

By: Campos, Oliverson

H.B. No. 1731

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1731:

By: VanDeaver

C.S.H.B. No. 1731

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the physician assistant licensure compact; authorizing  
a fee.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 204, Occupations Code, is amended by  
adding Subchapter I to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER I. PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSURE COMPACT

Sec. 204.401. PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSURE COMPACT. The  
Physician Assistant Licensure Compact is enacted and entered into  
with all other jurisdictions that legally join in the compact,  
which reads as follows:

PA LICENSURE COMPACT

Section 1. Purpose

In order to strengthen access to Medical Services, and in  
recognition of the advances in the delivery of Medical Services,  
the Participating States of the PA Licensure Compact have allied in  
common purpose to develop a comprehensive process that complements  
the existing authority of State Licensing Boards to license and  
discipline PAs and seeks to enhance the portability of a License to  
practice as a PA while safeguarding the safety of patients. This  
Compact allows Medical Services to be provided by PAs, via the  
mutual recognition of the Licensee's Qualifying License by other  
Compact Participating States. This Compact also adopts the  
prevailing standard for PA licensure and affirms that the practice

1 and delivery of Medical Services by the PA occurs where the patient  
2 is located at the time of the patient encounter, and therefore  
3 requires the PA to be under the jurisdiction of the State Licensing  
4 Board where the patient is located. State Licensing Boards that  
5 participate in this Compact retain the jurisdiction to impose  
6 Adverse Action against a Compact Privilege in that State issued to a  
7 PA through the procedures of this Compact. The PA Licensure Compact  
8 will alleviate burdens for military families by allowing active  
9 duty military personnel and their spouses to obtain a Compact  
10 Privilege based on having an unrestricted License in good standing  
11 from a Participating State.

12 Section 2. Definitions

13 In this Compact:

14 A. "Adverse Action" means any administrative, civil,  
15 equitable, or criminal action permitted by a State's laws which is  
16 imposed by a Licensing Board or other authority against a PA License  
17 or License application or Compact Privilege such as License denial,  
18 censure, revocation, suspension, probation, monitoring of the  
19 Licensee, or restriction on the Licensee's practice.

20 B. "Compact Privilege" means the authorization granted by a  
21 Remote State to allow a Licensee from another Participating State  
22 to practice as a PA to provide Medical Services and other licensed  
23 activity to a patient located in the Remote State under the Remote  
24 State's laws and regulations.

25 C. "Conviction" means a finding by a court that an  
26 individual is guilty of a felony or misdemeanor offense through  
27 adjudication or entry of a plea of guilt or no contest to the charge

1 by the offender

2 D. "Criminal Background Check" means the submission of  
3 fingerprints or other biometric-based information for a License  
4 applicant for the purpose of obtaining that applicant's criminal  
5 history record information, as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(d), from  
6 the State's criminal history record repository as defined in 28  
7 C.F.R. § 20.3(f).

8 E. "Data System" means the repository of information about  
9 Licensees, including but not limited to License status and Adverse  
10 Actions, which is created and administered under the terms of this  
11 Compact.

12 F. "Executive Committee" means a group of directors and  
13 ex-officio individuals elected or appointed pursuant to Section  
14 7.F.2.

15 G. "Impaired Practitioner" means a PA whose practice is  
16 adversely affected by health-related condition(s) that impact  
17 their ability to practice.

18 H. "Investigative Information" means information, records,  
19 or documents received or generated by a Licensing Board pursuant to  
20 an investigation.

21 I. "Jurisprudence Requirement" means the assessment of an  
22 individual's knowledge of the laws and Rules governing the practice  
23 of a PA in a State.

24 J. "License" means current authorization by a State, other  
25 than authorization pursuant to a Compact Privilege, for a PA to  
26 provide Medical Services, which would be unlawful without current  
27 authorization.

1       K. "Licensee" means an individual who holds a License from a  
2 State to provide Medical Services as a PA.

3       L. "Licensing Board" means any State entity authorized to  
4 license and otherwise regulate PAs.

5       M. "Medical Services" means health care services provided  
6 for the diagnosis, prevention, treatment, cure or relief of a  
7 health condition, injury, or disease, as defined by a State's laws  
8 and regulations.

9       N. "Model Compact" means the model for the PA Licensure  
10 Compact on file with The Council of State Governments or other  
11 entity as designated by the Commission.

12       O. "Participating State" means a State that has enacted this  
13 Compact.

14       P. "PA" means an individual who is licensed as a physician  
15 assistant in a State. For purposes of this Compact, any other title  
16 or status adopted by a State to replace the term "physician  
17 assistant" shall be deemed synonymous with "physician assistant"  
18 and shall confer the same rights and responsibilities to the  
19 Licensee under the provisions of this Compact at the time of its  
20 enactment.

21       Q. "PA Licensure Compact Commission," "Compact Commission,"  
22 or "Commission" mean the national administrative body created  
23 pursuant to Section 7.A of this Compact.

24       R. "Qualifying License" means an unrestricted License  
25 issued by a Participating State to provide Medical Services as a PA.

26       S. "Remote State" means a Participating State where a  
27 Licensee who is not licensed as a PA is exercising or seeking to

exercise the Compact Privilege.

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

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

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

Section 3. State Participation in this Compact

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

1. License PAs.

2. Participate in the Compact Commission's Data System.

3. Have a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints against Licensees and License applicants.

4. Notify the Commission, in compliance with the terms of this Compact and Commission Rules, of any Adverse Action against a Licensee or License applicant and the existence of Significant Investigative Information regarding a Licensee or License applicant.

5. Fully implement a Criminal Background Check requirement, within a time frame established by Commission Rule, by its Licensing Board receiving the results of a Criminal Background

1 Check and reporting to the Commission whether the License applicant  
2 has been granted a License.

3 6. Comply with the Rules of the Compact Commission.

4 7. Utilize passage of a recognized national exam such  
5 as the NCCPA PANCE as a requirement for PA licensure.

6 8. Grant the Compact Privilege to a holder of a  
7 Qualifying License in a Participating State.

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

10 Section 4. Compact Privilege

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

12 1. Have graduated from a PA program accredited by the  
13 Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician  
14 Assistant, Inc. or other programs authorized by Commission Rule.

15 2. Hold current NCCPA certification.

16 3. Have no felony or misdemeanor Conviction

17 4. Have never had a controlled substance license,  
18 permit, or registration suspended or revoked by a State or by the  
19 United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

20 5. Have a unique identifier as determined by  
21 Commission Rule.

22 6. Hold a Qualifying License.

23 7. Have had no revocation of a License or limitation or  
24 restriction on any License currently held due to an adverse action.

25 8. If a Licensee has had a limitation or restriction on  
26 a License or Compact Privilege due to an Adverse Action, two years  
27 must have elapsed from the date on which the License or Compact

1 Privilege is no longer limited or restricted due to the Adverse  
2 Action.

3 9. If a Compact Privilege has been revoked or is  
4 limited or restricted in a Participating State for conduct that  
5 would not be a basis for disciplinary action in a Participating  
6 State in which the Licensee is practicing or applying to practice  
7 under a Compact Privilege, that Participating State shall have the  
8 discretion not to consider such action as an Adverse Action  
9 requiring the denial or removal of a Compact Privilege in that  
10 State.

11 10. Notify the Compact Commission that the Licensee is  
12 seeking the Compact Privilege in a Remote State.

13 11. Meet any Jurisprudence Requirement of a Remote  
14 State in which the Licensee is seeking to practice under the Compact  
15 Privilege and pay any fees applicable to satisfying the  
16 Jurisprudence Requirement.

17 12. Report to the Commission any Adverse Action taken  
18 by a non-participating State within thirty (30) days after the  
19 action is taken.

20 B. The Compact Privilege is valid until the expiration or  
21 revocation of the Qualifying License unless terminated pursuant to  
22 an Adverse Action. The Licensee must also comply with all of the  
23 requirements of Subsection A above to maintain the Compact  
24 Privilege in a Remote State. If the Participating State takes  
25 Adverse Action against a Qualifying License, the Licensee shall  
26 lose the Compact Privilege in any Remote State in which the Licensee  
27 has a Compact Privilege until all of the following occur:

1           1. The License is no longer limited or restricted; and

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

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

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

13           E. For each Remote State in which a PA exercises the Compact  
14 Privilege, the PA is subject to the laws of the Remote State that  
15 establish, restrict, or otherwise regulate the medical services a  
16 PA may perform, including any requirements concerning physician  
17 delegation and supervision, collaboration, and any prescribing  
18 authority requirements. A PA is not authorized by this Compact to  
19 perform a medical service in violation of the laws of the Remote  
20 State in which a PA exercises the Compact Privilege.

21 Section 5. Designation of the State from Which Licensee is  
22 Applying for a Compact Privilege

23           A. Upon a Licensee's application for a Compact Privilege,  
24 the Licensee shall identify to the Commission the Participating  
25 State from which the Licensee is applying, in accordance with  
26 applicable Rules adopted by the Commission, and subject to the  
27 following requirements:



1           1. When applying for a Compact Privilege, the Licensee  
2 shall provide the Commission with the address of the Licensee's  
3 primary residence and thereafter shall immediately report to the  
4 Commission any change in the address of the Licensee's primary  
5 residence.

6           2. When applying for a Compact Privilege, the Licensee  
7 is required to consent to accept service of process by mail at the  
8 Licensee's primary residence on file with the Commission with  
9 respect to any action brought against the Licensee by the  
10 Commission or a Participating State, including a subpoena, with  
11 respect to any action brought or investigation conducted by the  
12 Commission or a Participating State.

13 Section 6. Adverse Actions

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

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

20           1. Take Adverse Action against a PA's Compact  
21 Privilege within that State to remove a Licensee's Compact  
22 Privilege or take other action necessary under applicable law to  
23 protect the health and safety of its citizens.

24           2. Issue subpoenas for both hearings and  
25 investigations that require the attendance and testimony of  
26 witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued  
27 by a Licensing Board in a Participating State for the attendance and

1 testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another  
2 Participating State shall be enforced in the latter State by any  
3 court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and  
4 procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in  
5 proceedings pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any  
6 witness fees, travel expenses, mileage and other fees required by  
7 the service statutes of the State in which the witnesses or evidence  
8 are located.

9         3. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, subpoenas may not be  
10 issued by a Participating State to gather evidence of conduct in  
11 another State that is lawful in that other State for the purpose of  
12 taking Adverse Action against a Licensee's Compact Privilege or  
13 application for a Compact Privilege in that Participating State.

14         4. Nothing in this Compact authorizes a Participating  
15 State to impose discipline against a PA's Compact Privilege or to  
16 deny an application for a Compact Privilege in that Participating  
17 State for the individual's otherwise lawful practice in another  
18 State.

19         C. For purposes of taking Adverse Action, the Participating  
20 State which issued the Qualifying License shall give the same  
21 priority and effect to reported conduct received from any other  
22 Participating State as it would if the conduct had occurred within  
23 the Participating State which issued the Qualifying License. In so  
24 doing, that Participating State shall apply its own State laws to  
25 determine appropriate action.

26         D. A Participating State, if otherwise permitted by State  
27 law, may recover from the affected PA the costs of investigations

1 and disposition of cases resulting from any Adverse Action taken  
2 against that PA.

3 E. A Participating State may take Adverse Action based on  
4 the factual findings of a Remote State, provided that the  
5 Participating State follows its own procedures for taking the  
6 Adverse Action.

7 F. Joint Investigations

8 1. In addition to the authority granted to a  
9 Participating State by its respective State PA laws and regulations  
10 or other applicable State law, any Participating State may  
11 participate with other Participating States in joint  
12 investigations of Licensees.

13 2. Participating States shall share any  
14 investigative, litigation, or compliance materials in furtherance  
15 of any joint or individual investigation initiated under this  
16 Compact.

17 G. If an Adverse Action is taken against a PA's Qualifying  
18 License, the PA's Compact Privilege in all Remote States shall be  
19 deactivated until two (2) years have elapsed after all restrictions  
20 have been removed from the State License. All disciplinary orders  
21 by the Participating State which issued the Qualifying License that  
22 impose Adverse Action against a PA's License shall include a  
23 Statement that the PA's Compact Privilege is deactivated in all  
24 Participating States during the pendency of the order.

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

27 Section 7. Establishment of the PA Licensure Compact Commission

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

8       B. Membership, Voting, and Meetings

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

14           2. The delegate shall be either:

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

17               b. An administrator of a Licensing Board.

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

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

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

1 participation in meetings by telecommunications, video conference,  
2 or other means of communication.

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

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

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

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

11 2. Establish the fiscal year of the Commission;

12 3. Establish fees;

13 4. Establish bylaws;

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

16 6. Meet and take such actions as are consistent with  
17 the provisions of this Compact and the bylaws;

18 7. Promulgate Rules to facilitate and coordinate  
19 implementation and administration of this Compact. The Rules shall  
20 have the force and effect of law and shall be binding in all  
21 Participating States;

22 8. Bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in  
23 the name of the Commission, provided that the standing of any State  
24 Licensing Board to sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be  
25 affected;

26 9. Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

27 10. Borrow, accept, or contract for services of

1 personnel, including, but not limited to, employees of a  
2 Participating State;

3 11. Hire employees and engage contractors, elect or  
4 appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties, grant such  
5 individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of this  
6 Compact, and establish the Commission's personnel policies and  
7 programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of  
8 personnel, and other related personnel matters;

9 12. Accept any and all appropriate donations and  
10 grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials and services, and  
11 receive, utilize and dispose of the same; provided that at all times  
12 the Commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety or  
13 conflict of interest;

14 13. Lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or  
15 donations of, or otherwise own, hold, improve or use, any property,  
16 real, personal or mixed; provided that at all times the Commission  
17 shall avoid any appearance of impropriety;

18 14. Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange,  
19 abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property real, personal, or  
20 mixed;

21 15. Establish a budget and make expenditures;

22 16. Borrow money;

23 17. Appoint committees, including standing committees  
24 composed of members, State regulators, State legislators or their  
25 representatives, and consumer representatives, and such other  
26 interested persons as may be designated in this Compact and the  
27 bylaws;

1           18. Provide and receive information from, and  
2 cooperate with, law enforcement agencies;

3           19. Elect a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer  
4 and such other officers of the Commission as provided in the  
5 Commission's bylaws.

6           20. Reserve for itself, in addition to those reserved  
7 exclusively to the Commission under the Compact, powers that the  
8 Executive Committee may not exercise;

9           21. Approve or disapprove a State's participation in  
10 the Compact based upon its determination as to whether the State's  
11 Compact legislation departs in a material manner from the Model  
12 Compact language;

13           22. Prepare and provide to the Participating States an  
14 annual report; and

15           23. Perform such other functions as may be necessary  
16 or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this Compact consistent  
17 with the State regulation of PA licensure and practice.

18           D. Meetings of the Commission

19           1. All meetings of the Commission that are not closed  
20 pursuant to this subsection shall be open to the public. Notice of  
21 public meetings shall be posted on the Commission's website at  
22 least thirty (30) days prior to the public meeting.

23           2. Notwithstanding subsection D.1 of this section, the  
24 Commission may convene a public meeting by providing at least  
25 twenty-four (24) hours prior notice on the Commission's website,  
26 and any other means as provided in the Commission's Rules, for any  
27 of the reasons it may dispense with notice of proposed rulemaking

1 under Section 9.L.

2 3. The Commission may convene in a closed, non-public  
3 meeting or nonpublic part of a public meeting to receive legal  
4 advice or to discuss:

5 a. Non-compliance of a Participating State with  
6 its obligations under this Compact;

7 b. The employment, compensation, discipline or  
8 other matters, practices or procedures related to specific  
9 employees or other matters related to the Commission's internal  
10 personnel practices and procedures;

11 c. Current, threatened, or reasonably  
12 anticipated litigation;

13 d. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase,  
14 lease, or sale of goods, services, or real estate;

15 e. Accusing any person of a crime or formally  
16 censuring any person;

17 f. Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or  
18 financial information that is privileged or confidential;

19 g. Disclosure of information of a personal nature  
20 where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of  
21 personal privacy;

22 h. Disclosure of investigative records compiled  
23 for law enforcement purposes;

24 i. Disclosure of information related to any  
25 investigative reports prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the  
26 Commission or other committee charged with responsibility of  
27 investigation or determination of compliance issues pursuant to



1 this Compact;

2 j. Legal advice; or

3 k. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure  
4 by federal or Participating States' statutes

5 4. If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed  
6 pursuant to this provision, the chair of the meeting or the chair's  
7 designee shall certify that the meeting or portion of the meeting  
8 may be closed and shall reference each relevant exempting  
9 provision.

10 5. The Commission shall keep minutes that fully and  
11 clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall  
12 provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, including a  
13 description of the views expressed. All documents considered in  
14 connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All  
15 minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal,  
16 subject to release by a majority vote of the Commission or order of  
17 a court of competent jurisdiction.

18 E. Financing of the Commission

19 1. The Commission shall pay, or provide for the  
20 payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment,  
21 organization, and ongoing activities.

22 2. The Commission may accept any and all appropriate  
23 revenue sources, donations, and grants of money, equipment,  
24 supplies, materials, and services.

25 3. The Commission may levy on and collect an annual  
26 assessment from each Participating State and may impose Compact  
27 Privilege fees on Licensees of Participating States to whom a

1 Compact Privilege is granted to cover the cost of the operations and  
2 activities of the Commission and its staff, which must be in a total  
3 amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved by the  
4 Commission each year for which revenue is not provided by other  
5 sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount levied on  
6 Participating States shall be allocated based upon a formula to be  
7 determined by Commission Rule.

8 a. A Compact Privilege expires when the  
9 Licensee's Qualifying License in the Participating State from which  
10 the Licensee applied for the Compact Privilege expires.

11 b. If the Licensee terminates the Qualifying  
12 License through which the Licensee applied for the Compact  
13 Privilege before its scheduled expiration, and the Licensee has a  
14 Qualifying License in another Participating State, the Licensee  
15 shall inform the Commission that it is changing to that  
16 Participating State the Participating State through which it  
17 applies for a Compact Privilege and pay to the Commission any  
18 Compact Privilege fee required by Commission Rule.

19 4. The Commission shall not incur obligations of any  
20 kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor  
21 shall the Commission pledge the credit of any of the Participating  
22 States, except by and with the authority of the Participating  
23 State.

24 5. The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all  
25 receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the  
26 Commission shall be subject to the financial review and accounting  
27 procedures established under its bylaws. All receipts and

disbursements of funds handled by the Commission shall be subject to an annual financial review by a certified or licensed public accountant, and the report of the financial review shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the Commission.

F. The Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the Commission according to the terms of this Compact and Commission Rules.

2. The Executive Committee shall be composed of nine (9) members:

a. Seven voting members who are elected by the Commission from the current membership of the Commission;

b. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from a recognized national PA professional association; and

c. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from a recognized national PA certification organization.

3. The ex-officio members will be selected by their respective organizations.

4. The Commission may remove any member of the Executive Committee as provided in its bylaws.

5. The Executive Committee shall meet at least annually.

6. The Executive Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

a. Recommend to the Commission changes to the Commission's Rules or bylaws, changes to this Compact legislation, fees to be paid by Compact Participating States such as annual dues,

1 and any Commission Compact fee charged to Licensees for the Compact  
2 Privilege;

3 b. Ensure Compact administration services are  
4 appropriately provided, contractual or otherwise;

5 c. Prepare and recommend the budget;

6 d. Maintain financial records on behalf of the  
7 Commission;

8 e. Monitor Compact compliance of Participating  
9 States and provide compliance reports to the Commission;

10 f. Establish additional committees as necessary;

11 g. Exercise the powers and duties of the  
12 Commission during the interim between Commission meetings, except  
13 for issuing proposed rulemaking or adopting Commission Rules or  
14 bylaws, or exercising any other powers and duties exclusively  
15 reserved to the Commission by the Commission's Rules; and

16 h. Perform other duties as provided in the  
17 Commission's Rules or bylaws.

18 7. All meeting of the Executive Committee at which it  
19 votes or plans to vote on matters in exercising the powers and  
20 duties of the Commission shall be open to the public and public  
21 notice of such meetings shall be given as public meetings of the  
22 Commission are given.

23 8. The Executive Committee may convene in a closed,  
24 non-public meeting for the same reasons that the Commission may  
25 convene in a non-public meeting as set forth in Section 7.D 3 and  
26 shall announce the closed meeting as the Commission is required to  
27 under Section 7.D.4 and keep minutes of the closed meeting as the

1 Commission is required to under Section 7.D.5.

2 G. Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification

3 1. The members, officers, executive director,  
4 employees and representatives of the Commission shall be immune  
5 from suit and liability, both personally and in their official  
6 capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or  
7 personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of  
8 any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that  
9 the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for  
10 believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment,  
11 duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing in this paragraph  
12 shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or liability  
13 for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the  
14 intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person. The  
15 procurement of insurance of any type by the Commission shall not in  
16 any way compromise or limit the immunity granted hereunder.

17 2. The Commission shall defend any member, officer,  
18 executive director, employee, and representative of the Commission  
19 in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any  
20 actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the  
21 scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or as  
22 determined by the commission that the person against whom the claim  
23 is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the  
24 scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities;  
25 provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that  
26 person from retaining their own counsel at their own expense; and  
27 provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or

1 omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful  
2 or wanton misconduct.

3 3. The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless  
4 any member, officer, executive director, employee, and  
5 representative of the Commission for the amount of any settlement  
6 or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual  
7 or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of  
8 Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such  
9 person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the  
10 scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities,  
11 provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not  
12 result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that  
13 person.

14 4. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or  
15 against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a  
16 court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the  
17 Commission is located. The Commission may waive venue and  
18 jurisdictional defenses in any proceedings as authorized by  
19 Commission Rules.

20 5. Nothing herein shall be construed as a limitation  
21 on the liability of any Licensee for professional malpractice or  
22 misconduct, which shall be governed solely by any other applicable  
23 State laws.

24 6. Nothing herein shall be construed to designate the  
25 venue or jurisdiction to bring actions for alleged acts of  
26 malpractice, professional misconduct, negligence, or other such  
27 civil action pertaining to the practice of a PA. All such matters

1 shall be determined exclusively by State law other than this  
2 Compact.

3 7. Nothing in this Compact shall be interpreted to  
4 waive or otherwise abrogate a Participating State's state action  
5 immunity or state action affirmative defense with respect to  
6 antitrust claims under the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, or any other  
7 State or federal antitrust or anticompetitive law or regulation.

8 8. Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a  
9 waiver of sovereign immunity by the Participating States or by the  
10 Commission.

11 Section 8. Data System

12 A. The Commission shall provide for the development,  
13 maintenance, operation, and utilization of a coordinated data and  
14 reporting system containing licensure, Adverse Action, and the  
15 reporting of the existence of Significant Investigative  
16 Information on all licensed PAs and applicants denied a License in  
17 Participating States.

18 B. Notwithstanding any other State law to the contrary, a  
19 Participating State shall submit a uniform data set to the Data  
20 System on all PAs to whom this Compact is applicable (utilizing a  
21 unique identifier) as required by the Rules of the Commission,  
22 including:

- 23 1. Identifying information;  
24 2. Licensure data;  
25 3. Adverse Actions against a License or Compact  
26 Privilege;  
27 4. Any denial of application for licensure, and the

1 reason(s) for such denial (excluding the reporting of any Criminal  
2 history record information where prohibited by law);

3 5. The existence of Significant Investigative  
4 Information; and

5 6. Other information that may facilitate the  
6 administration of this Compact, as determined by the Rules of the  
7 Commission.

8 C. Significant Investigative Information pertaining to a  
9 Licensee in any Participating State shall only be available to  
10 other Participating States.

11 D. The Commission shall promptly notify all Participating  
12 States of any Adverse Action taken against a Licensee or an  
13 individual applying for a License that has been reported to it. This  
14 Adverse Action information shall be available to any other  
15 Participating State.

16 E. Participating States contributing information to the  
17 Data System may, in accordance with State or federal law, designate  
18 information that may not be shared with the public without the  
19 express permission of the contributing State. Notwithstanding any  
20 such designation, such information shall be reported to the  
21 Commission through the Data System.

22 F. Any information submitted to the Data System that is  
23 subsequently expunged pursuant to federal law or the laws of the  
24 Participating State contributing the information shall be removed  
25 from the Data System upon reporting of such by the Participating  
26 State to the Commission.

27 G. The records and information provided to a Participating



1 State pursuant to this Compact or through the Data System, when  
2 certified by the Commission or an agent thereof, shall constitute  
3 the authenticated business records of the Commission, and shall be  
4 entitled to any associated hearsay exception in any relevant  
5 judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative proceedings in a  
6 Participating State.

7 Section 9. Rulemaking

8 A. The Commission shall exercise its Rulemaking powers  
9 pursuant to the criteria set forth in this Section and the Rules  
10 adopted thereunder. Commission Rules shall become binding as of the  
11 date specified by the Commission for each Rule.

12 B. The Commission shall promulgate reasonable Rules in  
13 order to effectively and efficiently implement and administer this  
14 Compact and achieve its purposes. A Commission Rule shall be  
15 invalid and have not force or effect only if a court of competent  
16 jurisdiction holds that the Rule is invalid because the Commission  
17 exercised its rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the  
18 scope of the purposes of this Compact, or the powers granted  
19 hereunder, or based upon another applicable standard of review.

20 C. The Rules of the Commission shall have the force of law in  
21 each Participating State, provided however that where the Rules of  
22 the Commission conflict with the laws of the Participating State  
23 that establish the medical services a PA may perform in the  
24 Participating State, as held by a court of competent jurisdiction,  
25 the Rules of the Commission shall be ineffective in that State to  
26 the extent of the conflict.

27 D. If a majority of the legislatures of the Participating

1 States rejects a Commission Rule, by enactment of a statute or  
2 resolution in the same manner used to adopt this Compact within four  
3 (4) years of the date of adoption of the Rule, then such Rule shall  
4 have no further force and effect in any Participating State or to  
5 any State applying to participate in the Compact.

6 E. Commission Rules shall be adopted at a regular or special  
7 meeting of the Commission.

8 F. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final Rule or  
9 Rules by the Commission, and at least thirty (30) days in advance of  
10 the meeting at which the Rule will be considered and voted upon, the  
11 Commission shall file a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:

12 1. On the website of the Commission or other publicly  
13 accessible platform; and

14 2. To persons who have requested notice of the  
15 Commission's notices of proposed rulemaking, and

16 3. In such other way(s) as the Commission may by Rule  
17 specify

18 G. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking shall include:

19 1. The time, date, and location of the public hearing  
20 on the proposed Rule and the proposed time, date and location of the  
21 meeting in which the proposed Rule will be considered and voted  
22 upon;

23 2. The text of the proposed Rule and the reason for the  
24 proposed Rule;

25 3. A request for comments on the proposed Rule from any  
26 interested person and the date by which written comments must be  
27 received; and

1           4. The manner in which interested persons may submit  
2 notice to the Commission of their intention to attend the public  
3 hearing or provide any written comments.

4           H. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule, the Commission  
5 shall allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions, and  
6 arguments, which shall be made available to the public.

7           I. If the hearing is to be held via electronic means, the  
8 Commission shall publish the mechanism for access to the electronic  
9 hearing.

10           1. All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall  
11 as directed in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, not less than five  
12 (5) business days before the scheduled date of the hearing, notify  
13 the Commission of their desire to appear and testify at the hearing.

14           2. Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing  
15 each person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity  
16 to comment orally or in writing.

17           3. All hearings shall be recorded. A copy of the  
18 recording and the written comments, data, facts, opinions, and  
19 arguments received in response to the proposed rulemaking shall be  
20 made available to a person upon request.

21           4. Nothing in this section shall be construed as  
22 requiring a separate hearing on each proposed Rule. Proposed Rules  
23 may be grouped for the convenience of the Commission at hearings  
24 required by this section.

25           J. Following the public hearing the Commission shall  
26 consider all written and oral comments timely received.

27           K. The Commission shall, by majority vote of all delegates,

1 take final action on the proposed Rule and shall determine the  
2 effective date of the Rule, if adopted, based on the Rulemaking  
3 record and the full text of the Rule.

4 1. If adopted, the Rule shall be posted on the  
5 Commission's website.

6 2. The Commission may adopt changes to the proposed  
7 Rule provided the changes do not enlarge the original purpose of the  
8 proposed Rule.

9 3. The Commission shall provide on its website an  
10 explanation of the reasons for substantive changes made to the  
11 proposed Rule as well as reasons for substantive changes not made  
12 that were recommended by commenters.

13 4. The Commission shall determine a reasonable  
14 effective date for the Rule. Except for an emergency as provided in  
15 subsection L, the effective date of the Rule shall be no sooner than  
16 thirty (30) days after the Commission issued the notice that it  
17 adopted the Rule.

18 L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the  
19 Commission may consider and adopt an emergency Rule with  
20 twenty-four (24) hours prior notice, without the opportunity for  
21 comment, or hearing, provided that the usual rulemaking procedures  
22 provided in this Compact and in this section shall be retroactively  
23 applied to the Rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event  
24 later than ninety (90) days after the effective date of the Rule.  
25 For the purposes of this provision, an emergency Rule is one that  
26 must be adopted immediately by the Commission in order to:

27 1. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety,

1 or welfare;

2 2. Prevent a loss of Commission or Participating State  
3 funds;

4 3. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of a  
5 Commission Rule that is established by federal law or Rule; or

6 4. Protect public health and safety.

7 M. The Commission or an authorized committee of the  
8 Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted Commission  
9 Rule for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in  
10 format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice  
11 of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the Commission.  
12 The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a  
13 period of thirty (30) days after posting. The revision may be  
14 challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material  
15 change to a Rule. A challenge shall be made as set forth in the  
16 notice of revisions and delivered to the Commission prior to the end  
17 of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will  
18 take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged,  
19 the revision may not take effect without the approval of the  
20 Commission.

21 N. No Participating State's rulemaking requirements shall  
22 apply under this Compact.

23 Section 10. Oversight, Dispute Resolution, and Enforcement

24 A. Oversight

25 1. The executive and judicial branches of State  
26 government in each Participating State shall enforce this Compact  
27 and take all actions necessary and appropriate to implement the

1 Compact.

2 2. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or  
3 against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a  
4 court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the  
5 Commission is located. The Commission may waive venue and  
6 jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to  
7 participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings. Nothing  
8 herein shall affect or limit the selection or propriety of venue in  
9 any action against a licensee for professional malpractice,  
10 misconduct or any such similar matter.

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

18 B. Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination

19 1. If the Commission determines that a Participating  
20 State has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or  
21 responsibilities under this Compact or the Commission Rules, the  
22 Commission shall provide written notice to the defaulting State and  
23 other Participating States. The notice shall describe the default,  
24 the proposed means of curing the default and any other action that  
25 the Commission may take and shall offer remedial training and  
26 specific technical assistance regarding the default.

27 2. If a State in default fails to cure the default, the

1 defaulting State may be terminated from this Compact upon an  
2 affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates of the  
3 Participating States, and all rights, privileges and benefits  
4 conferred by this Compact upon such State may be terminated on the  
5 effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not  
6 relieve the offending State of obligations or liabilities incurred  
7 during the period of default.

8         3. Termination of participation in this Compact shall  
9 be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have  
10 been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be  
11 given by the Commission to the governor, the majority and minority  
12 leaders of the defaulting State's legislature, and to the Licensing  
13 Board(s) of each of the Participating States.

14         4. A State that has been terminated is responsible for  
15 all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the  
16 effective date of termination, including obligations that extend  
17 beyond the effective date of termination.

18         5. The Commission shall not bear any costs related to a  
19 State that is found to be in default or that has been terminated  
20 from this Compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the  
21 Commission and the defaulting State.

22         6. The defaulting State may appeal its termination  
23 from the Compact by the Commission by petitioning the U.S. District  
24 Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the  
25 Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall  
26 be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable  
27 attorney's fees.

1           7. Upon the termination of a State's participation in  
2 the Compact, the State shall immediately provide notice to all  
3 Licensees within that State of such termination:

4                 a. Licensees who have been granted a Compact  
5 Privilege in that State shall retain the Compact Privilege for one  
6 hundred eighty (180) days following the effective date of such  
7 termination.

8                 b. Licensees who are licensed in that State who  
9 have been granted a Compact Privilege in a Participating State  
10 shall retain the Compact Privilege for one hundred eighty (180)  
11 days unless the Licensee also has a Qualifying License in a  
12 Participating State or obtains a Qualifying License in a  
13 Participating State before the one hundred eighty (180)-day period  
14 ends, in which case the Compact Privilege shall continue.

15           C. Dispute Resolution

16                 1. Upon request by a Participating State, the  
17 Commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to this  
18 Compact that arise among Participating States and between  
19 participating and non-Participating States.

20                 2. The Commission shall promulgate a Rule providing  
21 for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as  
22 appropriate.

23           D. Enforcement

24                 1. The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its  
25 discretion, shall enforce the provisions of this Compact and Rules  
26 of the Commission.

27                 2. If compliance is not secured after all means to



1 secure compliance have been exhausted, by majority vote, the  
2 Commission may initiate legal action in the United States District  
3 Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the  
4 Commission has its principal offices, against a Participating State  
5 in default to enforce compliance with the provisions of this  
6 Compact and the Commission's promulgated Rules and bylaws. The  
7 relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In  
8 the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party  
9 shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable  
10 attorney's fees.

11 3. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive  
12 remedies of the Commission. The Commission may pursue any other  
13 remedies available under federal or State law.

14 E. Legal Action Against the Commission

15 1. A Participating State may initiate legal action  
16 against the Commission in the U.S. District Court for the District  
17 of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its  
18 principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of the  
19 Compact and its Rules. The relief sought may include both  
20 injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is  
21 necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such  
22 litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

23 2. No person other than a Participating State shall  
24 enforce this Compact against the Commission.

25 Section 11. Date of Implementation of the PA Licensure Compact  
26 Commission

27 A. This Compact shall come into effect on the date on which

1 this Compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh  
2 Participating State.

3 1. On or after the effective date of the Compact, the  
4 Commission shall convene and review the enactment of each of the  
5 States that enacted the Compact prior to the Commission convening  
6 ("Charter Participating States") to determine if the statute  
7 enacted by each such Charter Participating State is materially  
8 different than the Model Compact.

9 a. A Charter Participating State whose enactment  
10 is found to be materially different from the Model Compact shall be  
11 entitled to the default process set forth in Section 10.B.

12 b. If any Participating State later withdraws  
13 from the Compact or its participation is terminated, the Commission  
14 shall remain in existence and the Compact shall remain in effect  
15 even if the number of Participating States should be less than  
16 seven. Participating States enacting the Compact subsequent to the  
17 Commission convening shall be subject to the process set forth in  
18 Section 7.C.21 to determine if their enactments are materially  
19 different from the Model Compact and whether they qualify for  
20 participation in the Compact.

21 2. Participating States enacting the Compact  
22 subsequent to the seven initial Charter Participating States shall  
23 be subject to the process set forth in Section 7.C.21 to determine  
24 if their enactments are materially different from the Model Compact  
25 and whether they qualify for participation in the Compact.

26 3. All actions taken for the benefit of the Commission  
27 or in furtherance of the purposes of the administration of the

1 Compact prior to the effective date of the Compact or the Commission  
2 coming into existence shall be considered to be actions of the  
3 Commission unless specifically repudiated by the Commission.

4 B. Any State that joins this Compact shall be subject to the  
5 Commission's Rules and bylaws as they exist on the date on which  
6 this Compact becomes law in that State. Any Rule that has been  
7 previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full force and  
8 effect of law on the day this Compact becomes law in that State.

9 C. Any Participating State may withdraw from this Compact by  
10 enacting a statute repealing the same.

11 1. A Participating State's withdrawal shall not take  
12 effect until one hundred eighty (180) days after enactment of the  
13 repealing statute. During this one hundred eighty (180) day-period,  
14 all Compact Privileges that were in effect in the withdrawing State  
15 and were granted to Licensees licensed in the withdrawing State  
16 shall remain in effect. If any Licensee licensed in the withdrawing  
17 State is also licensed in another Participating State or obtains a  
18 license in another Participating State within the one hundred  
19 eighty (180) days, the Licensee's Compact Privileges in other  
20 Participating States shall not be affected by the passage of the one  
21 hundred eighty (180) days.

22 2. Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing  
23 requirement of the State Licensing Board(s) of the withdrawing  
24 State to comply with the investigative, and Adverse Action  
25 reporting requirements of this Compact prior to the effective date  
26 of withdrawal.

27 3. Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing a State

1 from this Compact, the State shall immediately provide notice of  
2 such withdrawal to all Licensees within that State. Such  
3 withdrawing State shall continue to recognize all licenses granted  
4 pursuant to this Compact for a minimum of one hundred eighty (180)  
5 days after the date of such notice of withdrawal.

6 D. Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to  
7 invalidate or prevent any PA licensure agreement or other  
8 cooperative arrangement between Participating States and between a  
9 Participating State and non-Participating State that does not  
10 conflict with the provisions of this Compact.

11 E. This Compact may be amended by the Participating States.  
12 No amendment to this Compact shall become effective and binding  
13 upon any Participating State until it is enacted materially in the  
14 same manner into the laws of all Participating States as determined  
15 by the Commission.

16 Section 12. Construction and Severability

17 A. This Compact and the Commission's rulemaking authority  
18 shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes, and  
19 the implementation and administration of the Compact. Provisions of  
20 the Compact expressly authorizing or requiring the promulgation of  
21 Rules shall not be construed to limit the Commission's rulemaking  
22 authority solely for those purposes.

23 B. The provisions of this Compact shall be severable and if  
24 any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this Compact is held by  
25 a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to the  
26 constitution of any Participating State, a State seeking  
27 participation in the Compact, or of the United States, or the

1 applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or  
2 circumstance is held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent  
3 jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of this Compact and the  
4 applicability thereof to any other government, agency, person or  
5 circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

6 C. Notwithstanding subsection B or this section, the  
7 Commission may deny a State's participation in the Compact or, in  
8 accordance with the requirements of Section 10.B, terminate a  
9 Participating State's participation in the Compact, if it  
10 determines that a constitutional requirement of a Participating  
11 State is, or would be with respect to a State seeking to participate  
12 in the Compact, a material departure from the Compact. Otherwise,  
13 if this Compact shall be held to be contrary to the constitution of  
14 any Participating State, the Compact shall remain in full force and  
15 effect as to the remaining Participating States and in full force  
16 and effect as to the Participating State affected as to all  
17 severable matters.

18 Section 13. Binding Effect of Compact

19 A. Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law  
20 of a Participating State that is not inconsistent with this  
21 Compact.

22 B. Any laws in a Participating State in conflict with this  
23 Compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict.

24 C. All agreements between the Commission and the  
25 Participating States are binding in accordance with their terms.

26 Sec. 204.402. ADMINISTRATION OF COMPACT. The physician  
27 assistant board is the Physician Assistant Licensure Compact

1 administrator for this state.

2 Sec. 204.403. RULES. The physician assistant board may  
3 adopt rules necessary to implement this subchapter.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.