## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## **HOUSE BILL**

# No. 1619 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY TOPPER, BAKER, R. BROWN, COHEN, DIAMOND, GABLER, A. HARRIS, IRVIN, McGINNIS, MURT, ROSS, SANKEY, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG, WATSON, YOUNGBLOOD AND WARD, OCTOBER 14, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, OCTOBER 14, 2015

1

19

#### AN ACT

Authorizing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact; providing for the form 2 of the compact; and imposing additional powers and duties on 3 the Governor, the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. 5 6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: Section 1. Short title. 9 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Interstate 10 Medical Licensure Compact Act. 11 Section 2. Authority to execute compact. 12 The Governor of Pennsylvania, on behalf of this State, is 13 hereby authorized to execute a compact in substantially the 14 following form with any one or more of the states of the United 15 States, and the General Assembly hereby signifies in advance its 16 approval and ratification of such compact: 17 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact 18 ARTICLE I

PURPOSE

- 1 In order to strengthen access to health care, and in recognition
- 2 of the advances in the delivery of health care, the member
- 3 states of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact have allied
- 4 in common purpose to develop a comprehensive process that
- 5 complements the existing licensing and regulatory authority of
- 6 state medical boards and provides a streamlined process that
- 7 allows physicians to become licensed in multiple states, thereby
- 8 enhancing the portability of a medical license and ensuring the
- 9 safety of patients. The compact creates another pathway for
- 10 licensure and does not otherwise change a state's existing
- 11 Medical Practice Act. The compact also adopts the prevailing
- 12 standard for licensure and affirms that the practice of medicine
- 13 occurs where the patient is located at the time of the
- 14 physician-patient encounter, and therefore, requires the
- 15 physician to be under the jurisdiction of the state medical
- 16 board where the patient is located. State medical boards that
- 17 participate in the compact retain the jurisdiction to impose an
- 18 adverse action against a license to practice medicine in that
- 19 state issued to a physician through the procedures in the
- 20 compact.
- 21 ARTICLE II
- 22 DEFINITIONS
- 23 As used in this compact, unless the context clearly requires a
- 24 different construction:
- 25 A. "Bylaws" means: the bylaws established by the interstate
- 26 commission under Article XI for its governance, or for
- 27 directing and controlling its actions and conduct.
- 28 B. "Commissioner" means: the voting representative appointed
- by each member board under Article XI.
- 30 C. "Conviction" means: a finding by a court that an

- 1 individual is guilty of a criminal offense through
- adjudication, or entry of a plea of guilt or no contest
- 3 to the charge by the offender. Evidence of an entry of a
- 4 conviction of a criminal offense by the court shall be
- 5 considered final for purposes of disciplinary action by a
- 6 member board.
- 7 D. "Expedited License" means: a full and unrestricted
- 8 medical license granted by a member state to an eligible
- 9 physician through the process set forth in the compact.
- 10 E. "Interstate commission" means: the interstate commission
- 11 established under Article XI.
- 12 F. "License" means: authorization by a state for a physician
- 13 to engage in the practice of medicine that would be
- 14 unlawful without the authorization.
- 15 G. "Medical Practice Act" means: laws and regulations
- governing the practice of allopathic and osteopathic
- medicine within a member state.
- 18 H. "Member Board" means: a state agency in a member state
- that acts in the sovereign interests of the state by
- 20 protecting the public through licensure, regulation and
- 21 education of physicians as directed by the state
- 22 government.
- 23 I. "Member State" means: a state that has enacted the
- compact.
- J. "Practice of Medicine" means: the clinical prevention,
- diagnosis or treatment of human disease, injury or
- 27 condition requiring a physician to obtain and maintain a
- license in compliance with the Medical Practice Act of a
- member state.
- 30 K. "Physician" means: a person who:

1 1. is a graduate of a medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, the 2 3 Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation or a medical school listed in the International 4 5 Medical Education Directory or its equivalent; 2. passed each component of the United States 6 7 Medical Licensing Examination or the Comprehensive 8 Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination within 9 three attempts or any of its predecessor 10 examinations accepted by a state medical board as an equivalent examination for licensure purposes; 11 12 3. successfully completed graduate medical education 13 approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate 14 Medical Education or the American Osteopathic 15 Association; 4. holds specialty certification or a time-unlimited 16 17 specialty certificate recognized by the American 18 Board of Medical Specialties or the American 19 Osteopathic Association's Bureau of Osteopathic 20 Specialists; 21 5. possesses a full and unrestricted license to 22 engage in the practice of medicine issued by a 23 member board; 24 6. has never been convicted, received adjudication, 25 deferred adjudication, community supervision or 26 deferred disposition for any offense by a court of 27 appropriate jurisdiction; 28 7. has never held a license authorizing the practice 29 of medicine subjected to discipline by a licensing

30

agency in a state, federal or foreign

- jurisdiction, excluding an action related to nonpayment of fees related to a license;
- 8. has never had a controlled substance license or
  permit suspended or revoked by a state or the
  United States Drug Enforcement Administration; and
  - 9. is not under active investigation by a licensing agency or law enforcement authority in a state, federal or foreign jurisdiction.
- 9 L. "Offense" means: a felony, gross misdemeanor or crime of moral turpitude.
- "Rule" means: a written statement by the interstate 11 Μ. 12 commission promulgated under Article XII of the compact 13 that is of general applicability, implements, interprets 14 or prescribes a policy or provision of the compact, or an 15 organizational, procedural or practice requirement of the interstate commission, and has the force and effect of 16 17 statutory law in a member state, and includes the 18 amendment, repeal or suspension of an existing rule.
- 19 N. "State" means: a state, commonwealth, district or 20 territory of the United States.
- O. "State of principal license" means: a member state where
  a physician holds a license to practice medicine and that
  has been designated as the state of principal license by
  the physician for purposes of registration and
  participation in the compact.
- 26 ARTICLE III
- 27 ELIGIBILITY
- A. A physician must meet the eligibility requirements as
  defined in Article II, Section K to receive an expedited
  license under the terms and provisions of the compact.

7

B. A physician who does not meet the requirements of Article
II, Section K may obtain a license to practice medicine
in a member state if the individual complies with all
laws and requirements, other than the compact, relating
to the issuance of a license to practice medicine in that
state.

7 ARTICLE IV

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

#### DESIGNATION OF STATE OF PRINCIPAL LICENSE

- A. A physician shall designate a member state as the state of principal license for purposes of registration for expedited licensure through the Compact if the physician possesses a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in that state, and the state is:
  - 1. the state of primary residence for the physician;
  - 2. the state where at least 25% of the practice of medicine occurs;
  - 3. the location of the physician's employer; or
- 4. if no state qualifies under subsection 1, 2 or 3,
  the state designated as state of residence for
  purpose of federal income tax.
- B. A physician may redesignate a member state as state of principal license at any time, as long as the state meets the requirements in Section A.
- C. The interstate commission is authorized to develop rules to facilitate redesignation of another member state as the state of principal license.
- 27 ARTICLE V
- 28 APPLICATION AND ISSUANCE OF EXPEDITED LICENSURE
- A. A physician seeking licensure through the compact shall file an application for an expedited license with the

- member board of the state selected by the physician as the state of principal license.
- B. Upon receipt of an application for an expedited license,
  the member board within the state selected as the state
  of principal license shall evaluate whether the physician
  is eligible for expedited licensure and issue a letter of
  qualification, verifying or denying the physician's
  eligibility to the interstate commission. The following
  shall apply:
  - 1. Static qualifications, which include verification of medical education, graduate medical education, results of any medical or licensing examination, and other qualifications as determined by the interstate commission through rule, shall not be subject to additional primary source verification where already primary source verified by the state of principal license.
  - 2. The member board within the state selected as the state of principal license shall, in the course of verifying eligibility, perform a criminal background check of an applicant, including the use of the results of fingerprint or other biometric data checks compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with the exception of federal employees who have suitability determination in accordance with 5 C.F.R. § 731.202 (relating to criteria for making suitability determinations).
  - 3. Appeal on the determination of eligibility shall be made to the member state where the application

- was filed and shall be subject to the law of that

  state.
- 3 C. Upon verification in Section B, physicians eligible for 4 an expedited license shall complete the registration 5 process established by the interstate commission to 6 receive a license in a member state selected under 7 Section A, including the payment of any applicable fees.
- D. After receiving verification of eligibility under Section
  B and any fees under Section C, a member board shall
  issue an expedited license to the physician. This license
  shall authorize the physician to practice medicine in the
  issuing state consistent with the Medical Practice Act
  and all applicable laws and regulations of the issuing
  member board and member state.
- E. An expedited license shall be valid for a period

  consistent with the licensure period in the member state

  and in the same manner as required for other physicians

  holding a full and unrestricted license within the member

  state.
  - F. An expedited license obtained though the compact shall be terminated if a physician fails to maintain a license in the state of principal licensure for a non-disciplinary reason, without redesignation of a new state of principal licensure.
- 25 G. The interstate commission is authorized to develop rules 26 regarding the application process, including payment of 27 any applicable fees and the issuance of an expedited 28 license.
- 29 ARTICLE VI
- 30 FEES FOR EXPEDITED LICENSURE

21

22

23

- A. A member state issuing an expedited license authorizing the practice of medicine in that state may impose a fee
- for a license issued or renewed through the compact.
- B. The interstate commission is authorized to develop rules regarding fees for expedited licenses.

## 6 ARTICLE VII

7

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

#### RENEWAL AND CONTINUED PARTICIPATION

- A. A physician seeking to renew an expedited license granted
  in a member state shall complete a renewal process with
  the interstate commission if the physician:
  - Maintains a full and unrestricted license in a state of principal license.
  - 2. Has not been convicted, received adjudication, deferred adjudication, community supervision or deferred disposition for any offense by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.
  - 3. Has not had a license authorizing the practice of medicine subject to discipline by a licensing agency in any state, federal, or foreign jurisdiction, excluding any action related to nonpayment of fees related to a license.
  - 4. Has not had a controlled substance license or permit suspended or revoked by a state or the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.
- 25 B. Physicians shall comply with all continuing professional 26 development or continuing medical education requirements 27 for renewal of a license issued by a member state.
- C. The interstate commission shall collect any renewal fees charged for the renewal of a license and distribute the fees to the applicable member board.

- 1 D. Upon receipt of any renewal fees collected in Section C,
- a member board shall renew the physician's license.
- 3 E. Physician information collected by the interstate
- 4 commission during the renewal process will be distributed
- 5 to all member boards.
- 6 F. The interstate commission is authorized to develop rules
- 7 to address renewal of licenses obtained through the
- 8 compact.
- 9 ARTICLE VIII
- 10 COORDINATED INFORMATION SYSTEM
- 11 A. The interstate commission shall establish a database of
- 12 all physicians licensed or who have applied for licensure
- under Article V.
- B. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, member boards
- shall report to the interstate commission any public
- action or complaints against a licensed physician who has
- applied or received an expedited license through the
- 18 compact.
- 19 C. Member boards shall report disciplinary or investigatory
- information determined as necessary and proper by rule of
- 21 the interstate commission.
- D. Member boards may report any non-public complaint,
- 23 disciplinary or investigatory information not required by
- 24 Section C to the interstate commission.
- 25 E. Member boards shall share complaint or disciplinary
- information about a physician upon request of another
- 27 member board.
- 28 F. All information provided to the interstate commission or
- distributed by member boards shall be confidential, filed
- 30 under seal and used only for investigatory or

- disciplinary matters.
- 2 G. The interstate commission is authorized to develop rules
- 3 for mandated or discretionary sharing of information by
- 4 member boards.
- 5 ARTICLE IX
- 6 JOINT INVESTIGATIONS
- 7 A. Licensure and disciplinary records of physicians are deemed investigative.
- 9 B. In addition to the authority granted to a member board by
- 10 its respective Medical Practice Act or other applicable
- 11 state law, a member board may participate with other
- member boards in joint investigations of physicians
- 13 licensed by the member boards.
- 14 C. A subpoena issued by a member state shall be enforceable
- in other member states.
- 16 D. Member boards may share any investigative, litigation or
- 17 compliance materials in furtherance of any joint or
- individual investigation initiated under the compact.
- 19 E. Any member state may investigate actual or alleged
- violations of the statutes authorizing the practice of
- 21 medicine in any other member state in which a physician
- 22 holds a license to practice medicine.
- 23 ARTICLE X
- 24 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS
- 25 A. Any disciplinary action taken by any member board against
- a physician licensed through the compact shall be deemed
- 27 unprofessional conduct which may be subject to discipline
- by other member boards, in addition to any violation of
- the Medical Practice Act or regulations in that state.
- 30 B. If a license granted to a physician by the member board

1 in the state of principal license is revoked, surrendered 2 or relinquished in lieu of discipline, or suspended, then 3 all licenses issued to the physician by member boards shall automatically be placed, without further action 4 necessary by any member board, on the same status. If the 5 member board in the state of principal license 6 7 subsequently reinstates the physician's license, a 8 license issued to the physician by any other member board 9 shall remain encumbered until that respective member board takes action to reinstate the license in a manner 10 consistent with the Medical Practice Act of that state. 11

- C. If disciplinary action is taken against a physician by a member board not in the state of principal license, any other member board may deem the action conclusive as to matter of law and fact decided, and:
  - impose the same or lesser sanction(s) against the physician so long as such sanctions are consistent with the Medical Practice Act of that state; or
  - 2. pursue separate disciplinary action against the physician under its respective Medical Practice Act, regardless of the action taken in other member states.
- 23 D. If a license granted to a physician by a member board is 24 revoked, surrendered or relinquished in lieu of 25 discipline, or suspended, then any license(s) issued to 26 the physician by any other member board(s) shall be 27 suspended, automatically and immediately without further 28 action necessary by the other member board(s), for ninety 29 (90) days upon entry of the order by the disciplining board, to permit the member board(s) to investigate the 30

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

basis for the action under the Medical Practice Act of
that state. A member board may terminate the automatic
suspension of the license it issued prior to the
completion of the ninety (90) day suspension period in a
manner consistent with the Medical Practice Act of that
state.

7 ARTICLE XI

- 8 INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT COMMISSION
- 9 A. The member states hereby create the "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission".
- 11 B. The purpose of the interstate commission is the
  12 administration of the Interstate Medical Licensure
  13 Compact, which is a discretionary state function.
- 14 C. The interstate commission shall be a body corporate and
  15 joint agency of the member states and shall have all the
  16 responsibilities, powers, and duties set forth in the
  17 compact, and such additional powers as may be conferred
  18 upon it by a subsequent concurrent action of the
  19 respective legislatures of the member states in
  20 accordance with the terms of the Compact.
  - D. The Interstate Commission shall consist of two voting representatives appointed by each member state who shall serve as commissioners. In states where allopathic and osteopathic physicians are regulated by separate member boards, or if the licensing and disciplinary authority is split between multiple member boards within a member state, the member state shall appoint one representative from each member board. A commissioner shall be:
    - an allopathic or osteopathic physician appointed to a member board;

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

- an executive director, executive secretary, or
   similar executive of a member board; or
  - 3. a member of the public appointed to a member board.
- 5 E. The interstate commission shall meet at least once each
  6 calendar year. A portion of this meeting shall be a
  7 business meeting to address such matters as may properly
  8 come before the commission, including the election of
  9 officers. The chairperson may call additional meetings
  10 and shall call for a meeting upon the request of a
  11 majority of the member states.
- 12 F. The bylaws may provide for meetings of the Interstate
  13 Commission to be conducted by telecommunication or
  14 electronic communication.
- 15 G. Each commissioner participating at a meeting of the 16 interstate commission is entitled to one vote. A majority 17 of commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the 18 transaction of business, unless a larger quorum is 19 required by the bylaws of the interstate commission. A 20 commissioner shall not delegate a vote to another 21 commissioner. In the absence of its commissioner, a 22 member state may delegate voting authority for a 23 specified meeting to another person from that state who 24 shall meet the requirements of Section D.
- 25 H. The interstate commission shall provide public notice of
  26 all meetings and all meetings shall be open to the
  27 public. The interstate commission may close a meeting, in
  28 full or in portion, where it determines by a two-thirds
  29 vote of the commissioners present that an open meeting
  30 would be likely to:

- relate solely to the internal personnel practices
   and procedures of the interstate commission;
  - discuss matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal statute;
    - 3. discuss trade secrets, commercial, or financial information that is privileged or confidential;
    - 4. involve accusing a person of a crime, or formally censuring a person;
    - 5. discuss information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
    - discuss investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes; or
    - 7. specifically relate to the participation in a civil action or other legal proceeding.
  - I. The interstate commission shall keep minutes which shall fully describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, including record of any roll call votes.
- J. The interstate commission shall make its information and official records, to the extent not otherwise designated in the Compact or by its rules, available to the public for inspection.
- 24 K. The interstate commission shall establish an executive
  25 committee, which shall include officers, members and
  26 others as determined by the bylaws. The executive
  27 committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the
  28 interstate commission, with the exception of rulemaking,
  29 during periods when the interstate commission is not in
  30 session. When acting on behalf of the interstate

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

- 1 commission, the executive committee shall oversee the
- 2 administration of the compact including enforcement and
- 3 compliance with the provisions of the compact, its bylaws
- 4 and rules, and other such duties as necessary.
- 5 L. The interstate commission may establish other committees
- for governance and administration of the compact.
- 7 ARTICLE XII
- 8 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION
- 9 The interstate commission shall have the duty and power to:
- 10 A. Oversee and maintain the administration of the compact.
- 11 B. Promulgate rules which shall be binding to the extent and
- in the manner provided for in the compact.
- 13 C. Issue, upon the request of a member state or member
- board, advisory opinions concerning the meaning or
- interpretation of the compact, its bylaws, rules, and
- 16 actions.
- D. Enforce compliance with compact provisions, the rules
- 18 promulgated by the interstate commission, and the bylaws,
- using all necessary and proper means, including but not
- 20 limited to the use of judicial process.
- 21 E. Establish and appoint committees, including but not
- limited to an executive committee as required by Article
- 23 XI, which shall have the power to act on behalf of the
- interstate commission in carrying out its powers and
- 25 duties.
- 26 F. Pay, or provide for the payment of the expenses related
- 27 to the establishment, organization, and ongoing
- 28 activities of the Interstate Commission.
- 29 G. Establish and maintain one or more offices.
- 30 H. Borrow, accept, hire, or contract for services of

- 1 personnel.
- 2 I. Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.
- J. Employ an executive director who shall have such powers
- 4 to employ, select or appoint employees, agents, or
- 5 consultants, and to determine their qualifications,
- define their duties, and fix their compensation.
- 7 K. Establish personnel policies and programs relating to
- 8 conflicts of interest, rates of compensation, and
- 9 qualifications of personnel.
- 10 L. Accept donations and grants of money, equipment,
- 11 supplies, materials and services, and to receive,
- 12 utilize, and dispose of it in a manner consistent with
- the conflict of interest policies established by the
- interstate commission.
- 15 M. Lease, purchase, accept contributions or donations of, or
- otherwise to own, hold, improve or use, any property,
- 17 real, personal, or mixed.
- 18 N. Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon,
- or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal, or
- 20 mixed.
- 0. Establish a budget and make expenditures.
- 22 P. Adopt a seal and bylaws governing the management and
- operation of the interstate commission.
- Q. Report annually to the legislatures and governors of the
- 25 member states concerning the activities of the interstate
- 26 commission during the preceding year. Such reports shall
- 27 also include reports of financial audits and any
- recommendations that may have been adopted by the
- interstate commission.
- 30 R. Coordinate education, training, and public awareness

- regarding the compact, its implementation, and its operation.
- 3 S. Maintain records in accordance with the bylaws.
- 4 T. Seek and obtain trademarks, copyrights, and patents.
- U. Perform such functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of the compact.

#### 7 ARTICLE XIII

## 8 FINANCE POWERS

- The interstate commission may levy on and collect an 9 Α. 10 annual assessment from each member state to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the interstate 11 12 commission and its staff. The total assessment must be sufficient to cover the annual budget approved each year 13 for which revenue is not provided by other sources. The 14 15 aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated 16 upon a formula to be determined by the interstate 17 commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all member states. 18
- B. The interstate commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same.
- 22 C. The interstate commission shall not pledge the credit of 23 any of the member states, except by, and with the 24 authority of, the member state.
- D. The interstate commission shall be subject to a yearly financial audit conducted by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in the annual report of the interstate commission.
- 30 ARTICLE XIV

- 1 ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION
- A. The interstate commission shall, by a majority of

  commissioners present and voting, adopt bylaws to govern

  its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry

  out the purposes of the compact within twelve (12) months

  of the first interstate commission meeting.
- B. The interstate commission shall elect or appoint annually from among its commissioners a chairperson, a vicechairperson, and a treasurer, each of whom shall have such authority and duties as may be specified in the bylaws. The chairperson, or in the chairperson's absence or disability, the vice-chairperson, shall preside at all meetings of the interstate commission.
- 14 C. Officers selected in Section B shall serve without 15 remuneration from the interstate commission.
- 16 D. The officers and employees of the interstate commission 17 shall be immune from suit and liability, either 18 personally or in their official capacity, for a claim for 19 damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other 20 civil liability caused or arising out of, or relating to, 21 an actual or alleged act, error, or omission that 22 occurred, or that such person had a reasonable basis for 23 believing occurred, within the scope of interstate 24 commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, 25 provided that such person shall not be protected from 26 suit or liability for damage, loss, injury, or liability 27 caused by the intentional or willful and wanton 28 misconduct of such person. The following shall apply:
  - The liability of the executive director and employees of the interstate commission or

representatives of the interstate commission, acting within the scope of such person's employment or duties for acts, errors, or omissions occurring within such person's state, may not exceed the limits of liability set forth under the constitution and laws of that state for state officials, employees, and agents. The interstate commission is considered to be an instrumentality of the states for the purposes of any such action. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to protect such person from suit or liability for damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of such person.

14

2. The interstate commission shall defend the executive director, its employees, and subject to the approval of the attorney general or other appropriate legal counsel of the member state represented by an interstate commission representative, shall defend such interstate commission representative in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of an actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties or responsibilities, or that the defendant had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and

29

1 wanton misconduct on the part of such person.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

3. To the extent not covered by the state involved, member state, or the interstate commission, the representatives or employees of the interstate commission shall be held harmless in the amount of a settlement or judgment, including attorney's fees and costs, obtained against such persons arising out of an actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such persons had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such persons.

#### ARTICLE XV

RULEMAKING FUNCTIONS OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

- A. The interstate commission shall promulgate reasonable rules in order to effectively and efficiently achieve the purposes of the compact. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the interstate commission exercises its rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope of the purposes of the compact, or the powers granted hereunder, then such an action by the interstate commission shall be invalid and have no force or effect.
  - B. Rules deemed appropriate for the operations of the
    Interstate Commission shall be made pursuant to a
    rulemaking process that substantially conforms to the

- Model State Administrative Procedure Act of 2010, and subsequent amendments thereto.
- 3 С. Not later than thirty (30) days after a rule is promulgated, any person may file a petition for judicial 4 5 review of the rule in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district 6 7 where the interstate commission has its principal offices, provided that the filing of such a petition 8 9 shall not stay or otherwise prevent the rule from 10 becoming effective unless the court finds that the petitioner has a substantial likelihood of success. The 11 12 court shall give deference to the actions of the 13 interstate commission consistent with applicable law and 14 shall not find the rule to be unlawful if the rule 15 represents a reasonable exercise of the authority granted to the interstate commission. 16

#### 17 ARTICLE XVI

## 18 OVERSIGHT OF INTERSTATE COMPACT

- 19 The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of 20 state government in each member state shall enforce the 21 compact and shall take all actions necessary and 22 appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and 23 intent. The provisions of the compact and the rules 24 promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory 25 law but shall not override existing state authority to 26 regulate the practice of medicine.
- 27 B. All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and
  28 the rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in
  29 a member state pertaining to the subject matter of the
  30 compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities or

- 1 actions of the interstate commission.
- 2 C. The interstate commission shall be entitled to receive
  3 all service of process in any such proceeding, and shall
  4 have standing to intervene in the proceeding for all
  5 purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the
  6 interstate commission shall render a judgment or order
  7 void as to the interstate commission, the compact, or
  8 promulgated rules.

## 9 ARTICLE XVII

#### 10 ENFORCEMENT OF INTERSTATE COMPACT

- 11 A. The interstate commission, in the reasonable exercise of 12 its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of 13 the Compact.
- 14 В. The interstate commission may, by majority vote of the commissioners, initiate legal action in the United States 15 District Court for the District of Columbia, or, at the 16 17 discretion of the interstate commission, in the federal 18 district where the interstate commission has its 19 principal offices, to enforce compliance with the 20 provisions of the compact, and its promulgated rules and 21 bylaws, against a member state in default. The relief 22 sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In 23 the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the 24 prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such 25 litigation including reasonable attorney's fees.
- 26 C. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies
  27 of the interstate commission. The interstate commission
  28 may avail itself of any other remedies available under
  29 state law or the regulation of a profession.

30 ARTICLE XVIII

#### DEFAULT PROCEDURES

- A. The grounds for default include, but are not limited to,
  failure of a member state to perform such obligations or
  responsibilities imposed upon it by the compact, or the
  rules and bylaws of the interstate commission promulgated
  under the compact.
  - B. If the interstate commission determines that a member state has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under the compact, or the bylaws or promulgated rules, the interstate commission shall:
    - 1. Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other member states, of the nature of the default, the means of curing the default, and any action taken by the interstate commission. The interstate commission shall specify the conditions by which the defaulting state must cure its default.
    - 2. Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.
- 20 If the defaulting state fails to cure the default, the 21 defaulting state shall be terminated from the compact 22 upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the 23 commissioners and all rights, privileges, and benefits 24 conferred by the compact shall terminate on the effective 25 date of termination. A cure of the default does not 26 relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities 27 incurred during the period of the default.
- D. Termination of membership in the compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to terminate shall be

1

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

- given by the interstate commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the member states.
- E. The interstate commission shall establish rules and procedures to address licenses and physicians that are materially impacted by the termination of a member state, or the withdrawal of a member state.
- F. The member state which has been terminated is responsible for all dues, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination including obligations, the performance of which extends beyond the effective date of termination.
- 13 G. The interstate commission shall not bear any costs
  14 relating to any state that has been found to be in
  15 default or which has been terminated from the compact,
  16 unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing between
  17 the interstate commission and the defaulting state.
- 18 H. The defaulting state may appeal the action of the

  19 interstate commission by petitioning the United States

  20 District Court for the District of Columbia or the

  21 federal district where the interstate commission has its

  22 principal offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded

  23 all costs of such litigation including reasonable

  24 attorney's fees.

## 25 ARTICLE XIX

## 26 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

A. The interstate commission shall attempt, upon the request of a member state, to resolve disputes which are subject to the compact and which may arise among member states or member boards.

- B. The interstate commission shall promulgate rules providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution as appropriate.
- 4 ARTICLE XX
- 5 MEMBER STATES, EFFECTIVE DATE AND AMENDMENT
- A. Any state is eligible to become a member state of the compact.
- B. The compact shall become effective and binding upon
  legislative enactment of the compact into law by no less
  than seven (7) states. Thereafter, it shall become
  effective and binding on a state upon enactment of the
  compact into law by that state.
- 13 C. The governors of non-member states, or their designees,
  14 shall be invited to participate in the activities of the
  15 interstate commission on a non-voting basis prior to
  16 adoption of the compact by all states.
- D. The interstate commission may propose amendments to the compact for enactment by the member states. No amendment shall become effective and binding upon the interstate commission and the member states unless and until it is enacted into law by unanimous consent of the member states.
- 23 ARTICLE XXI
- 24 WITHDRAWAL
- 25 A. Once effective, the compact shall continue in force and
  26 remain binding upon each and every member state, provided
  27 that a member state may withdraw from the compact by
  28 specifically repealing the statute which enacted the
  29 compact into law.
- 30 B. Withdrawal from the compact shall be by the enactment of

- 1 a statute repealing the same, but shall not take effect
- 2 until one (1) year after the effective date of such
- 3 statute and until written notice of the withdrawal has
- 4 been given by the withdrawing state to the governor of
- 5 each other member state.
- 6 C. The withdrawing state shall immediately notify the
- 7 chairperson of the interstate commission in writing upon
- 8 the introduction of legislation repealing the compact in
- 9 the withdrawing state.
- 10 D. The interstate commission shall notify the other member
- 11 states of the withdrawing state's intent to withdraw
- within sixty (60) days of its receipt of notice provided
- under Section C.
- 14 E. The withdrawing state is responsible for all dues,
- obligations and liabilities incurred through the
- 16 effective date of withdrawal, including obligations, the
- 17 performance of which extend beyond the effective date of
- 18 withdrawal.
- 19 F. Reinstatement following withdrawal of a member state
- shall occur upon the withdrawing state reenacting the
- 21 compact or upon such later date as determined by the
- 22 interstate commission.
- G. The interstate commission is authorized to develop rules
- 24 to address the impact of the withdrawal of a member state
- on licenses granted in other member states to physicians
- 26 who designated the withdrawing member state as the state
- of principal license.
- 28 ARTICLE XXII
- 29 DISSOLUTION
- 30 A. The compact shall dissolve effective upon the date of the

- withdrawal or default of the member state which reduces
  the membership in the compact to one (1) member state.
- B. Upon the dissolution of the compact, the compact becomes
  null and void and shall be of no further force or effect,
  and the business and affairs of the interstate commission
  shall be concluded and surplus funds shall be distributed
  in accordance with the bylaws.

## 8 ARTICLE XXIII

9

## SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION

- 10 A. The provisions of the compact shall be severable, and if
  11 any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision is deemed
  12 unenforceable, the remaining provisions of the compact
  13 shall be enforceable.
- B. The provisions of the compact shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes.
- 16 C. Nothing in the compact shall be construed to prohibit the
  17 applicability of other interstate compacts to which the
  18 states are members.

#### 19 ARTICLE XXIV

## 20 BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND OTHER LAWS

- A. Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law of a member state that is not inconsistent with the compact.
- B. All laws in a member state in conflict with the compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict.
- 26 C. All lawful actions of the interstate commission,
  27 including all rules and bylaws promulgated by the
  28 commission, are binding upon the member states.
- D. All agreements between the interstate commission and the member states are binding in accordance with their terms.

- 1 E. In the event any provision of the compact exceeds the
- 2 constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any
- member state, such provision shall be ineffective to the
- 4 extent of the conflict with the constitutional provision
- 5 in question in that member state.
- 6 Section 3. When and how compact becomes operative.
- 7 (a) General rule. -- When the Governor executes the Interstate
- 8 Compact on behalf of this State and files a verified copy
- 9 thereof with the Secretary of the Commonwealth and when the
- 10 compact is ratified by one or more other states, then the
- 11 compact shall become operative and effective between this State
- 12 and such other state or states. The Governor is hereby
- 13 authorized and directed to take such action as may be necessary
- 14 to complete the exchange of official documents between this
- 15 State and any other state ratifying the compact.
- 16 (b) Notice in Pennsylvania Bulletin. -- The Secretary of the
- 17 Commonwealth shall publish a notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin
- 18 when the conditions set forth in subsection (a) are satisfied
- 19 and shall include in the notice the date on which the compact
- 20 became effective and operative between this State and any other
- 21 state or states in accordance with this act.
- 22 Section 4. Compensation and expenses of compact commissioner.
- 23 A compact commissioner who represents this State, as provided
- 24 for in Article XI of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact,
- 25 shall not be entitled to any additional compensation for his
- 26 duties and responsibilities as compact commissioner but shall be
- 27 entitled to reimbursement for reasonable expenses actually
- 28 incurred in connection with his duties and responsibilities as
- 29 compact commissioner in the same manner as for expenses incurred
- 30 in connection with other duties and responsibilities of his

- 1 office or employment.
- 2 Section 5. Effective date.
- 3 This act shall take effect in 60 days.