Commission that are not closed pursuant to this  
7                           subsection shall be open to the public. Notice of public meetings shall be  
8                           posted on the Commission's website at least thirty (30) days prior to the  
9                           public meeting.
- 10                          2. Notwithstanding subsection D.1 of this section, the Commission may  
11                          convene a public meeting by providing at least twenty-four (24) hours prior  
12                          notice on the Commission's website, and any other means as provided in  
13                          the Commission's Rules, for any of the reasons it may dispense with notice  
14                          of proposed rulemaking under Section 9.L.
- 15                          3. The Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting or non-  
16                          public part of a public meeting to receive legal advice or to discuss:
- 17                               a. Non-compliance of a Participating State with its obligations under  
18                               this Compact;
- 19                               b. The employment, compensation, discipline or other matters,  
20                               practices or procedures related to specific employees or other  
21                               matters related to the Commission's internal personnel practices  
22                               and procedures;
- 23                               c. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation;
- 24                               d. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or sale of goods,  
25                               services, or real estate;
- 26                               e. Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person;
- 27                               f. Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information  
28                               that is privileged or confidential;
- 29                               g. Disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure  
30                               would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal  
31                               privacy;
- 32                               h. Disclosure of investigative records compiled for law enforcement  
33                               purposes;
- 34                               i. Disclosure of information related to any investigative reports  
35                               prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the Commission or other  
36                               committee charged with responsibility of investigation or  
37                               determination of compliance issues pursuant to this Compact;
- 38                               j. Legal advice; or
- 39                               k. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal or  
40                               Participating States' statutes.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44

- 4. If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this provision, the chair of the meeting or the chair's designee shall certify that the meeting or portion of the meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant exempting provision.
- 5. The Commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, including a description of the views expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release by a majority vote of the Commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

E. Financing of the Commission

- 1. The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.
- 2. The Commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources, donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services.
- 3. The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each Participating State and may impose Compact Privilege fees on Licensees of Participating States to whom a Compact Privilege is granted to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the Commission and its staff, which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved by the Commission each year for which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount levied on Participating States shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by Commission Rule.
  - a. A Compact Privilege expires when the Licensee's Qualifying License in the Participating State from which the Licensee applied for the Compact Privilege expires.
  - b. If the Licensee terminates the Qualifying License through which the Licensee applied for the Compact Privilege before its scheduled expiration, and the Licensee has a Qualifying License in another Participating State, the Licensee shall inform the Commission that it is changing to that Participating State the Participating State through which it applies for a Compact Privilege and pay to the Commission any Compact Privilege fee required by Commission Rule.
- 4. The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the Commission pledge the credit of any of the Participating States, except by and with the authority of the Participating State.
- 5. The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall be subject to the financial review and accounting procedures established under

1 its bylaws. All receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the  
2 Commission shall be subject to an annual financial review by a certified or  
3 licensed public accountant, and the report of the financial review shall be  
4 included in and become part of the annual report of the Commission.

5 F. The Executive Committee

- 6 1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the  
7 Commission according to the terms of this Compact and Commission  
8 Rules.
- 9 2. The Executive Committee shall be composed of nine (9) members:
- 10 a. Seven voting members who are elected by the Commission from  
11 the current membership of the Commission;
- 12 b. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from a recognized national PA  
13 professional association; and
- 14 c. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from a recognized national PA  
15 certification organization.
- 16 3. The ex-officio members will be selected by their respective organizations.
- 17 4. The Commission may remove any member of the Executive Committee as  
18 provided in its bylaws.
- 19 5. The Executive Committee shall meet at least annually.
- 20 6. The Executive Committee shall have the following duties and  
21 responsibilities:
- 22 a. Recommend to the Commission changes to the Commission's  
23 Rules or bylaws, changes to this Compact legislation, fees to be  
24 paid by Compact Participating States such as annual dues, and any  
25 Commission Compact fee charged to Licensees for the Compact  
26 Privilege;
- 27 b. Ensure Compact administration services are appropriately  
28 provided, contractual or otherwise;
- 29 c. Prepare and recommend the budget;
- 30 d. Maintain financial records on behalf of the Commission;
- 31 e. Monitor Compact compliance of Participating States and provide  
32 compliance reports to the Commission;
- 33 f. Establish additional committees as necessary;
- 34 g. Exercise the powers and duties of the Commission during the  
35 interim between Commission meetings, except for issuing  
36 proposed rulemaking or adopting Commission Rules or bylaws, or  
37 exercising any other powers and duties exclusively reserved to the  
38 Commission by the Commission's Rules; and
- 39 h. Perform other duties as provided in the Commission's Rules or  
40 bylaws.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45

- 7. All meeting of the Executive Committee at which it votes or plans to vote on matters in exercising the powers and duties of the Commission shall be open to the public and public notice of such meetings shall be given as public meetings of the Commission are given.
- 8. The Executive Committee may convene in a closed, non-public meeting for the same reasons that the Commission may convene in a non-public meeting as set forth in Section 7.D 3 and shall announce the closed meeting as the Commission is required to under Section 7.D.4 and keep minutes of the closed meeting as the Commission is required to under Section 7.D.5.

G. Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification

- 1. The members, officers, executive director, employees and representatives of the Commission shall be immune from suit and liability, both personally and in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person. The procurement of insurance of any type by the Commission shall not in any way compromise or limit the immunity granted hereunder.
- 2. The Commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director, employee, and representative of the Commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or as determined by the commission that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining their own counsel at their own expense; and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.
- 3. The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, executive director, employee, and representative of the Commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.
- 4. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is located. The Commission may

- 1 waive venue and jurisdictional defenses in any proceedings as authorized  
2 by Commission Rules.
- 3 5. Nothing herein shall be construed as a limitation on the liability of any  
4 Licensee for professional malpractice or misconduct, which shall be  
5 governed solely by any other applicable State laws.
- 6 6. Nothing herein shall be construed to designate the venue or jurisdiction to  
7 bring actions for alleged acts of malpractice, professional misconduct,  
8 negligence, or other such civil action pertaining to the practice of a PA. All  
9 such matters shall be determined exclusively by State law other than this  
10 Compact.
- 11 7. Nothing in this Compact shall be interpreted to waive or otherwise abrogate  
12 a Participating State's state action immunity or state action affirmative  
13 defense with respect to antitrust claims under the Sherman Act, Clayton  
14 Act, or any other State or federal antitrust or anticompetitive law or  
15 regulation.
- 16 8. Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign  
17 immunity by the Participating States or by the Commission.

18 **Section 8. Data System**

- 19 A. The Commission shall provide for the development, maintenance, operation, and  
20 utilization of a coordinated data and reporting system containing licensure,  
21 Adverse Action, and the reporting of the existence of Significant Investigative  
22 Information on all licensed PAs and applicants denied a License in Participating  
23 States.
- 24 B. Notwithstanding any other State law to the contrary, a Participating State shall  
25 submit a uniform data set to the Data System on all PAs to whom this Compact is  
26 applicable (utilizing a unique identifier) as required by the Rules of the  
27 Commission, including:
  - 28 1. Identifying information;
  - 29 2. Licensure data;
  - 30 3. Adverse Actions against a License or Compact Privilege;
  - 31 4. Any denial of application for licensure, and the reason(s) for such denial  
32 (excluding the reporting of any Criminal history record information where  
33 prohibited by law);
  - 34 5. The existence of Significant Investigative Information; and
  - 35 6. Other information that may facilitate the administration of this Compact, as  
36 determined by the Rules of the Commission.
- 37 C. Significant Investigative Information pertaining to a Licensee in any Participating  
38 State shall only be available to other Participating States.
- 39 D. The Commission shall promptly notify all Participating States of any Adverse  
40 Action taken against a Licensee or an individual applying for a License that has  
41 been reported to it. This Adverse Action information shall be available to any other  
42 Participating State.

- 1 E. Participating States contributing information to the Data System may, in  
2 accordance with State or federal law, designate information that may not be shared  
3 with the public without the express permission of the contributing State.  
4 Notwithstanding any such designation, such information shall be reported to the  
5 Commission through the Data System.
- 6 F. Any information submitted to the Data System that is subsequently expunged  
7 pursuant to federal law or the laws of the Participating State contributing the  
8 information shall be removed from the Data System upon reporting of such by the  
9 Participating State to the Commission.
- 10 G. The records and information provided to a Participating State pursuant to this  
11 Compact or through the Data System, when certified by the Commission or an  
12 agent thereof, shall constitute the authenticated business records of the  
13 Commission, and shall be entitled to any associated hearsay exception in any  
14 relevant judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative proceedings in a Participating  
15 State.

16 **Section 9. Rulemaking**

- 17 A. The Commission shall exercise its Rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set  
18 forth in this Section and the Rules adopted thereunder. Commission Rules shall  
19 become binding as of the date specified by the Commission for each Rule.
- 20 B. The Commission shall promulgate reasonable Rules in order to effectively and  
21 efficiently implement and administer this Compact and achieve its purposes. A  
22 Commission Rule shall be invalid and have not force or effect only if a court of  
23 competent jurisdiction holds that the Rule is invalid because the Commission  
24 exercised its rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope of the  
25 purposes of this Compact, or the powers granted hereunder, or based upon another  
26 applicable standard of review.
- 27 C. The Rules of the Commission shall have the force of law in each Participating  
28 State, provided however that where the Rules of the Commission conflict with the  
29 laws of the Participating State that establish the medical services a PA may perform  
30 in the Participating State, as held by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Rules of  
31 the Commission shall be ineffective in that State to the extent of the conflict.
- 32 D. If a majority of the legislatures of the Participating States rejects a Commission  
33 Rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt this  
34 Compact within four (4) years of the date of adoption of the Rule, then such Rule  
35 shall have no further force and effect in any Participating State or to any State  
36 applying to participate in the Compact.
- 37 E. Commission Rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of the  
38 Commission.
- 39 F. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final Rule or Rules by the Commission,  
40 and at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting at which the Rule will be  
41 considered and voted upon, the Commission shall file a Notice of Proposed  
42 Rulemaking:
  - 43 1. On the website of the Commission or other publicly accessible platform;  
44 and



- 1                   2. To persons who have requested notice of the Commission's notices of  
2                   proposed rulemaking, and  
3                   3. In such other way(s) as the Commission may by Rule specify.
- 4           G. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking shall include:
- 5                   1. The time, date, and location of the public hearing on the proposed Rule and  
6                   the proposed time, date and location of the meeting in which the proposed  
7                   Rule will be considered and voted upon;
- 8                   2. The text of the proposed Rule and the reason for the proposed Rule;
- 9                   3. A request for comments on the proposed Rule from any interested person  
10                  and the date by which written comments must be received; and
- 11                  4. The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the  
12                  Commission of their intention to attend the public hearing or provide any  
13                  written comments.
- 14           H. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule, the Commission shall allow persons to submit  
15                  written data, facts, opinions, and arguments, which shall be made available to the  
16                  public.
- 17           I. If the hearing is to be held via electronic means, the Commission shall publish the  
18                  mechanism for access to the electronic hearing.
- 19                    1. All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall as directed in the Notice  
20                    of Proposed Rulemaking, not less than five (5) business days before the  
21                    scheduled date of the hearing, notify the Commission of their desire to  
22                    appear and testify at the hearing.
- 23                    2. Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person who wishes  
24                    to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in  
25                    writing.
- 26                    3. All hearings shall be recorded. A copy of the recording and the written  
27                    comments, data, facts, opinions, and arguments received in response to the  
28                    proposed rulemaking shall be made available to a person upon request.
- 29                    4. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on  
30                    each proposed Rule. Proposed Rules may be grouped for the convenience  
31                    of the Commission at hearings required by this section.
- 32           J. Following the public hearing the Commission shall consider all written and oral  
33                  comments timely received.
- 34           K. The Commission shall, by majority vote of all delegates, take final action on the  
35                  proposed Rule and shall determine the effective date of the Rule, if adopted, based  
36                  on the Rulemaking record and the full text of the Rule.
- 37                    1. If adopted, the Rule shall be posted on the Commission's website.
- 38                    2. The Commission may adopt changes to the proposed Rule provided the  
39                    changes do not enlarge the original purpose of the proposed Rule.

- 1                   3. The Commission shall provide on its website an explanation of the reasons
- 2                   for substantive changes made to the proposed Rule as well as reasons for
- 3                   substantive changes not made that were recommended by commenters.
- 4                   4. The Commission shall determine a reasonable effective date for the Rule.
- 5                   Except for an emergency as provided in subsection L, the effective date of
- 6                   the Rule shall be no sooner than thirty (30) days after the Commission
- 7                   issued the notice that it adopted the Rule.
- 8           L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and
- 9           adopt an emergency Rule with twenty-four (24) hours prior notice, without the
- 10           opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that the usual rulemaking
- 11           procedures provided in this Compact and in this section shall be retroactively
- 12           applied to the Rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety
- 13           (90) days after the effective date of the Rule. For the purposes of this provision, an
- 14           emergency Rule is one that must be adopted immediately by the Commission in
- 15           order to:
  - 16                   1. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare;
  - 17                   2. Prevent a loss of Commission or Participating State funds;
  - 18                   3. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of a Commission Rule that is
  - 19                   established by federal law or Rule; or
  - 20                   4. Protect public health and safety.
- 21           M. The Commission or an authorized committee of the Commission may direct
- 22           revisions to a previously adopted Commission Rule for purposes of correcting
- 23           typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors.
- 24           Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the Commission.
- 25           The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of thirty (30)
- 26           days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the
- 27           revision results in a material change to a Rule. A challenge shall be made as set
- 28           forth in the notice of revisions and delivered to the Commission prior to the end of
- 29           the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without
- 30           further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without
- 31           the approval of the Commission.
- 32           N. No Participating State's rulemaking requirements shall apply under this Compact.

33           **Section 10. Oversight, Dispute Resolution, and Enforcement**

- 34           A. Oversight
  - 35                   1. The executive and judicial branches of State government in each
  - 36                   Participating State shall enforce this Compact and take all actions necessary
  - 37                   and appropriate to implement the Compact.
  - 38                   2. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the Commission
  - 39                   shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction
  - 40                   where the principal office of the Commission is located. The Commission
  - 41                   may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or
  - 42                   consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.
  - 43                   Nothing herein shall affect or limit the selection or propriety of venue in

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43

any action against a licensee for professional malpractice, misconduct or any such similar matter.

- 3. The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the Compact or the Commission's Rules and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide the Commission with service of process shall render a judgment or order in such proceeding void as to the Commission, this Compact, or Commission Rules.

B. Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination

- 1. If the Commission determines that a Participating State has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this Compact or the Commission Rules, the Commission shall provide written notice to the defaulting State and other Participating States. The notice shall describe the default, the proposed means of curing the default and any other action that the Commission may take and shall offer remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.
- 2. If a State in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting State may be terminated from this Compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates of the Participating States, and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred by this Compact upon such State may be terminated on the effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending State of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.
- 3. Termination of participation in this Compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by the Commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting State's legislature, and to the Licensing Board(s) of each of the Participating States.
- 4. A State that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including obligations that extend beyond the effective date of termination.
- 5. The Commission shall not bear any costs related to a State that is found to be in default or that has been terminated from this Compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the Commission and the defaulting State.
- 6. The defaulting State may appeal its termination from the Compact by the Commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.
- 7. Upon the termination of a State's participation in the Compact, the State shall immediately provide notice to all Licensees within that State of such termination:

- 1 a. Licensees who have been granted a Compact Privilege in that State
- 2 shall retain the Compact Privilege for one hundred eighty (180)
- 3 days following the effective date of such termination.
- 4 b. Licensees who are licensed in that State who have been granted a
- 5 Compact Privilege in a Participating State shall retain the Compact
- 6 Privilege for one hundred eighty (180) days unless the Licensee
- 7 also has a Qualifying License in a Participating State or obtains a
- 8 Qualifying License in a Participating State before the one hundred
- 9 eighty (180)-day period ends, in which case the Compact Privilege
- 10 shall continue.

11 C. Dispute Resolution

- 12 1. Upon request by a Participating State, the Commission shall attempt to
- 13 resolve disputes related to this Compact that arise among Participating
- 14 States and between participating and non-Participating States.
- 15 2. The Commission shall promulgate a Rule providing for both mediation and
- 16 binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

17 D. Enforcement

- 18 1. The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce
- 19 the provisions of this Compact and Rules of the Commission.
- 20 2. If compliance is not secured after all means to secure compliance have been
- 21 exhausted, by majority vote, the Commission may initiate legal action in
- 22 the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal
- 23 district where the Commission has its principal offices, against a
- 24 Participating State in default to enforce compliance with the provisions of
- 25 this Compact and the Commission's promulgated Rules and bylaws. The
- 26 relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event
- 27 judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all
- 28 costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.
- 29 3. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the Commission.
- 30 The Commission may pursue any other remedies available under federal or
- 31 State law.

32 E. Legal Action Against the Commission

- 33 1. A Participating State may initiate legal action against the Commission in
- 34 the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district
- 35 where the Commission has its principal offices to enforce compliance with
- 36 the provisions of the Compact and its Rules. The relief sought may include
- 37 both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is
- 38 necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation,
- 39 including reasonable attorney's fees.
- 40 2. No person other than a Participating State shall enforce this Compact
- 41 against the Commission.

42 **Section 11. Date of Implementation of the PA Licensure Compact Commission**

- 1 A. This Compact shall come into effect on the date on which this Compact statute is  
2 enacted into law in the seventh Participating State.
- 3 1. On or after the effective date of the Compact, the Commission shall  
4 convene and review the enactment of each of the States that enacted the  
5 Compact prior to the Commission convening ("Charter Participating  
6 States") to determine if the statute enacted by each such Charter  
7 Participating State is materially different than the Model Compact.
- 8 a. A Charter Participating State whose enactment is found to be  
9 materially different from the Model Compact shall be entitled to  
10 the default process set forth in Section 10.B.
- 11 b. If any Participating State later withdraws from the Compact or its  
12 participation is terminated, the Commission shall remain in  
13 existence and the Compact shall remain in effect even if the number  
14 of Participating States should be less than seven. Participating  
15 States enacting the Compact subsequent to the Commission  
16 convening shall be subject to the process set forth in Section 7.C.21  
17 to determine if their enactments are materially different from the  
18 Model Compact and whether they qualify for participation in the  
19 Compact.
- 20 2. Participating States enacting the Compact subsequent to the seven initial  
21 Charter Participating States shall be subject to the process set forth in  
22 Section 7.C.21 to determine if their enactments are materially different from  
23 the Model Compact and whether they qualify for participation in the  
24 Compact.
- 25 3. All actions taken for the benefit of the Commission or in furtherance of the  
26 purposes of the administration of the Compact prior to the effective date of  
27 the Compact or the Commission coming into existence shall be considered  
28 to be actions of the Commission unless specifically repudiated by the  
29 Commission.
- 30 B. Any State that joins this Compact shall be subject to the Commission's Rules and  
31 bylaws as they exist on the date on which this Compact becomes law in that State.  
32 Any Rule that has been previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full  
33 force and effect of law on the day this Compact becomes law in that State.
- 34 C. Any Participating State may withdraw from this Compact by enacting a statute  
35 repealing the same.
- 36 1. A Participating State's withdrawal shall not take effect until one hundred  
37 eighty (180) days after enactment of the repealing statute. During this one  
38 hundred eighty (180) day-period, all Compact Privileges that were in effect  
39 in the withdrawing State and were granted to Licensees licensed in the  
40 withdrawing State shall remain in effect. If any Licensee licensed in the  
41 withdrawing State is also licensed in another Participating State or obtains  
42 a license in another Participating State within the one hundred eighty (180)  
43 days, the Licensee's Compact Privileges in other Participating States shall  
44 not be affected by the passage of the one hundred eighty (180) days.

- 1                   2. Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the State  
2                   Licensing Board(s) of the withdrawing State to comply with the  
3                   investigative, and Adverse Action reporting requirements of this Compact  
4                   prior to the effective date of withdrawal.
- 5                   3. Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing a State from this Compact, the  
6                   State shall immediately provide notice of such withdrawal to all Licensees  
7                   within that State. Such withdrawing State shall continue to recognize all  
8                   licenses granted pursuant to this Compact for a minimum of one hundred  
9                   eighty (180) days after the date of such notice of withdrawal.
- 10                D. Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any  
11                PA licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between Participating  
12                States and between a Participating State and non-Participating State that does not  
13                conflict with the provisions of this Compact.
- 14                E. This Compact may be amended by the Participating States. No amendment to this  
15                Compact shall become effective and binding upon any Participating State until it  
16                is enacted materially in the same manner into the laws of all Participating States as  
17                determined by the Commission.

18                **Section 12. Construction and Severability**

- 19                A. This Compact and the Commission's rulemaking authority shall be liberally  
20                construed so as to effectuate the purposes, and the implementation and  
21                administration of the Compact. Provisions of the Compact expressly authorizing  
22                or requiring the promulgation of Rules shall not be construed to limit the  
23                Commission's rulemaking authority solely for those purposes.
- 24                B. The provisions of this Compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause,  
25                sentence or provision of this Compact is held by a court of competent jurisdiction  
26                to be contrary to the constitution of any Participating State, a State seeking  
27                participation in the Compact, or of the United States, or the applicability thereof to  
28                any government, agency, person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional by  
29                a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of this Compact and  
30                the applicability thereof to any other government, agency, person or circumstance  
31                shall not be affected thereby.
- 32                C. Notwithstanding subsection B or this section, the Commission may deny a State's  
33                participation in the Compact or, in accordance with the requirements of  
34                Section 10.B, terminate a Participating State's participation in the Compact, if it  
35                determines that a constitutional requirement of a Participating State is, or would be  
36                with respect to a State seeking to participate in the Compact, a material departure  
37                from the Compact. Otherwise, if this Compact shall be held to be contrary to the  
38                constitution of any Participating State, the Compact shall remain in full force and  
39                effect as to the remaining Participating States and in full force and effect as to the  
40                Participating State affected as to all severable matters.

41                **Section 13. Binding Effect of Compact**

- 42                A. Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law of a Participating State  
43                that is not inconsistent with this Compact.

- 1 B. Any laws in a Participating State in conflict with this Compact are superseded to
- 2 the extent of the conflict.
- 3 C. All agreements between the Commission and the Participating States are binding
- 4 in accordance with their terms.