

1 HOUSE BILL 249

2 **56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE; ENACTING THE PSYCHOLOGY  
12 INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT.  
13

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

15 SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL  
16 COMPACT ENTERED INTO.--The Psychology Interjurisdictional  
17 Compact is entered into law and entered into with all other  
18 jurisdictions legally joining in the compact in a form  
19 substantially as follows:

20 "ARTICLE 1

21 PURPOSE

22 Whereas, states license psychologists in order to protect  
23 the public through verification of education, training and  
24 experience and ensure accountability for professional practice;  
25 and

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1           Whereas, this compact is intended to regulate the day-to-  
2 day practice of telepsychology, i.e., the provision of  
3 psychological services using telecommunication technologies, by  
4 psychologists across state boundaries in the performance of  
5 their psychological practice as assigned by an appropriate  
6 authority; and

7           Whereas, this compact is intended to regulate the  
8 temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology by  
9 psychologists across state boundaries for thirty days within a  
10 calendar year in the performance of their psychological  
11 practice as assigned by an appropriate authority; and

12           Whereas, this compact is intended to authorize state  
13 psychology regulatory authorities to afford legal recognition,  
14 in a manner consistent with the terms of the compact, to  
15 psychologists licensed in another state; and

16           Whereas, this compact recognizes that states have a vested  
17 interest in protecting the public's health and safety through  
18 their licensing and regulation of psychologists and that such  
19 state regulation will best protect public health and safety;  
20 and

21           Whereas, this compact does not apply when a psychologist  
22 is licensed in both the home and receiving states; and

23           Whereas, while this compact does not apply to permanent  
24 in-person, face-to-face practice, it does allow for  
25 authorization of temporary psychological practice.

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1           Consistent with these principles, this compact is designed  
2 to achieve the following purposes and objectives:

3           (1) increasing public access to professional  
4 psychological services by allowing for telepsychological  
5 practice across state lines as well as temporary in-person,  
6 face-to-face services in a state in which the psychologist is  
7 not licensed to practice psychology;

8           (2) enhancing the states' ability to protect the  
9 public's health and safety, especially client/patient safety;

10           (3) encouraging the cooperation of compact states  
11 in the areas of psychology licensure and regulation;

12           (4) facilitating the exchange of information  
13 between compact states regarding psychologist licensure,  
14 adverse actions and disciplinary history;

15           (5) promoting compliance with the laws governing  
16 psychological practice in each compact state; and

17           (6) investing all compact states with the authority  
18 to hold licensed psychologists accountable through the mutual  
19 recognition of compact state licenses.

20                           ARTICLE 2

21                           DEFINITIONS

22           As used in the compact:

23           A. "adverse action" means any action taken by a  
24 state psychology regulatory authority that finds a violation of  
25 a statute or regulation that is identified by the state

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1 psychology regulatory authority as discipline and is a matter  
2 of public record;

3 B. "association of state and provincial psychology  
4 boards" means the recognized membership organization composed  
5 of state and provincial psychology regulatory authorities  
6 responsible for the licensure and registration of psychologists  
7 throughout the United States and Canada;

8 C. "authority to practice interjurisdictional  
9 telepsychology" means a licensed psychologist's authority to  
10 practice telepsychology, within the limits authorized under  
11 this compact, in another compact state;

12 D. "bylaws" means those bylaws established by the  
13 Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact commission pursuant to  
14 Article 10 of this compact for its governance or for directing  
15 and controlling its actions and conduct;

16 E. "client/patient" means the recipient of  
17 psychological services, whether psychological services are  
18 delivered in the context of health care, corporate, supervision  
19 or consulting services;

20 F. "commissioner" means the voting representative  
21 appointed by each state psychology regulatory authority  
22 pursuant to Article 10 of this compact;

23 G. "compact state" means a state, the District of  
24 Columbia or a United States territory that has enacted this  
25 compact legislation and that has not withdrawn pursuant to

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1 Subsection C of Article 13 of this compact or been terminated  
2 pursuant to Subsection B of Article 12 of this compact;

3 H. "confidentiality" means the principle that data  
4 or information is not made available or disclosed to  
5 unauthorized persons or processes;

6 I. "coordinated licensure information system", also  
7 referred to as "coordinated database", means an integrated  
8 process for collecting, storing and sharing information on  
9 psychologists' licensure and enforcement activities related to  
10 psychology licensure laws and the Psychology  
11 Interjurisdictional Compact, which is administered by the  
12 recognized membership organization composed of state and  
13 provincial psychology regulatory authorities;

14 J. "day" means any part of a day in which  
15 psychological work is performed;

16 K. "distant state" means the compact state where a  
17 psychologist is physically present, not through the use of  
18 telecommunications technologies, to provide temporary  
19 in-person, face-to-face psychological services;

20 L. "E.Passport" means a certificate issued by the  
21 association of state and provincial psychology boards that  
22 promotes the standardization in the criteria of  
23 interjurisdictional telepsychology practice and facilitates the  
24 process for licensed psychologists to provide telepsychological  
25 services across state lines;

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1 M. "executive board" means a group of directors  
2 elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within the powers  
3 granted to them by, the commission;

4 N. "home state" means a compact state where a  
5 psychologist is licensed to practice psychology. If the  
6 psychologist is licensed in more than one compact state and is  
7 practicing under the authorization to practice  
8 interjurisdictional telepsychology, the home state is the  
9 compact state where the psychologist is physically present when  
10 the telepsychological services are delivered. If the  
11 psychologist is licensed in more than one compact state and is  
12 practicing under a temporary authorization to practice, the  
13 home state is any compact state where the psychologist is  
14 licensed;

15 O. "identity history summary" means a summary of  
16 information retained by the United States federal bureau of  
17 investigation, or other designee with similar authority, in  
18 connection with arrests and, in some instances, federal  
19 employment, naturalization or military service;

20 P. "in-person, face-to-face" means interactions in  
21 which the psychologist and the client/patient are in the same  
22 physical space and does not include interactions that may occur  
23 through the use of telecommunication technologies;

24 Q. "interjurisdictional practice certificate" means  
25 a certificate issued by the association of state and provincial

1 psychology boards that grants temporary authority to practice  
2 based on notification to the state psychology regulatory  
3 authority of intention to practice temporarily and verification  
4 of one's qualifications for such practice;

5 R. "license" means authorization by a state  
6 psychology regulatory authority to engage in the independent  
7 practice of psychology, which would be unlawful without the  
8 authorization;

9 S. "non-compact state" means any state that is not  
10 at the time a compact state;

11 T. "psychologist" means an individual licensed for  
12 the independent practice of psychology;

13 U. "Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact  
14 commission", also referred to as "commission", means the  
15 national administration of which all compact states are  
16 members;

17 V. "receiving state" means a compact state where  
18 the client/patient is physically located when the  
19 telepsychological services are delivered;

20 W. "rule" means a written statement by the  
21 Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact commission promulgated  
22 pursuant to Article 11 of this compact that is of general  
23 applicability, implements, interprets or prescribes a policy or  
24 provision of the compact, or an organizational, procedural or  
25 practice requirement of the commission, and has the force and

1 effect of statutory law in a compact state and includes the  
2 amendment, repeal or suspension of an existing rule;

3 X. "significant investigatory information" means:

4 (1) investigative information that a state  
5 psychology regulatory authority, after a preliminary inquiry  
6 that includes notification and an opportunity to respond if  
7 required by state law, has reason to believe, if proven true,  
8 would indicate more than a violation of state statute or ethics  
9 code that would be considered more substantial than a minor  
10 infraction; or

11 (2) investigative information that indicates  
12 that the psychologist represents an immediate threat to public  
13 health and safety regardless of whether the psychologist has  
14 been notified or has had an opportunity to respond;

15 Y. "state" means a state, commonwealth, territory  
16 or possession of the United States or the District of Columbia;

17 Z. "state psychology regulatory authority" means  
18 the board, office or other agency with the legislative mandate  
19 to license and regulate the practice of psychology;

20 AA. "telepsychology" means the provision of  
21 psychological services using telecommunication technologies;

22 BB. "temporary authorization to practice" means a  
23 licensed psychologist's authority to conduct temporary  
24 in-person, face-to-face practice, within the limits authorized  
25 under this compact, in another compact state; and

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1 CC. "temporary in-person, face-to-face practice"  
2 means where a psychologist is physically present, not through  
3 the use of telecommunications technologies, in a distant state  
4 to provide for the practice of psychology for thirty days  
5 within a calendar year and based on notification to the distant  
6 state.

7 ARTICLE 3

8 HOME STATE LICENSURE

9 A. The home state shall be a compact state where a  
10 psychologist is licensed to practice psychology.

11 B. A psychologist may hold one or more compact  
12 state licenses at a time. If the psychologist is licensed in  
13 more than one compact state, the home state is the compact  
14 state where the psychologist is physically present when the  
15 services are delivered as authorized by the authority to  
16 practice interjurisdictional telepsychology under the terms of  
17 this compact.

18 C. Any compact state may require a psychologist not  
19 previously licensed in a compact state to obtain and retain a  
20 license to be authorized to practice in the compact state under  
21 circumstances not authorized by the authority to practice  
22 interjurisdictional telepsychology under the terms of this  
23 compact.

24 D. Any compact state may require a psychologist to  
25 obtain and retain a license to be authorized to practice in a

1 compact state under circumstances not authorized by temporary  
2 authorization to practice under the terms of this compact.

3 E. A home state's license authorizes a psychologist  
4 to practice in a receiving state under the authority to  
5 practice interjurisdictional telepsychology only if the compact  
6 state:

7 (1) currently requires the psychologist to  
8 hold an active E.Passport;

9 (2) has a mechanism in place for receiving and  
10 investigating complaints about licensed individuals;

11 (3) notifies the commission, in compliance  
12 with the terms of the compact, of any adverse action or  
13 significant investigatory information regarding a licensed  
14 individual;

15 (4) requires an identity history summary of  
16 all applicants at initial licensure, including the use of the  
17 results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks  
18 compliant with the requirements of the United States federal  
19 bureau of investigation, Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact  
20 or other designee with similar authority, no later than ten  
21 years after activation of the compact; and

22 (5) complies with the bylaws and rules of the  
23 commission.

24 F. A home state's license grants temporary  
25 authorization to practice to a psychologist in a distant state

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1 only if the compact state:

2 (1) currently requires the psychologist to  
3 hold an active interjurisdictional practice certificate;

4 (2) has a mechanism in place for receiving and  
5 investigating complaints about licensed individuals;

6 (3) notifies the commission, in compliance  
7 with the terms of the compact, of any adverse action or  
8 significant investigatory information regarding a licensed  
9 individual;

10 (4) requires an identity history summary of  
11 all applicants at initial licensure, including the use of the  
12 results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks  
13 compliant with the requirements of the United States federal  
14 bureau of investigation, or other designee with similar  
15 authority, no later than ten years after activation of the  
16 compact; and

17 (5) complies with the bylaws and rules of the  
18 commission.

19 ARTICLE 4

20 COMPACT PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE TELEPSYCHOLOGY

21 A. Compact states shall recognize the right of a  
22 psychologist, licensed in a compact state in conformance with  
23 Article 3 of this compact, to practice telepsychology in other  
24 compact states (receiving states) in which the psychologist is  
25 not licensed, under the authority to practice

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1 interjurisdictional telepsychology as provided in the compact.

2 B. To exercise the authority to practice  
3 interjurisdictional telepsychology under the terms and  
4 provisions of this compact, a psychologist licensed to practice  
5 in a compact state must:

6 (1) hold a graduate degree in psychology from  
7 an institute of higher education that was, at the time the  
8 degree was awarded:

9 (a) regionally accredited by an  
10 accrediting body recognized by the United States department of  
11 education to grant graduate degrees or authorized by provincial  
12 statute or royal charter to grant doctoral degrees; or

13 (b) a foreign college or university  
14 deemed to be equivalent to Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph  
15 by a foreign credential evaluation service that is a member of  
16 the national association of credential evaluation services or  
17 by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service;

18 (2) hold a graduate degree in psychology that  
19 meets the following criteria:

20 (a) the program, wherever it may be  
21 administratively housed, must be clearly identified and labeled  
22 as a psychology program. Such a program must specify in  
23 pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to  
24 educate and train professional psychologists;

25 (b) the psychology program must stand as

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1 a recognizable, coherent, organizational entity within the  
2 institution;

3 (c) there must be a clear authority and  
4 primary responsibility for the core and specialty areas,  
5 whether or not the program cuts across administrative lines;

6 (d) the program must consist of an  
7 integrated, organized sequence of study;

8 (e) there must be an identifiable  
9 psychology faculty sufficient in size and breadth to carry out  
10 its responsibilities;

11 (f) the designated director of the  
12 program must be a psychologist and a member of the core  
13 faculty;

14 (g) the program must have an  
15 identifiable body of students who are matriculated in that  
16 program for a degree;

17 (h) the program must include supervised  
18 practicum, internship or field training appropriate to the  
19 practice of psychology;

20 (i) the curriculum shall encompass a  
21 minimum of three academic years of full-time graduate study for  
22 doctoral degrees and a minimum of one academic year of full-  
23 time graduate study for master's degrees; and

24 (j) the program includes an acceptable  
25 residency as defined by the rules of the commission;

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1 (3) possess a current, full and unrestricted  
2 license to practice psychology in a home state that is a  
3 compact state;

4 (4) have no history of adverse action that  
5 violates the rules of the commission;

6 (5) have no criminal record history reported  
7 on an identity history summary that violates the rules of the  
8 commission;

9 (6) possess a current, active E.Passport;

10 (7) provide attestations in regard to areas of  
11 intended practice, conformity with standards of practice and  
12 competence in telepsychology technology; criminal background;  
13 and knowledge and adherence to legal requirements in the home  
14 and receiving states, and must provide a release of information  
15 to allow for primary source verification in a manner specified  
16 by the commission; and

17 (8) meet other criteria as defined by the  
18 rules of the commission.

19 C. The home state maintains authority over the  
20 license of any psychologist practicing into a receiving state  
21 under the authority to practice interjurisdictional  
22 telepsychology.

23 D. A psychologist practicing in a receiving state  
24 under the authority to practice interjurisdictional  
25 telepsychology will be subject to the receiving state's scope

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1 of practice. A receiving state may, in accordance with that  
2 state's due process law, limit or revoke a psychologist's  
3 authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology in the  
4 receiving state and may take any other necessary actions under  
5 the receiving state's applicable law to protect the health and  
6 safety of the receiving state's citizens. If a receiving state  
7 takes action, the state shall promptly notify the home state  
8 and the commission.

9 E. If a psychologist's license in any home state or  
10 another compact state, or any authority to practice  
11 interjurisdictional telepsychology in any receiving state, is  
12 restricted, suspended or otherwise limited, the E.Passport  
13 shall be revoked and, therefore, the psychologist shall not be  
14 eligible to practice telepsychology in a compact state under  
15 the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology.

#### 16 ARTICLE 5

#### 17 COMPACT TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE

18 A. Compact states shall also recognize the right of  
19 a psychologist, licensed in a compact state in conformance with  
20 Article 3 of this compact, to practice temporarily in other  
21 compact states (distant states) in which the psychologist is  
22 not licensed, as provided in the compact.

23 B. To exercise the temporary authorization to  
24 practice under the terms and provisions of this compact, a  
25 psychologist licensed to practice in a compact state must:

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1 (1) hold a graduate degree in psychology from  
2 an institute of higher education that was, at the time the  
3 degree was awarded:

4 (a) regionally accredited by an  
5 accrediting body recognized by the United States department of  
6 education to grant graduate degrees or authorized by provincial  
7 statute or royal charter to grant doctoral degrees; or

8 (b) a foreign college or university  
9 deemed to be equivalent to Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph  
10 by a foreign credential evaluation service that is a member of  
11 the national association of credential evaluation services or  
12 by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service;

13 (2) hold a graduate degree in psychology that  
14 meets the following criteria:

15 (a) the program, wherever it may be  
16 administratively housed, must be clearly identified and labeled  
17 as a psychology program. Such a program must specify in  
18 pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to  
19 educate and train professional psychologists;

20 (b) the psychology program must stand as  
21 a recognizable, coherent, organizational entity within the  
22 institution;

23 (c) there must be a clear authority and  
24 primary responsibility for the core and specialty areas,  
25 whether or not the program cuts across administrative lines;

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1 (d) the program must consist of an  
2 integrated, organized sequence of study;

3 (e) there must be an identifiable  
4 psychology faculty sufficient in size and breadth to carry out  
5 its responsibilities;

6 (f) the designated director of the  
7 program must be a psychologist and a member of the core  
8 faculty;

9 (g) the program must have an  
10 identifiable body of students who are matriculated in that  
11 program for a degree;

12 (h) the program must include a  
13 supervised practicum or internship or field training  
14 appropriate to the practice of psychology;

15 (i) the curriculum shall encompass a  
16 minimum of three academic years of full-time graduate study for  
17 doctoral degrees and a minimum of one academic year of full-  
18 time graduate study for master's degrees; and

19 (j) the program includes an acceptable  
20 residency as defined by the rules of the commission;

21 (3) possess a current, full and unrestricted  
22 license to practice psychology in a home state that is a  
23 compact state;

24 (4) have no history of adverse action that  
25 violates the rules of the commission;

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1 (5) have no criminal record history that  
2 violates the rules of the commission;

3 (6) possess a current, active  
4 interjurisdictional practice certificate;

5 (7) provide attestations in regard to areas of  
6 intended practice and work experience and provide a release of  
7 information to allow for primary source verification in a  
8 manner specified by the commission; and

9 (8) meet other criteria as defined by the  
10 rules of the commission.

11 C. A psychologist practicing in a distant state  
12 under the temporary authorization to practice shall practice  
13 within the scope of practice authorized by the distant state.

14 D. A psychologist practicing in a distant state  
15 under the temporary authorization to practice will be subject  
16 to the distant state's authority and law. A distant state may,  
17 in accordance with that state's due process law, limit or  
18 revoke a psychologist's temporary authorization to practice in  
19 the distant state and may take any other necessary actions  
20 under the distant state's applicable law to protect the health  
21 and safety of the distant state's citizens. If a distant state  
22 takes action, the state shall promptly notify the home state  
23 and the commission.

24 E. If a psychologist's license in any home state or  
25 another compact state, or any temporary authorization to

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1 practice in any distant state, is restricted, suspended or  
2 otherwise limited, the interjurisdictional practice certificate  
3 shall be revoked and, therefore, the psychologist shall not be  
4 eligible to practice in a compact state under the temporary  
5 authorization to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology.

#### 6 ARTICLE 6

#### 7 CONDITIONS OF TELEPSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE IN A RECEIVING STATE

8 A psychologist may practice in a receiving state under the  
9 authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology only  
10 in the performance of the scope of practice for psychology as  
11 assigned by an appropriate state psychology regulatory  
12 authority, as defined in the rules of the commission and under  
13 the following circumstances:

14 A. the psychologist initiates a client/patient  
15 contact in a home state via telecommunication technologies with  
16 a client/patient in a receiving state; or

17 B. other conditions regarding telepsychology as  
18 determined by rules promulgated by the commission.

#### 19 ARTICLE 7

#### 20 ADVERSE ACTIONS

21 A. A home state shall have the power to impose  
22 adverse action against a psychologist's license issued by the  
23 home state. A distant state shall have the power to take  
24 adverse action on a psychologist's temporary authorization to  
25 practice within that distant state.

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1           B. A receiving state may take adverse action on a  
2 psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional  
3 telepsychology within that receiving state. A home state may  
4 take adverse action against a psychologist based on an adverse  
5 action taken by a distant state regarding temporary in-person,  
6 face-to-face practice.

7           C. If a home state takes adverse action against a  
8 psychologist's license, that psychologist's authority to  
9 practice interjurisdictional telepsychology is terminated and  
10 the E.Passport is revoked. Furthermore, that psychologist's  
11 temporary authorization to practice is terminated and the  
12 interjurisdictional practice certificate is revoked; provided  
13 that:

14                   (1) all home state disciplinary orders that  
15 impose adverse action shall be reported to the commission in  
16 accordance with the rules promulgated by the commission. A  
17 compact state shall report adverse actions in accordance with  
18 the rules of the commission;

19                   (2) in the event discipline is reported on a  
20 psychologist, the psychologist will not be eligible for  
21 telepsychology or temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in  
22 accordance with the rules of the commission; and

23                   (3) other actions may be imposed as determined  
24 by the rules promulgated by the commission.

25           D. A home state's psychology regulatory authority

1 shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to  
2 reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a licensee that  
3 occurred in a receiving state as it would if such conduct had  
4 occurred by a licensee within the home state. In such cases,  
5 the home state's law shall control in determining any adverse  
6 action against a psychologist's license.

7 E. A distant state's psychology regulatory  
8 authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with  
9 respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a  
10 psychologist practicing under temporary authorization practice  
11 that occurred in that distant state as it would if such conduct  
12 had occurred by a licensee within the home state. In such  
13 cases, the distant state's law shall control in determining any  
14 adverse action against a psychologist's temporary authorization  
15 to practice.

16 F. Nothing in this compact shall override a compact  
17 state's decision that a psychologist's participation in an  
18 alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse action and  
19 that such participation shall remain nonpublic if required by  
20 the compact state's law. Compact states must require  
21 psychologists who enter any alternative programs to not provide  
22 telepsychology services under the authority to practice  
23 interjurisdictional telepsychology or provide temporary  
24 psychological services under the temporary authorization to  
25 practice in any other compact state during the term of the

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1 alternative program.

2 G. No other judicial or administrative remedies  
3 shall be available to a psychologist in the event a compact  
4 state imposes an adverse action pursuant to Subsection C of  
5 this article.

6 ARTICLE 8

7 ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES INVESTED IN A COMPACT STATE'S PSYCHOLOGY  
8 REGULATORY AUTHORITY

9 A. In addition to any other powers granted under  
10 state law, a compact state's psychology regulatory authority  
11 shall have the authority under this compact to:

12 (1) issue subpoenas, for both hearings and  
13 investigations, that require the attendance and testimony of  
14 witnesses and the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by  
15 a compact state's psychology regulatory authority for the  
16 attendance and testimony of witnesses, or the production of  
17 evidence from another compact state, shall be enforced in the  
18 latter state by any court of competent jurisdiction, according  
19 to that court's practice and procedure in considering subpoenas  
20 issued in its own proceedings. The issuing state psychology  
21 regulatory authority shall pay any witness fees, travel  
22 expenses, mileage and other fees required by the service  
23 statutes of the state where the witnesses or evidence are  
24 located; and

25 (2) issue cease and desist or injunctive

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1 relief orders to revoke a psychologist's authority to practice  
2 interjurisdictional telepsychology or temporary authorization  
3 to practice.

4 B. During the course of any investigation, a  
5 psychologist shall not change the psychologist's home state  
6 licensure. A home state psychology regulatory authority is  
7 authorized to complete any pending investigations of a  
8 psychologist and to take any actions appropriate under its law.  
9 The home state psychology regulatory authority shall promptly  
10 report the conclusions of such investigations to the  
11 commission. Once an investigation has been completed, and  
12 pending the outcome of said investigation, the psychologist may  
13 change the psychologist's home state licensure. The commission  
14 shall promptly notify the new home state of any such decisions  
15 as provided in the rules of the commission. All information  
16 provided to the commission or distributed by compact states  
17 pursuant to the psychologist shall be confidential, filed under  
18 seal and used for investigatory or Psychology  
19 Interjurisdictional Compact disciplinary matters. The  
20 commission may create additional rules for mandated or  
21 discretionary sharing of information by compact states.

## 22 ARTICLE 9

### 23 COORDINATED LICENSURE INFORMATION SYSTEM

24 A. The commission shall provide for the development  
25 and maintenance of a coordinated licensure information system

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1 (coordinated database) and reporting system containing  
2 licensure and disciplinary action information on all  
3 psychologists and individuals to whom this compact is  
4 applicable in all compact states as defined by the rules of the  
5 commission.

6 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of state law  
7 to the contrary, a compact state shall submit a uniform data  
8 set to the coordinated database on all licensees as required by  
9 the rules of the commission, including:

- 10 (1) identifying information;
- 11 (2) licensure data;
- 12 (3) significant investigatory information;
- 13 (4) adverse actions against a psychologist's  
14 license;
- 15 (5) an indicator that a psychologist's  
16 authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology or  
17 temporary authorization to practice is revoked;
- 18 (6) non-confidential information related to  
19 alternative program participation information;
- 20 (7) any denial of application for licensure  
21 and the reasons for such denial; and
- 22 (8) other information that may facilitate the  
23 administration of this compact, as determined by the rules of  
24 the commission.

25 C. The coordinated database administrator shall

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1 promptly notify all compact states of any adverse action taken  
2 against, or significant investigative information on, any  
3 licensee in a compact state.

4 D. Compact states reporting information to the  
5 coordinated database may designate information that shall not  
6 be shared with the public without the express permission of the  
7 compact state reporting the information.

8 E. Any information submitted to the coordinated  
9 database that is subsequently required to be expunged by the  
10 law of the compact state reporting the information shall be  
11 removed from the coordinated database.

12 ARTICLE 10

13 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT  
14 COMMISSION

15 A. The compact states hereby create and establish a  
16 joint public agency known as the Psychology Interjurisdictional  
17 Compact commission as follows:

18 (1) the commission is a body politic and an  
19 instrumentality of the compact states;

20 (2) venue is proper, and judicial proceedings  
21 by or against the commission shall be brought solely and  
22 exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the  
23 principal office of the commission is located. The commission  
24 may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it  
25 adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute

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1 resolution proceedings; and

2 (3) nothing in this compact shall be construed  
3 to be a waiver of sovereign immunity.

4 B. Membership, voting and meetings are as follows:

5 (1) the commission shall consist of one voting  
6 representative appointed by each compact state who shall serve  
7 as that state's commissioner. The state psychology regulatory  
8 authority shall appoint its delegate. This delegate shall be  
9 empowered to act on behalf of the compact state. This delegate  
10 shall be limited to:

11 (a) the executive director, executive  
12 secretary or similar executive;

13 (b) a current member of the state  
14 psychology regulatory authority of a compact state; or

15 (c) a designee empowered with the  
16 appropriate delegate authority to act on behalf of the compact  
17 state;

18 (2) any commissioner may be removed or  
19 suspended from office as provided by the law of the state from  
20 which the commissioner is appointed. Any vacancy occurring in  
21 the commission shall be filled in accordance with the laws of  
22 the compact state in which the vacancy exists;

23 (3) each commissioner shall be entitled to one  
24 vote with regard to the promulgation of rules and creation of  
25 bylaws and shall otherwise have an opportunity to participate

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1 in the business and affairs of the commission. A commissioner  
2 shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the  
3 bylaws. The bylaws may provide for commissioners'  
4 participation in meetings by telephone or other means of  
5 communication;

6 (4) the commission shall meet at least once  
7 during each calendar year. Additional meetings shall be held  
8 as set forth in the bylaws;

9 (5) all meetings shall be open to the public,  
10 and public notice of meetings shall be given in the same manner  
11 as required under the rulemaking provisions in Article 11 of  
12 this compact;

13 (6) the commission may convene in a closed,  
14 nonpublic meeting if the commission must discuss:

15 (a) noncompliance of a compact state  
16 with its obligations under the compact;

17 (b) employment, compensation, discipline  
18 or other personnel matters, practices or procedures related to  
19 specific employees or other matters related to the commission's  
20 internal personnel practices and procedures;

21 (c) current, threatened or reasonably  
22 anticipated litigation against the commission;

23 (d) negotiation of contracts for the  
24 purchase or sale of goods, services or real estate;

25 (e) accusation against any person of a

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1 crime or formally censuring any person;

2 (f) disclosure of trade secrets or  
3 commercial or financial information that is privileged or  
4 confidential;

5 (g) disclosure of information of a  
6 personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly  
7 unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

8 (h) disclosure of investigatory records  
9 compiled for law enforcement purposes;

10 (i) disclosure of information related to  
11 any investigatory reports prepared by or on behalf of or for  
12 use of the commission or other committee charged with  
13 responsibility for investigation or determination of compliance  
14 issues pursuant to the compact; or

15 (j) matters specifically exempted from  
16 disclosure by federal and state statute; and

17 (7) if a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is  
18 closed pursuant to this subsection, the commission's legal  
19 counsel or designee shall certify that the meeting may be  
20 closed and shall reference each relevant exempting provision.  
21 The commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly  
22 describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a  
23 full and accurate summary of actions taken, of any person  
24 participating in the meeting and the reasons therefore,  
25 including a description of the views expressed. All documents

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1 considered in connection with an action shall be identified in  
2 such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting  
3 shall remain under seal, subject to release only by a majority  
4 vote of the commission or order of a court of competent  
5 jurisdiction.

6 C. The commission shall, by a majority vote of the  
7 commissioners, prescribe bylaws or rules to govern its conduct  
8 as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes  
9 and exercise the powers of this compact, including but not  
10 limited to:

11 (1) establishing the fiscal year of the  
12 commission;

13 (2) providing reasonable standards and  
14 procedures:

15 (a) for the establishment and meetings  
16 of other committees; and

17 (b) governing any general or specific  
18 delegation of any authority or function of the commission;

19 (3) providing reasonable procedures for  
20 calling and conducting meetings of the commission, ensuring  
21 reasonable advance notice of all meetings and providing an  
22 opportunity for attendance of such meetings by interested  
23 parties, with enumerated exceptions designed to protect the  
24 public's interest, the privacy of individuals of such  
25 proceedings and proprietary information, including trade

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1 secrets. The commission may meet in closed session only after  
2 a majority of the commissioners vote to close a meeting to the  
3 public in whole or in part. As soon as practicable, the  
4 commission must make public a copy of the vote to close the  
5 meeting revealing the vote of each commissioner with no proxy  
6 votes allowed;

7 (4) establishing the titles, duties and  
8 authority, and reasonable procedures for the election, of the  
9 officers of the commission;

10 (5) providing reasonable standards and  
11 procedures for the establishment of the personnel policies and  
12 programs of the commission. Notwithstanding any civil service  
13 or other similar law of any compact state, the bylaws shall  
14 exclusively govern the personnel policies and programs of the  
15 commission;

16 (6) promulgating a code of ethics to address  
17 permissible and prohibited activities of commission members and  
18 employees;

19 (7) providing a mechanism for concluding the  
20 operations of the commission and the equitable disposition of  
21 any surplus funds that may exist after the termination of the  
22 compact, after the payment, and/or reserving, of all of its  
23 debts and obligations;

24 (8) the commission shall publish its bylaws in  
25 a convenient form and file a copy thereof, and a copy of any

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1 amendment thereto, with the appropriate agency or officer in  
2 each of the compact states;

3 (9) the commission shall maintain its  
4 financial records in accordance with the bylaws; and

5 (10) the commission shall meet and take such  
6 actions as are consistent with the provisions of this compact  
7 and the bylaws.

8 D. The commission shall have the following powers:

9 (1) the authority to promulgate uniform rules  
10 to facilitate and coordinate implementation and administration  
11 of this compact. The rules shall have the force and effect of  
12 law and shall be binding in all compact states;

13 (2) to bring and prosecute legal proceedings  
14 or actions in the name of the commission; provided that the  
15 standing of any state psychology regulatory authority or other  
16 regulatory body responsible for psychology licensure to sue or  
17 be sued under applicable law shall not be affected;

18 (3) to purchase and maintain insurance and  
19 bonds;

20 (4) to borrow, accept or contract for services  
21 of personnel, including, but not limited to, employees of a  
22 compact state;

23 (5) to hire employees, elect or appoint  
24 officers, fix compensation, define duties, grant such  
25 individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of

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1 the compact and establish the commission's personnel policies  
2 and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications  
3 of personnel and other related personnel matters;

4 (6) to accept any and all appropriate  
5 donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials  
6 and services and to receive, utilize and dispose of the same;  
7 provided that at all times the commission shall strive to avoid  
8 any appearance of impropriety and/or conflict of interest;

9 (7) to lease, purchase, accept appropriate  
10 gifts or donations of, or otherwise to own, hold, improve or  
11 use, any property real, personal or mixed; provided that at all  
12 times the commission shall strive to avoid any appearance of  
13 impropriety;

14 (8) to sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease,  
15 exchange, abandon or otherwise dispose of any property real,  
16 personal or mixed;

17 (9) to establish a budget and make  
18 expenditures;

19 (10) to borrow money;

20 (11) to appoint committees, including advisory  
21 committees composed of members, state regulators, state  
22 legislators or their representatives and consumer  
23 representatives, and such other interested persons as may be  
24 designated in this compact and the bylaws;

25 (12) to provide and receive information from,

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1 and to cooperate with, law enforcement agencies;

2 (13) to adopt and use an official seal; and

3 (14) to perform such other functions as may be  
4 necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this  
5 compact consistent with the state regulation of psychology  
6 licensure, temporary in-person, face-to-face practice and  
7 telepsychology practice.

8 E. The executive board is created as follows: the  
9 elected officers shall serve as the executive board, which  
10 shall have the power to act on behalf of the commission  
11 according to the terms of this compact;

12 (1) the executive board shall be composed of  
13 six members:

14 (a) five voting members who are elected  
15 from the current membership of the commission by the  
16 commission; and

17 (b) one ex-officio, nonvoting member  
18 from the recognized membership organization composed of state  
19 and provincial psychology regulatory authorities;

20 (2) the ex-officio member must have served as  
21 staff or member on a state psychology regulatory authority and  
22 will be selected by its respective organization;

23 (3) the commission may remove any member of  
24 the executive board as provided in the bylaws;

25 (4) the executive board shall meet at least

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1 annually; and

2 (5) the executive board shall have the  
3 following duties and responsibilities:

4 (a) recommend to the entire commission  
5 changes to the rules or bylaws, changes to this compact,  
6 legislation, fees paid by compact states such as annual dues  
7 and any other applicable fees;

8 (b) ensure that compact administration  
9 services are appropriately provided, contractual or otherwise;

10 (c) prepare and recommend the budget;

11 (d) maintain financial records on behalf  
12 of the commission;

13 (e) monitor compact compliance of member  
14 states and provide compliance reports to the commission;

15 (f) establish additional committees as  
16 necessary; and

17 (g) other duties as provided in rules or  
18 bylaws.

19 F. Financing of the commission:

20 (1) the commission shall pay, or provide for  
21 the payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment,  
22 organization and ongoing activities;

23 (2) the commission may accept any and all  
24 appropriate revenue sources, donations and grants of money,  
25 equipment, supplies, materials and services;

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1 (3) the commission may levy on and collect an  
2 annual assessment from each compact state, or impose fees on  
3 other parties to cover the cost of the operations and  
4 activities of the commission and its staff, which must be in a  
5 total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved  
6 each year for which revenue is not provided by other sources.  
7 The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based  
8 upon a formula to be determined by the commission, which shall  
9 promulgate a rule binding upon all compact states;

10 (4) the commission shall not incur obligations  
11 of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the  
12 same; nor shall the commission pledge the credit of any of the  
13 compact states, except by and with the authority of the compact  
14 state; and

15 (5) the commission shall keep accurate  
16 accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and  
17 disbursements of the commission shall be subject to the audit  
18 and accounting procedures established under its bylaws.  
19 However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the  
20 commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed  
21 public accountant, and the report of the audit shall be  
22 included in and become part of the annual report of the  
23 commission.

24 G. Qualified immunity, defense and indemnification:

25 (1) the members, officers, executive director,

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1 employees and representatives of the commission shall be immune  
2 from suit and liability, either personally or in their official  
3 capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or  
4 personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising  
5 out of any actual or alleged act, error or commission that  
6 occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had  
7 a reasonable basis for believing occurred, within the scope of  
8 commission employment, duties or responsibilities; provided  
9 that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to protect  
10 any such person from suit and/or liability for any damage,  
11 loss, injury or liability caused by the intentional or willful  
12 or wanton misconduct of that person;

13 (2) the commission shall defend any member,  
14 officer, executive director, employee or representative of the  
15 commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability  
16 arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission  
17 that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties  
18 or responsibilities, or that the person against whom the claim  
19 is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within  
20 the scope of commission employment, duties or responsibilities;  
21 provided that nothing in the compact shall be construed to  
22 prohibit that person from retaining the person's own counsel;  
23 and provided further that the actual or alleged act, error or  
24 omission did not result from that person's intentional or  
25 willful or wanton misconduct; and

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

13                                   ARTICLE 11

14                                   RULEMAKING

15                   A. The commission shall exercise its rulemaking  
16 powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this article and  
17 the rules adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall  
18 become binding as of the date specified in each rule or  
19 amendment.

20                   B. If a majority of the legislatures of the compact  
21 states rejects a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution  
22 in the same manner used to adopt the compact, then such rule  
23 shall have no further force and effect in any compact state.

24                   C. Rules or amendments to the rules shall be  
25 adopted at a regular or special meeting of the commission.

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1           D. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final  
2 rule or rules by the commission, and at least sixty days in  
3 advance of the meeting at which the rule will be considered and  
4 voted upon, the commission shall file a notice of proposed  
5 rulemaking:

- 6                   (1) on the website of the commission; and
- 7                   (2) on the website of each compact state's  
8 psychology regulatory authority or the publication in which  
9 each state would otherwise publish proposed rules.

10           E. The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:

- 11                   (1) the proposed time, date and location of  
12 the meeting in which the rule will be considered and voted  
13 upon;
- 14                   (2) the text of the proposed rule or amendment  
15 and the reason for the proposed rule;
- 16                   (3) a request for comments on the proposed  
17 rule from any interested person; and
- 18                   (4) the manner in which interested persons may  
19 submit notice to the commission of their intention to attend  
20 the public hearing and any written comments.

21           F. Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the  
22 commission shall allow persons to submit written data, facts,  
23 opinions and arguments, which shall be made available to the  
24 public.

25           G. The commission shall grant an opportunity for a

1 public hearing before it adopts a rule or amendment if a  
2 hearing is requested by:

- 3 (1) at least twenty-five persons who submit  
4 comments independently of each other;  
5 (2) a governmental subdivision or agency; or  
6 (3) a duly appointed person in an association  
7 that has at least twenty-five members.

8 H. If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or  
9 amendment, the commission shall publish the place, time and  
10 date of the scheduled public hearing; provided that:

11 (1) all persons wishing to be heard at the  
12 hearing shall notify the executive director of the commission  
13 or other designated member in writing of their desire to appear  
14 and testify at the hearing not less than five business days  
15 before the scheduled date of the hearing;

16 (2) hearings shall be conducted in a manner  
17 providing each person who wishes to comment a fair and  
18 reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in writing;

19 (3) no transcript of the hearing is required,  
20 unless a written request for a transcript is made, in which  
21 case the person requesting the transcript shall bear the cost  
22 of producing the transcript. A recording may be made in lieu  
23 of a transcript under the same terms and conditions as a  
24 transcript. This paragraph shall not preclude the commission  
25 from making a transcript or recording of the hearing if it so

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1 chooses; and

2 (4) nothing in this article shall be construed  
3 as requiring a separate hearing on each rule. Rules may be  
4 grouped for the convenience of the commission at hearings  
5 required by this article.

6 I. Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the  
7 close of business on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing  
8 was not held, the commission shall consider all written and  
9 oral comments received.

10 J. The commission shall, by majority vote of all  
11 members, take final action on the proposed rule and shall  
12 determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the  
13 rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

14 K. If no written notice of intent to attend the  
15 public hearing by interested parties is received, the  
16 commission may proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule  
17 without a public hearing.

18 L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the  
19 commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule without  
20 prior notice, opportunity for comment or hearing; provided that  
21 the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the compact and in  
22 this article shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon  
23 as reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety days  
24 after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this  
25 provision, an emergency rule is one that must be adopted

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1 immediately in order to:

2 (1) meet an imminent threat to public health,  
3 safety or welfare;

4 (2) prevent a loss of commission or compact  
5 state funds;

6 (3) meet a deadline for the promulgation of an  
7 administrative rule that is established by federal law or rule;  
8 or

9 (4) protect public health and safety.

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

24 ARTICLE 12

25 OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND ENFORCEMENT

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1                   A. Oversight:

2                   (1) the executive, legislative and judicial  
3 branches of state government in each compact state shall  
4 enforce this compact and take all actions necessary and  
5 appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and intent.

6 The provisions of this compact and the rules promulgated  
7 hereunder shall have standing as statutory law;

8                   (2) all courts shall take judicial notice of  
9 the compact and the rules in any judicial or administrative  
10 proceeding in a compact state pertaining to the subject matter  
11 of this compact that may affect the powers, responsibilities or  
12 actions of the commission; and

13                   (3) the commission shall be entitled to  
14 receive service of process in any such proceeding and shall  
15 have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all  
16 purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the  
17 commission shall render a judgment or order void as to the  
18 commission, this compact or promulgated rules.

19                   B. Default, technical assistance and termination:

20                   (1) if the commission determines that a  
21 compact state has defaulted in the performance of its  
22 obligations or responsibilities under this compact or the  
23 promulgated rules, the commission shall:

24                   (a) provide written notice to the  
25 defaulting state and other compact states of the nature of the

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1 default, the proposed means of remedying the default or any  
2 other action to be taken by the commission; and

3 (b) provide remedial training and  
4 specific technical assistance regarding the default;

5 (2) if a state in default fails to remedy the  
6 default, the defaulting state may be terminated from the  
7 compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the compact  
8 states, and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred by  
9 this compact shall be terminated on the effective date of  
10 termination. A remedy of the default does not relieve the  
11 offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during  
12 the period of default;

13 (3) termination of membership in the compact  
14 shall be imposed only after all other means of securing  
15 compliance have been exhausted, and notice of intent to suspend  
16 or terminate shall be submitted by the commission to the  
17 governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting  
18 state's legislature and each of the compact states;

19 (4) a compact state that has been terminated  
20 is responsible for all assessments, obligations and liabilities  
21 incurred through the effective date of termination, including  
22 obligations that extend beyond the effective date of  
23 termination;

24 (5) the commission shall not bear any costs  
25 incurred by the state that is found to be in default or that

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1 has been terminated from the compact, unless agreed upon in  
2 writing between the commission and the defaulting state; and

3 (6) the defaulting state may appeal the action  
4 of the commission by petitioning the United States district  
5 court for the state of Georgia or the federal district where  
6 the commission has its principal offices. The prevailing  
7 member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including  
8 reasonable attorney fees.

9 C. Dispute resolution:

10 (1) upon request by a compact state, the  
11 commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the  
12 compact that arise among compact states and between compact and  
13 non-compact states; and

14 (2) the commission shall promulgate a rule  
15 providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for  
16 disputes that arise before the commission.

17 D. Enforcement:

18 (1) the commission, in the reasonable exercise  
19 of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of  
20 this compact;

21 (2) by majority vote, the commission may  
22 initiate legal action in the United States district court for  
23 the state of Georgia or the federal district where the  
24 commission has its principal offices against a compact state in  
25 default to enforce compliance with the provisions of the

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1 compact and its promulgated rules and bylaws. The relief  
2 sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the  
3 event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing member  
4 shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including  
5 reasonable attorney fees; and

6 (3) the remedies in the compact shall not be  
7 the exclusive remedies of the commission. The commission may  
8 pursue any other remedies available under federal or state law.

9 ARTICLE 13

10 DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL  
11 COMPACT COMMISSION AND ASSOCIATED RULES, WITHDRAWAL AND  
12 AMENDMENTS

13 A. The compact shall come into effect on the date  
14 on which the compact is enacted into law in the seventh compact  
15 state. The provisions that become effective at that time shall  
16 be limited to the powers granted to the commission relating to  
17 assembly and the promulgation of rules. Thereafter, the  
18 commission shall meet and exercise rulemaking powers necessary  
19 to the implementation and administration of the compact.

20 B. Any state that joins the compact subsequent to  
21 the commission's initial adoption of the rules shall be subject  
22 to the rules as they exist on the date on which the compact  
23 becomes law in that state. Any rule that has been previously  
24 adopted by the commission shall have the full force and effect  
25 of law on the day the compact becomes law in that state.

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1 C. Any compact state may withdraw from this compact  
2 by enacting a statute repealing the same; provided that:

3 (1) a compact state's withdrawal shall not  
4 take effect until six months after enactment of the repealing  
5 statute; and

6 (2) withdrawal shall not affect the continuing  
7 requirement of the withdrawing state's psychology regulatory  
8 authority to comply with the investigative and adverse action  
9 reporting requirements of this compact prior to the effective  
10 date of withdrawal.

11 D. Nothing contained in this compact shall be  
12 construed to invalidate or prevent any psychology licensure  
13 agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a compact  
14 state and a non-compact state that does not conflict with the  
15 provisions of this compact.

16 E. This compact may be amended by the compact  
17 states. No amendment to this compact shall become effective  
18 and binding upon any compact state until it is enacted into the  
19 law of all compact states.

20 ARTICLE 14

21 CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

22 This compact shall be liberally construed so as to  
23 effectuate the purposes of the compact. If this compact shall  
24 be held contrary to the constitution of any state member  
25 thereto, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as

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to the remaining compact states."

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