

HOUSE BILL NO. 1157

Introduced by

Representatives B. Koppelman, D. Anderson, Roers Jones, Schneider

Senators Grabinger, Kreun, J. Lee

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new chapter to title 43 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the physical therapy licensure compact.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1.** A new chapter to title 43 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
5 enacted as follows:

6 **ARTICLE I - PURPOSE**

7 The purpose of this compact is to facilitate interstate practice of physical therapy with the
8 goal of improving public access to physical therapy services. The practice of physical therapy
9 occurs in the state where the patient or client is located at the time of the patient or client
10 encounter. The compact preserves the regulatory authority of states to protect public health and
11 safety through the current system of state licensure.

12 This compact is designed to achieve the following objectives:

- 13 1. Increase public access to physical therapy services by providing for the mutual
14 recognition of other member state licenses;
- 15 2. Enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health and safety;
- 16 3. Encourage the cooperation of member states in regulating multistate physical therapy
17 practice;
- 18 4. Support spouses of relocating military members;
- 19 5. Enhance the exchange of licensure, investigative, and disciplinary information
20 between member states; and
- 21 6. Allow a remote state to hold a provider of services with a compact privilege in that
22 state accountable to that state's practice standards.

23 **ARTICLE II - DEFINITIONS**

24 As used in this compact, and except as otherwise provided, the following definitions apply:

- 1 1. "Active duty military" means full-time duty status in the active uniformed service of the
2 United States, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty
3 orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. sections 1209 and 1211.
- 4 2. "Adverse action" means disciplinary action taken by a physical therapy licensing board
5 based upon misconduct, unacceptable performance, or a combination of both.
- 6 3. "Alternative program" means a nondisciplinary monitoring or practice remediation
7 process approved by a physical therapy licensing board. This includes substance
8 abuse issues.
- 9 4. "Compact privilege" means the authorization granted by a remote state to allow a
10 licensee from another member state to practice as a physical therapist or work as a
11 physical therapist assistant in the remote state under its laws and rules. The practice
12 of physical therapy occurs in the member state where the patient or client is located at
13 the time of the patient or client encounter.
- 14 5. "Continuing competence" means a requirement, as a condition of license renewal, to
15 provide evidence of participation in, or completion of, educational and professional
16 activities relevant to practice or area of work.
- 17 6. "Data system" means a repository of information about licensees, including
18 examination, licensure, investigative, compact privilege, and adverse action.
- 19 7. "Encumbered license" means a license that a physical therapy licensing board has
20 limited in any way.
- 21 8. "Executive board" means a group of directors elected or appointed to act on behalf of,
22 and within the powers granted to them by, the commission.
- 23 9. "Home state" means the member state that is the licensee's primary state of
24 residence.
- 25 10. "Investigative information" means information, records, and documents received or
26 generated by a physical therapy licensing board pursuant to an investigation.
- 27 11. "Jurisprudence requirement" means the assessment of an individual's knowledge of
28 the laws and rules governing the practice of physical therapy in a state.
- 29 12. "Licensee" means an individual who currently holds an authorization from the state to
30 practice as a physical therapist or to work as a physical therapist assistant.
- 31 13. "Member state" means a state that has enacted the compact.

- 1 14. "Party state" means any member state in which a licensee holds a current license or
2 compact privilege or is applying for a license or compact privilege.
- 3 15. "Physical therapist" means an individual who is licensed by a state to practice physical
4 therapy.
- 5 16. "Physical therapist assistant" means an individual who is licensed or certified by a
6 state and who assists the physical therapist in selected components of physical
7 therapy.
- 8 17. "Physical therapy", "physical therapy practice", and "the practice of physical therapy"
9 mean the care and services provided by or under the direction and supervision of a
10 licensed physical therapist.
- 11 18. "Physical therapy compact commission" or "commission" means the national
12 administrative body whose membership consists of all states that have enacted the
13 compact.
- 14 19. "Physical therapy licensing board" or "licensing board" means the agency of a state
15 that is responsible for the licensing and regulation of physical therapists and physical
16 therapist assistants.
- 17 20. "Remote state" means a member state other than the home state, where a licensee is
18 exercising or seeking to exercise the compact privilege.
- 19 21. "Rule" means a regulation, principle, or directive promulgated by the commission
20 which has the force of law.
- 21 22. "State" means any state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the United States of
22 America that regulates the practice of physical therapy.

ARTICLE III - STATE PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPACT

- 24 1. To participate in the compact, a state must:
 - 25 a. Participate fully in the commission's data system, including using the
26 commission's unique identifier as defined in rules;
 - 27 b. Have a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about
28 licensees;
 - 29 c. Notify the commission, in compliance with the terms of the compact and rules, of
30 any adverse action or the availability of investigative information regarding a
31 licensee;

- 1 d. Fully implement a criminal background check requirement, within a time frame
- 2 established by rule, by receiving the results of the federal bureau of investigation
- 3 record search on criminal background checks and use the results in making
- 4 licensure decisions in accordance with subsection 2;
- 5 e. Comply with the rules of the commission;
- 6 f. Utilize a recognized national examination as a requirement for licensure pursuant
- 7 to the rules of the commission; and
- 8 g. Have continuing competence requirements as a condition for license renewal.
- 9 2. Upon adoption of this statute, the member state may obtain biometric-based
- 10 information from each physical therapy licensure applicant and submit this information
- 11 to the federal bureau of investigation for a criminal background check in accordance
- 12 with 28 U.S.C. section 534 and 42 U.S.C. section 14616.
- 13 3. A member state shall grant the compact privilege to a licensee holding a valid
- 14 unencumbered license in another member state in accordance with the terms of the
- 15 compact and rules.
- 16 4. Member states may charge a fee for granting a compact privilege.

ARTICLE IV - COMPACT PRIVILEGE

- 18 1. To exercise the compact privilege under the terms and provisions of the compact, the
- 19 licensee shall:
- 20 a. Hold a license in the home state;
- 21 b. Have no encumbrance on any state license;
- 22 c. Be eligible for a compact privilege in any member state in accordance with
- 23 subsections 4, 7, and 8;
- 24 d. Have not had any adverse action against any license or compact privilege within
- 25 the previous two years;
- 26 e. Notify the commission the licensee is seeking the compact privilege within a
- 27 remote state;
- 28 f. Pay any applicable fees, including any state fee, for the compact privilege;
- 29 g. Meet any jurisprudence requirements established by the remote state in which
- 30 the licensee is seeking a compact privilege; and

- 1 h. Report to the commission adverse action taken by any nonmember state within
2 thirty days from the date the adverse action is taken.
- 3 2. The compact privilege is valid until the expiration date of the home license. The
4 licensee must comply with the requirements of subsection 1 to maintain the compact
5 privilege in the remote state.
- 6 3. A licensee providing physical therapy in a remote state under the compact privilege
7 shall function within the laws and regulations of the remote state.
- 8 4. A licensee providing physical therapy in a remote state is subject to that state's
9 regulatory authority. A remote state may, in accordance with due process and that
10 state's laws, remove a licensee's compact privilege in the remote state for a specific
11 period of time, impose fines, or take any other necessary actions to protect the health
12 and safety of its citizens. The licensee is not eligible for a compact privilege in any
13 state until the specific time for removal has passed and all fines are paid.
- 14 5. If a home state license is encumbered, the licensee loses the compact privilege in any
15 remote state until the following occur:
- 16 a. The home state license is no longer encumbered; and
17 b. Two years have elapsed from the date of the adverse action.
- 18 6. Once an encumbered license in the home state is restored to good standing, the
19 licensee shall meet the requirements of subsection 1 to obtain a compact privilege in
20 any remote state.
- 21 7. If a licensee's compact privilege in any remote state is removed, the individual loses
22 the compact privilege in any remote state until the following occur:
- 23 a. The specific period of time for which the compact privilege was removed has
24 ended;
- 25 b. All fines have been paid; and
26 c. Two years have elapsed from the date of the adverse action.
- 27 8. Once the requirements of subsection 7 have been met, the licensee shall meet the
28 requirements in subsection 1 to obtain a compact privilege in a remote state.

29 **ARTICLE V - ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL OR THEIR SPOUSES**

30 A licensee who is active duty military or is the spouse of an individual who is active duty
31 military may designate one of the following as the home state:

- 1 1. Home of record;
- 2 2. Permanent change of station; or
- 3 3. State of current residence if it is different from the permanent change of station state
- 4 or home of record.

ARTICLE VI - ADVERSE ACTIONS

- 6 1. A home state has the exclusive power to impose adverse action against a license
- 7 issued by the home state.
- 8 2. A home state may take adverse action based on the investigative information of a
- 9 remote state, if the home state follows its own procedures for imposing adverse action.
- 10 3. This compact does not override a member state's decision that participation in an
- 11 alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse action and that such participation
- 12 must remain nonpublic if required by the member state's laws. Member states shall
- 13 require licensees who enter any alternative programs in lieu of discipline to agree not
- 14 to practice in any other member state during the term of the alternative program
- 15 without prior authorization from such other member state.
- 16 4. Any member state may investigate actual or alleged violations of the statutes and
- 17 rules authorizing the practice of physical therapy in any other member state in which a
- 18 physical therapist or physical therapist assistant holds a license or compact privilege.
- 19 5. A remote state may:
 - 20 a. Take adverse actions as set forth in subsection 4 of article IV against a licensee's
 - 21 compact privilege in the state;
 - 22 b. Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations which require the
 - 23 attendance and testimony of witnesses, and the production of evidence.
 - 24 Subpoenas issued by a physical therapy licensing board in a party state for the
 - 25 attendance and testimony of witnesses, or the production of evidence from
 - 26 another party state, must be enforced in the latter state by any court of
 - 27 competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court
 - 28 applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing
 - 29 authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees
 - 30 required by the service statutes of the state where the witnesses or evidence are
 - 31 located; and

1 c. If otherwise permitted by state law, recover from the licensee the costs of
2 investigations and disposition of cases resulting from any adverse action taken
3 against that licensee.

4 6. Joint investigations.

5 a. In addition to the authority granted to a member state by its respective physical
6 therapy practice act or other applicable state law, a member state may participate
7 with other member states in joint investigations of licensees.

8 b. Member states shall share any investigative, litigation, or compliance materials in
9 furtherance of any joint or individual investigation initiated under the compact.

10 **ARTICLE VII - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PHYSICAL THERAPY COMPACT COMMISSION**

11 1. The compact member states hereby create and establish a joint public agency known
12 as the physical therapy compact commission:

13 a. The commission is an instrumentality of the compact states.

14 b. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the commission must be
15 brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the
16 principal office of the commission is located. The commission may waive venue
17 and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in
18 alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

19 c. This compact may not be construed to be a waiver of sovereign immunity.

20 2. Membership, voting, and meetings.

21 a. Each member state is limited to one delegate selected by that member state's
22 licensing board.

23 b. The delegate must be a current member of the licensing board, who is a physical
24 therapist, physical therapist assistant, public member, or the board administrator.

25 c. Any delegate may be removed or suspended from office as provided by the law
26 of the state from which the delegate is appointed.

27 d. The member state board shall fill any vacancy occurring in the commission.

28 e. Each delegate is entitled to one vote with regard to the promulgation of rules and
29 creation of bylaws and shall otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the
30 business and affairs of the commission.

- 1 f. A delegate shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the
2 bylaws. The bylaws may provide for delegates' participation in meetings by
3 telephone or other means of communication.
- 4 g. The commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year. Additional
5 meetings must be held as set forth in the bylaws.
- 6 3. The commission shall have the following powers and duties:
- 7 a. Establish the fiscal year of the commission;
- 8 b. Establish bylaws;
- 9 c. Maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws;
- 10 d. Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this compact
11 and the bylaws;
- 12 e. Promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate implementation and
13 administration of this compact. The rules have the force and effect of law and are
14 binding in all member states;
- 15 f. Bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of the commission,
16 provided the standing of any state physical therapy licensing board to sue or be
17 sued under applicable law may not be affected;
- 18 g. Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;
- 19 h. Borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including employees of a
20 member state;
- 21 i. Hire employees; elect or appoint officers; fix compensation; define duties; grant
22 such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the compact;
23 and to establish the commission's personnel policies and programs relating to
24 conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel
25 matters;
- 26 j. Accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money, equipment,
27 supplies, materials, and services, and to receive, utilize, and dispose of the
28 same, provided that at all times the commission shall avoid any appearance of
29 impropriety or conflict of interest;

- 1 k. Lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or otherwise to own,
2 hold, improve, or use, any property, real, personal, or mixed, provided that at all
3 times the commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety;
- 4 l. Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose
5 of any property real, personal, or mixed;
- 6 m. Establish a budget and make expenditures;
- 7 n. Borrow money;
- 8 o. Appoint committees, including standing committees comprised of members, state
9 regulators, state legislators or their representatives, and consumer
10 representatives, and such other interested persons as may be designated in this
11 compact and the bylaws;
- 12 p. Provide and receive information from, and cooperate with, law enforcement
13 agencies;
- 14 q. Establish and elect an executive board; and
- 15 r. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the
16 purposes of this compact consistent with the state regulation of physical therapy
17 licensure and practice.
- 18 4. The executive board may act on behalf of the commission according to the terms of
19 this compact:
- 20 a. The executive board must be comprised of nine members:
- 21 (1) Seven voting members who are elected by the commission from the current
22 membership of the commission;
- 23 (2) One ex officio, nonvoting member from the recognized national physical
24 therapy professional association; and
- 25 (3) One ex officio, nonvoting member from the recognized membership
26 organization of the physical therapy licensing boards.
- 27 b. The ex officio members are selected by their respective organizations.
- 28 c. The commission may remove any member of the executive board as provided in
29 bylaws.
- 30 d. The executive board shall meet at least annually.
- 31 e. The executive board shall:

- 1 (1) Recommend to the entire commission changes to the rules or bylaws,
- 2 changes to this compact legislation, fees paid by compact member states
- 3 such as annual dues, and any commission compact fee charged to
- 4 licensees for the compact privilege;
- 5 (2) Ensure compact administration services are appropriately provided,
- 6 contractual or otherwise;
- 7 (3) Prepare and recommend the budget;
- 8 (4) Maintain financial records on behalf of the commission;
- 9 (5) Monitor compact compliance of member states and provide compliance
- 10 reports to the commission;
- 11 (6) Establish additional committees as necessary; and
- 12 (7) Other duties as provided in rules or bylaws.
- 13 5. Meetings of the commission.
- 14 a. All meetings are open to the public, and public notice of meetings must be given
- 15 in the same manner as required under the rulemaking provisions in article IX.
- 16 b. The commission or the executive board or other committees of the commission
- 17 may convene in a closed, nonpublic meeting if the commission or executive
- 18 board or other committees of the commission must discuss:
- 19 (1) Noncompliance of a member state with its obligations under the compact;
- 20 (2) The employment, compensation, discipline, or other matters, practices, or
- 21 procedures related to specific employees or other matters related to the
- 22 commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;
- 23 (3) Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation;
- 24 (4) Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or sale of goods, services,
- 25 or real estate;
- 26 (5) Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person;
- 27 (6) Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is
- 28 privileged or confidential;
- 29 (7) Disclosure of information of a personal nature if disclosure would constitute
- 30 a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- 31 (8) Disclosure of investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes;

- 1 (9) Disclosure of information related to any investigative reports prepared by or
2 on behalf of or for use of the commission or other committee charged with
3 responsibility of investigation or determination of compliance issues
4 pursuant to the compact; or
- 5 (10) Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal or member state
6 statute.
- 7 c. If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this provision, the
8 commission's legal counsel or designee shall certify that the meeting may be
9 closed and shall reference each relevant exempting provision.
- 10 d. The commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all matters
11 discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions
12 taken, and the reasons therefore, including a description of the views expressed.
13 All documents considered in connection with an action must be identified in such
14 minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting must remain under seal,
15 subject to release by a majority vote of the commission or order of a court of
16 competent jurisdiction.
- 17 6. Financing of the commission.
- 18 a. The commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable
19 expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.
- 20 b. The commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources, donations,
21 and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services.
- 22 c. The commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each
23 member state or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost of the operations
24 and activities of the commission and its staff, which must be in a total amount
25 sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is
26 not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount must
27 be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the commission, which
28 shall promulgate a rule binding upon all member states.
- 29 d. The commission may not incur obligations of any kind before securing the funds
30 adequate to meet the same, nor may the commission pledge the credit of any of
31 the member states, except by and with the authority of the member state.

1 e. The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements.
2 The receipts and disbursements of the commission are subject to the audit and
3 accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and
4 disbursements of funds handled by the commission must be audited yearly by a
5 certified or licensed public accountant, and the report of the audit must be
6 included in and become part of the annual report of the commission.

7 7. Qualified immunity, defense, and indemnification.

8 a. The members, officers, executive director, employees, and representatives of the
9 commission are immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official
10 capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or
11 other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or
12 omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a
13 reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission
14 employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that nothing in this subdivision
15 may be construed to protect any such person from suit or liability for any
16 damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional, willful, or wanton
17 misconduct of that person.

18 b. The commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director, employee,
19 or representative of the commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability
20 arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the
21 scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the person
22 against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred
23 within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided
24 this subdivision may not be construed to prohibit that person from retaining that
25 person's own counsel, and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error,
26 or omission did not result from that person's intentional, willful, or wanton
27 misconduct.

28 c. The commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer,
29 executive director, employee, or representative of the commission for the amount
30 of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any
31 actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of

1 commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a
2 reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission
3 employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act,
4 error, or omission did not result from the intentional, willful, or wanton misconduct
5 of that person.

6 **ARTICLE VIII - DATA SYSTEM**

- 7 1. The commission shall provide for the development, maintenance, and utilization of a
8 coordinated database and reporting system containing licensure, adverse action, and
9 investigative information on all licensed individuals in member states.
- 10 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a member state shall
11 submit a uniform data set to the data system on all individuals to whom this compact is
12 applicable as required by the rules of the commission, including:
- 13 a. Identifying information;
14 b. Licensure data;
15 c. Adverse actions against a license or compact privilege;
16 d. Nonconfidential information related to alternative program participation;
17 e. Any denial of application for licensure, and the reason for such denial; and
18 f. Other information that may facilitate the administration of this compact, as
19 determined by the rules of the commission.
- 20 3. Investigative information pertaining to a licensee in any member state will only be
21 available to other party states.
- 22 4. The commission promptly shall notify all member states of any adverse action taken
23 against a licensee or an individual applying for a license. Adverse action information
24 pertaining to a licensee in any member state is available to any other member state.
- 25 5. Member states contributing information to the data system may designate information
26 that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of the
27 contributing state.
- 28 6. Any information submitted to the data system that is subsequently required to be
29 expunged by the laws of the member state contributing the information must be
30 removed from the data system.

31 **ARTICLE IX - RULEMAKING**

- 1 1. The commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set forth
2 in this article and the rules adopted under this article. Rules and amendments become
3 binding as of the date specified in each rule or amendment.
- 4 2. If a majority of the legislatures of the member states reject a rule, by enactment of a
5 statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the compact within four years
6 of the date of adoption of the rule, then such rule has no further force and effect in any
7 member state.
- 8 3. Rules or amendments to the rules must be adopted at a regular or special meeting of
9 the commission.
- 10 4. Before promulgation and adoption of a final rule or rules by the commission, and at
11 least thirty days in advance of the meeting at which the rule will be considered and
12 voted upon, the commission shall file a notice of proposed rulemaking:
 - 13 a. On the website of the commission or other publicly accessible platform; and
 - 14 b. On the website of each member state physical therapy licensing board or other
15 publicly accessible platform or the publication in which each state would
16 otherwise publish proposed rules.
- 17 5. The notice of proposed rulemaking must include:
 - 18 a. The proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in which the rule will be
19 considered and voted upon;
 - 20 b. The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for the proposed
21 rule;
 - 22 c. A request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested person; and
 - 23 d. The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the commission of
24 the interested persons' intentions to attend the public hearing and any written
25 comments.
- 26 6. Before adoption of a proposed rule, the commission shall allow persons to submit
27 written data, facts, opinions, and arguments, which must be made available to the
28 public.
- 29 7. The commission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing before it adopts a rule
30 or amendment if a hearing is requested by:
 - 31 a. At least twenty-five persons;

- 1 b. A state or federal governmental subdivision or agency; or
2 c. An association having at least twenty-five members.
3 8. If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the commission shall publish
4 the place, time, and date of the scheduled public hearing. If the hearing is held via
5 electronic means, the commission shall publish the mechanism for access to the
6 electronic hearing.
7 a. All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the executive director
8 of the commission or other designated member in writing of their desire to appear
9 and testify at the hearing not less than five business days before the scheduled
10 date of the hearing.
11 b. Hearings must be conducted in a manner providing each person who wishes to
12 comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in writing.
13 c. All hearings must be recorded. A copy of the recording must be made available
14 on request.
15 d. This section may not be construed as requiring a separate hearing on each rule.
16 Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the commission at hearings
17 required by this section.
18 9. Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business on the scheduled
19 hearing date if the hearing was not held, the commission shall consider all written and
20 oral comments received.
21 10. If written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by interested parties is not
22 received, the commission may proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule without
23 a public hearing.
24 11. By majority vote of all members, the commission shall take final action on the
25 proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the
26 rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.
27 12. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the commission may consider and
28 adopt an emergency rule without prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing,
29 provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the compact and in this
30 section must be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no

- 1 event later than ninety days after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this
2 provision, an emergency rule is one that must be adopted immediately in order to:
3 a. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare;
4 b. Prevent a loss of commission or member state funds;
5 c. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that is established
6 by federal law or rule; or
7 d. Protect public health and safety.

- 8 13. The commission or an authorized committee of the commission may direct revisions to
9 a previously adopted rule or amendment for purposes of correcting typographical
10 errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of
11 any revisions must be posted on the website of the commission. The revision is
12 subject to challenge by any person for a period of thirty days after posting. The
13 revision may be challenged only on grounds the revision results in a material change
14 to a rule. A challenge must be made in writing, and delivered to the chair of the
15 commission before the end of the notice period. If a challenge is not made, the
16 revision takes effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision
17 may not take effect without the approval of the commission.

18 **ARTICLE X - OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND ENFORCEMENT**

- 19 1. Oversight.
20 a. The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government in each
21 member state shall enforce this compact and take all actions necessary and
22 appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of
23 this compact and the rules promulgated under this compact have standing as
24 statutory law.
25 b. All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the rules in any judicial or
26 administrative proceeding in a member state pertaining to the subject matter of
27 this compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities, or actions of the
28 commission.
29 c. The commission is entitled to receive service of process in any such proceeding,
30 and has standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to

1 provide service of process to the commission renders a judgment or order void
2 as to the commission, this compact, or promulgated rules.

3 2. Default, technical assistance, and termination.

4 a. If the commission determines that a member state has defaulted in the
5 performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact or the
6 promulgated rules, the commission shall:

7 (1) Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other member states of the
8 nature of the default, the proposed means of curing the default, and any
9 other action to be taken by the commission; and

10 (2) Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the
11 default.

12 b. If a state in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting state may be
13 terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the
14 member states, and all rights, privileges, and benefits conferred by this compact
15 may be terminated on the effective date of termination. A cure of the default does
16 not relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the
17 period of default.

18 c. Termination of membership in the compact must be imposed only after all other
19 means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend
20 or terminate must be given by the commission to the governor, the majority and
21 minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the member
22 states.

23 d. A state that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations,
24 and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including
25 obligations that extend beyond the effective date of termination.

26 e. The commission may not bear any costs related to a state that is found to be in
27 default or that has been terminated from the compact, unless agreed upon in
28 writing between the commission and the defaulting state.

29 f. The defaulting state may appeal the action of the commission by petitioning the
30 United States district court for the District of Columbia or the federal district

- 1 where the commission has its principal offices. The prevailing member must be
2 awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.
- 3 3. Dispute resolution.
- 4 a. Upon request by a member state, the commission shall attempt to resolve
5 disputes related to the compact which arise among member states and between
6 member and nonmember states.
- 7 b. The commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding
8 dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.
- 9 4. Enforcement.
- 10 a. The commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the
11 provisions and rules of this compact.
- 12 b. By majority vote, the commission may initiate legal action in the United States
13 district court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the
14 commission has its principal offices against a member state in default to enforce
15 compliance with the provisions of the compact and its promulgated rules and
16 bylaws. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. If
17 judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing member must be awarded all
18 costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.
- 19 c. The remedies herein are not the exclusive remedies of the commission. The
20 commission may pursue any other remedies available under federal or state law.

21 **ARTICLE XI - DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERSTATE**
22 **COMMISSION FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY PRACTICE AND**
23 **ASSOCIATED RULES, WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENT**

- 24 1. The compact comes into effect on the date on which the compact statute is enacted
25 into law in the tenth member state. The provisions, which become effective at that
26 time, are limited to the powers granted to the commission relating to assembly and the
27 promulgation of rules. Thereafter, the commission shall meet and exercise rulemaking
28 powers necessary to the implementation and administration of the compact.
- 29 2. Any state that joins the compact after the commission's initial adoption of the rules is
30 subject to the rules as they exist on the date on which the compact becomes law in

- 1 that state. Any rule that has been previously adopted by the commission has the full
2 force and effect of law on the day the compact becomes law in that state.
- 3 3. Any member state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a statute repealing the
4 same.
- 5 a. A member state's withdrawal does not take effect until six months after
6 enactment of the repealing statute.
- 7 b. Withdrawal does not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing state's
8 physical therapy licensing board to comply with the investigative and adverse
9 action reporting requirements of this compact before the effective date of
10 withdrawal.
- 11 4. This compact may not be construed to invalidate or prevent any physical therapy
12 licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a member state and a
13 nonmember state which does not conflict with the provisions of this compact.
- 14 5. This compact may be amended by the member states. An amendment to this compact
15 may not become effective and binding upon any member state until it is enacted into
16 the laws of all member states.

17 **ARTICLE XII - CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY**

18 This compact must be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes of the compact.
19 The provisions of this compact are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision
20 of this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any party state or of the United
21 States or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person, or circumstance is held
22 invalid, the validity of the remainder of this compact and the applicability of the remainder of this
23 compact to any government, agency, person, or circumstance is not affected thereby. If this
24 compact is held contrary to the constitution of any party state, the compact remains in full force
25 and effect as to the remaining party states and in full force and effect as to the party state
26 affected as to all severable matters.