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SENATE BILL

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

INTRODUCED BY

Bill B. O'Neill

AN ACT

RELATING TO LICENSURE; ENACTING THE INTERSTATE MEDICAL  
LICENSURE COMPACT; PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEXICO  
COMPACT COMMISSIONERS; REQUIRING THE FILING OF INTERSTATE  
COMMISSION BYLAWS AND RULES WITH THE STATE RECORDS  
ADMINISTRATOR.

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

SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be  
cited as the "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact".

SECTION 2. [NEW MATERIAL] INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE  
COMPACT ENTERED INTO.--The "Interstate Medical Licensure  
Compact" is enacted into law and entered into on behalf of New  
Mexico with any and all other states legally joining therein in  
a form substantially as follows:

"INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT

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ARTICLE 1 - Purpose

In order to strengthen access to health care, and in recognition of the advances in the delivery of health care, the member states of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact have allied in common purpose to develop a comprehensive process that complements the existing licensing and regulatory authority of state medical boards, provides a streamlined process that allows physicians to become licensed in multiple states, enhances the portability of a medical license and ensures the safety of patients. The compact creates another pathway for licensure and does not otherwise change a state's existing medical practice act. The compact also adopts the prevailing standard for licensure and affirms that the practice of medicine occurs where the patient is located at the time of the physician-patient encounter and, therefore, requires the physician to be under the jurisdiction of the state medical board where the patient is located. State medical boards that participate in the compact retain the jurisdiction to impose an adverse action against a license to practice medicine in that state issued to a physician through the procedures in the compact.

ARTICLE 2 - Definitions

In the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact:

A. "bylaws" means those bylaws established by the interstate commission;

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1           B. "commissioner" means the voting representative  
2 appointed by each member board;

3           C. "conviction" means a finding by a court that a  
4 person is guilty of a criminal offense through adjudication or  
5 entry of a plea of guilt or no contest to the charge by the  
6 offender. Evidence of an entry of a conviction of a criminal  
7 offense by the court shall be considered final for purposes of  
8 disciplinary action by a member board;

9           D. "expedited license" means a full and  
10 unrestricted medical license granted by a member state to an  
11 eligible physician through the process set forth in the  
12 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact;

13           E. "interstate commission" means the interstate  
14 medical licensure compact commission;

15           F. "license" means authorization by a member state  
16 for a physician to engage in the practice of medicine, which  
17 would be unlawful without authorization;

18           G. "medical practice act" means laws and rules  
19 governing the practice of allopathic and osteopathic medicine  
20 within a member state;

21           H. "member board" means a state agency in a member  
22 state that acts in the sovereign interests of the state by  
23 protecting the public through licensure, regulation and  
24 education of physicians as directed by the state government;

25           I. "member state" means a state that has enacted

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1 the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact;

2 J. "offense" means a felony or gross misdemeanor;

3 K. "physician" means a person who:

4 (1) is a graduate of a medical school  
5 accredited by the liaison committee on medical education, the  
6 commission on osteopathic college accreditation or a medical  
7 school listed in the *World Directory of Medical Schools* or its  
8 equivalent;

9 (2) passed each component of the United States  
10 medical licensing examination or the comprehensive osteopathic  
11 medical licensing examination of the United States within three  
12 attempts, or any of its predecessor examinations accepted by a  
13 state medical board as an equivalent examination for licensure  
14 purposes;

15 (3) successfully completed graduate medical  
16 education approved by the accreditation council for graduate  
17 medical education or the American osteopathic association;

18 (4) holds specialty certification or a time-  
19 unlimited specialty certificate recognized by the American  
20 board of medical specialties or the American osteopathic  
21 association bureau of osteopathic specialists;

22 (5) possesses a full and unrestricted license  
23 to engage in the practice of medicine issued by a member board;

24 (6) has never been convicted or received  
25 adjudication, deferred adjudication, community supervision or

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1 deferred disposition for any offense by a court of appropriate  
2 jurisdiction;

3 (7) has never held a license authorizing the  
4 practice of medicine subjected to discipline by a licensing  
5 agency in any state, federal or foreign jurisdiction, excluding  
6 any action related to nonpayment of fees related to a license;

7 (8) has never had a controlled substance  
8 license or permit suspended or revoked by a state or the United  
9 States drug enforcement administration; and

10 (9) is not under active investigation by a  
11 licensing agency or law enforcement authority in any state,  
12 federal or foreign jurisdiction;

13 L. "practice of medicine" means that clinical  
14 prevention, diagnosis or treatment of human disease, injury or  
15 condition requiring a physician to obtain and maintain a  
16 license in compliance with the medical practice act of a member  
17 state;

18 M. "rule" means a written statement by the  
19 interstate commission promulgated pursuant to Article 12 of the  
20 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact that is of general  
21 applicability, implements, interprets or prescribes a policy or  
22 provision of the compact, or is an organizational, procedural  
23 or practice requirement of the interstate commission, and has  
24 the force and effect of statutory law in a member state and  
25 includes the amendment, repeal or suspension of an existing

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1 rule;

2 N. "state" means any state, commonwealth, district  
3 or territory of the United States; and

4 O. "state of principal license" means a member  
5 state in which a physician holds a license to practice medicine  
6 and that has been designated as such by the physician for  
7 purposes of registration and participation in the Interstate  
8 Medical Licensure Compact.

9 ARTICLE 3 - Eligibility

10 A. A physician must meet the eligibility  
11 requirements as defined in Subsection K of Article 2 of the  
12 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact to receive an expedited  
13 license under the terms and provisions of that compact.

14 B. A physician who does not meet the requirements  
15 of Subsection K of Article 2 of the Interstate Medical  
16 Licensure Compact may obtain a license to practice medicine in  
17 a member state if the person complies with all laws and  
18 requirements other than that compact relating to the issuance  
19 of a license to practice medicine in that state.

20 ARTICLE 4 - Designation of State of Principal License

21 A. A physician shall designate a member state as  
22 the state of principal license for purposes of registration for  
23 expedited licensure through the Interstate Medical Licensure  
24 Compact if the physician possesses a full and unrestricted  
25 license to practice medicine in that state, and the state is:

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1 (1) the state of principal residence for the  
2 physician;

3 (2) the state in which at least twenty-five  
4 percent of the physician's practice of medicine occurs;

5 (3) the location of the physician's employer;  
6 or

7 (4) the state designated as state of residence  
8 for the purpose of federal income tax if a state does not  
9 qualify under Paragraph (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection.

10 B. A physician may redesignate a member state as a  
11 state of principal license at any time; provided that the state  
12 meets the requirements of Subsection A of this article.

13 C. The interstate commission is authorized to  
14 develop rules to facilitate redesignation of another member  
15 state as the state of principal license.

16 ARTICLE 5 - Application and Issuance of Expedited Licensure

17 A. A physician seeking licensure through the  
18 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact shall file an application  
19 for an expedited license with the member board of the state  
20 selected by the physician as the state of principal license.

21 B. Upon receipt of an application for an expedited  
22 license, the member board within the state of principal license  
23 shall evaluate whether the physician is eligible for expedited  
24 licensure and issue a letter of qualification, verifying or  
25 denying the physician's eligibility, to the interstate

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1 commission.

2 (1) Static qualifications, which include  
3 verification of medical education, graduate medical education,  
4 results of any medical or licensing examination and other  
5 qualifications as determined by the interstate commission  
6 through rule, shall not be subject to additional primary-source  
7 verification if primary-source verification has been conducted  
8 by the state of principal license.

9 (2) The member board of the state of principal  
10 license shall, in the course of verifying eligibility, perform  
11 a criminal background check of an applicant, including the use  
12 of the results of fingerprint or other biometric data checks  
13 compliant with the requirements of the federal bureau of  
14 investigation, with the exception of federal employees who have  
15 suitability determination in accordance with 5 Code of Federal  
16 Register Section 731.202.

17 (3) Appeal on the determination of eligibility  
18 shall be made to the member state where the application was  
19 filed and shall be subject to the law of that state.

20 C. Upon verification pursuant to Subsection B of  
21 this article, physicians eligible for an expedited license  
22 shall complete the registration process established by the  
23 interstate commission to receive a license in a member state  
24 selected pursuant to Subsection A of this article, including  
25 the payment of applicable fees.

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1           D. After receiving verification of eligibility  
2 pursuant to Subsection B of this article and payment of fees  
3 pursuant to Subsection C of this article, a member board shall  
4 issue an expedited license to the physician. This license  
5 shall authorize the physician to practice medicine in the  
6 issuing state consistent with the medical practice act and all  
7 applicable laws and rules of the issuing member board and  
8 member state.

9           E. An expedited license shall be valid for a period  
10 consistent with the licensure period in the member state and in  
11 the same manner as required for other physicians holding a full  
12 and unrestricted license within the member state.

13           F. An expedited license obtained through the  
14 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact shall be terminated if a  
15 physician fails to maintain the license in the state of  
16 principal licensure for a non-disciplinary reason, without  
17 redesignation of a new state of principal licensure.

18           G. The interstate commission is authorized to  
19 develop rules regarding the application process, including  
20 payment of any applicable fees, and the issuance of an  
21 expedited license.

22           ARTICLE 6 - Fees for Expedited Licensure

23           A. A member state issuing an expedited license  
24 authorizing the practice of medicine in that state may impose a  
25 fee for a license issued or renewed through the Interstate

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1 Medical Licensure Compact.

2 B. The interstate commission is authorized to  
3 develop rules regarding fees for expedited licenses.

4 ARTICLE 7 - Renewal and Continued Participation

5 A. A physician seeking to renew an expedited  
6 license granted in a member state shall complete a renewal  
7 process with the interstate commission if the physician:

8 (1) maintains a full and unrestricted license  
9 in the state of principal license;

10 (2) has not been convicted, received  
11 adjudication, deferred adjudication, community supervision or  
12 deferred disposition for an offense by a court of appropriate  
13 jurisdiction;

14 (3) has not had a license authorizing the  
15 practice of medicine subject to discipline by a licensing  
16 agency in any state, federal or foreign jurisdiction, excluding  
17 any action related to nonpayment of fees related to a license;  
18 and

19 (4) has not had a controlled substance license  
20 or permit suspended or revoked by a state or the United States  
21 drug enforcement administration.

22 B. Physicians shall comply with all continuing  
23 professional development or continuing medical education  
24 requirements for renewal of a license issued by a member state.

25 C. The interstate commission shall collect the

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1 renewal fees charged for the renewal of a license and  
2 distribute the fees to the applicable member board.

3 D. Upon receipt of the renewal fees collected in  
4 Subsection C of this article, a member board shall renew the  
5 physician's license.

6 E. Physician information collected by the  
7 interstate commission during the renewal process will be  
8 distributed to all member boards.

9 F. The interstate commission is authorized to  
10 develop rules to address renewal of licenses obtained through  
11 the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

12 ARTICLE 8 - Coordinated Information System

13 A. The interstate commission shall establish a  
14 database of all physicians licensed, or who have applied for  
15 licensure, pursuant to Article 5 of the Interstate Medical  
16 Licensure Compact.

17 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
18 member boards shall report to the interstate commission any  
19 public action or complaint against a licensed physician who has  
20 applied or received an expedited license through the Interstate  
21 Medical Licensure Compact.

22 C. Member boards shall report disciplinary or  
23 investigatory information determined as necessary and proper by  
24 rule of the interstate commission.

25 D. Member boards may report any nonpublic

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1 complaint, disciplinary or investigatory information not  
2 required by Subsection C of this article to the interstate  
3 commission.

4 E. Member boards shall share complaint or  
5 disciplinary information about a physician upon request of  
6 another member board.

7 F. All information provided to the interstate  
8 commission or distributed by member boards shall be  
9 confidential, filed under seal and used only for investigatory  
10 or disciplinary matters.

11 G. The interstate commission is authorized to  
12 develop rules for mandated or discretionary sharing of  
13 information by member boards.

14 ARTICLE 9 - Joint Investigations

15 A. Licensure and disciplinary records of physicians  
16 are deemed investigative.

17 B. In addition to the authority granted to a member  
18 board by its respective medical practice act or other  
19 applicable state law, a member board may participate with other  
20 member boards in joint investigations of physicians licensed by  
21 the member boards.

22 C. A subpoena issued by a member state shall be  
23 enforceable in other member states.

24 D. Member boards may share investigative,  
25 litigation or compliance materials in furtherance of any joint

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1 or individual investigation initiated under the Interstate  
2 Medical Licensure Compact.

3 E. A member state may investigate actual or alleged  
4 violations of the statutes authorizing the practice of medicine  
5 in any other member state in which a physician holds a license  
6 to practice medicine.

7 ARTICLE 10 - Disciplinary Actions

8 A. A disciplinary action taken by a member board  
9 against a physician licensed through the Interstate Medical  
10 Licensure Compact shall be deemed unprofessional conduct that  
11 may be subject to discipline by other member boards, in  
12 addition to a violation of the medical practice act or rules in  
13 that state.

14 B. If a license granted to a physician by the  
15 member board in the state of principal license is revoked,  
16 surrendered or relinquished in lieu of discipline or suspended,  
17 then all licenses issued to the physician by member boards  
18 shall automatically be placed, without further action necessary  
19 by any member board, on the same status. If the member board  
20 in the state of principal license subsequently reinstates the  
21 physician's license, a license issued to the physician by any  
22 other member board shall remain encumbered until that  
23 respective member board takes action to reinstate the license  
24 in a manner consistent with the medical practice act of that  
25 state.

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1 C. If disciplinary action is taken against a  
2 physician by a member board not in the state of principal  
3 license, any other member board may deem the action conclusive  
4 as to matter of law and fact decided and:

5 (1) impose the same or lesser sanctions  
6 against the physician so long as such sanctions are consistent  
7 with the medical practice act of that state; or

8 (2) pursue separate disciplinary action  
9 against the physician under that state's respective medical  
10 practice act, regardless of the action taken in other member  
11 states.

12 D. If a license granted to a physician by a member  
13 board is revoked, surrendered or relinquished in lieu of  
14 discipline or suspended, then any licenses issued to the  
15 physician by other member boards shall be suspended,  
16 automatically and immediately without further action necessary  
17 by the other member boards, for ninety days upon entry of the  
18 order by the disciplining board, to permit the member boards to  
19 investigate the basis for the action under the medical practice  
20 act of that state. A member board may terminate the automatic  
21 suspension of the license the member board issued prior to the  
22 completion of the ninety-day suspension period in a manner  
23 consistent with the medical practice act of that state.

24 ARTICLE 11 - Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission

25 A. The "interstate medical licensure compact

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1 commission" is created by the member states in accordance with  
2 the provisions of this article.

3 B. The purpose of the interstate commission is the  
4 administration of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact,  
5 which is a discretionary state function.

6 C. The interstate commission shall be a body  
7 corporate and joint agency of the member states and shall have  
8 all the responsibilities, powers and duties set forth in the  
9 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and such additional powers  
10 as may be conferred upon it by a subsequent concurrent action  
11 of the respective legislatures of the member states in  
12 accordance with the terms of the compact.

13 D. The interstate commission shall consist of two  
14 voting representatives appointed by each member state who shall  
15 serve as commissioners. In states where allopathic and  
16 osteopathic physicians are regulated by separate member boards  
17 or if the licensing and disciplinary authority is split between  
18 separate member boards or if the licensing and disciplinary  
19 authority is split between multiple member boards within a  
20 member state, the member state shall appoint one representative  
21 from each member board. A commissioner shall be:

22 (1) an allopathic or osteopathic physician  
23 appointed to a member board;

24 (2) an executive director, executive secretary  
25 or similar executive of a member board; or

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1 (3) a member of the public appointed to a  
2 member board.

3 E. The interstate commission shall meet at least  
4 once each calendar year. A portion of this meeting shall be a  
5 business meeting to address such matters as may properly come  
6 before the commission, including the election of officers. The  
7 chair may call additional meetings and shall call for a meeting  
8 upon the request of a majority of the member states.

9 F. The bylaws may provide for meetings of the  
10 interstate commission to be conducted by telecommunication or  
11 electronic communication.

12 G. Each commissioner participating at a meeting of  
13 the interstate commission is entitled to one vote. A majority  
14 of commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the transaction  
15 of business unless a larger quorum is required by the bylaws of  
16 the interstate commission. A commissioner shall not delegate a  
17 vote to another commissioner. In the absence of a member  
18 state's commissioner, the member state may delegate voting  
19 authority for a specified meeting to another person from that  
20 state who shall meet the requirements of Subsection D of this  
21 article.

22 H. The interstate commission shall provide public  
23 notice of all meetings, and all meetings shall be open to the  
24 public. The interstate commission may close a meeting, in full  
25 or in portion, where the interstate commission determines by a

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1 two-thirds' vote of the commissioners present that an open  
2 meeting would be likely to:

3 (1) relate solely to the internal personnel  
4 practice and procedures of the interstate commission;

5 (2) discuss matters specifically exempted from  
6 disclosure by federal statute;

7 (3) discuss trade secrets or commercial or  
8 financial information that is privileged or confidential;

9 (4) involve accusing a person of a crime or  
10 formally censuring a person;

11 (5) discuss information of a personal nature,  
12 in which disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted  
13 invasion of personal privacy;

14 (6) discuss investigative records compiled for  
15 law enforcement purposes; or

16 (7) specifically relate to the participation  
17 in a civil action or other legal proceeding.

18 I. The interstate commission shall keep minutes  
19 that shall fully describe all matters discussed in a meeting  
20 and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken,  
21 including record of any roll call votes.

22 J. The interstate commission shall make its  
23 information and official records, to the extent not otherwise  
24 designated in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact or by  
25 its rules, available to the public for inspection.

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1           K. The interstate commission shall establish an  
2 executive committee that shall include officers, members and  
3 others as determined by the bylaws. The executive committee  
4 shall have the power to act on behalf of the interstate  
5 commission, with the exception of rulemaking, during periods  
6 when the interstate commission is not in session. When acting  
7 on behalf of the interstate commission, the executive committee  
8 shall oversee the administration of the Interstate Medical  
9 Licensure Compact, including enforcement and compliance with  
10 the provisions of the compact, its bylaws and rules and other  
11 such duties as necessary.

12           L. The interstate commission shall establish other  
13 committees for governance and administration of the Interstate  
14 Medical Licensure Compact.

15           ARTICLE 12 - Powers and Duties of the Interstate Commission

16           The interstate commission shall have the duty and power  
17 to:

18           A. oversee and maintain the administration of the  
19 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact;

20           B. promulgate rules that shall be binding to the  
21 extent and in the manner provided for in the Interstate Medical  
22 Licensure Compact;

23           C. issue, upon the request of a member state or  
24 member board, advisory opinions concerning the meaning or  
25 interpretation of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, its

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1 bylaws, rules and actions;

2 D. enforce compliance with Interstate Medical  
3 Licensure Compact provisions, the rules promulgated by the  
4 interstate commission and the bylaws, using all necessary and  
5 proper means, including the use of judicial process;

6 E. establish and appoint committees, including an  
7 executive committee as required by Article 11 of the Interstate  
8 Medical Licensure Compact, which shall have the power to act on  
9 behalf of the interstate commission in carrying out the  
10 interstate commission's powers and duties;

11 F. pay, or provide for the payment of, the expenses  
12 related to the establishment, organization and ongoing  
13 activities of the interstate commission;

14 G. establish and maintain one or more offices;

15 H. borrow, accept, hire or contract for services of  
16 personnel;

17 I. purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

18 J. employ an executive director who shall have such  
19 powers to employ, select or appoint employees, agents or  
20 consultants and to determine their qualifications, define their  
21 duties and fix their compensation;

22 K. establish personnel policies and programs  
23 relating to conflicts of interest, rates of compensation and  
24 qualifications of personnel;

25 L. accept donations and grants of money, equipment,

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1 supplies, materials and services and to receive, utilize and  
2 dispose of donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies,  
3 materials and services in a manner consistent with the conflict  
4 of interest policies established by the interstate commission;

5 M. lease, purchase, accept contributions or  
6 donations of or otherwise to own, hold, improve or use any  
7 property, real, personal or mixed;

8 N. sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange,  
9 abandon or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal or  
10 mixed;

11 O. establish a budget and make expenditures;

12 P. adopt a seal and bylaws governing the management  
13 and operation of the interstate commission;

14 Q. report annually to the legislatures and  
15 governors of the member states concerning the activities of the  
16 interstate commission during the preceding year. Such reports  
17 shall also include reports of financial audits and any  
18 recommendations that may have been adopted by the interstate  
19 commission;

20 R. coordinate education, training and public  
21 awareness regarding the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact,  
22 its implementation and its operation;

23 S. maintain records in accordance with the bylaws;

24 T. seek and obtain trademarks, copyrights and  
25 patents; and

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1 U. perform such functions as may be necessary or  
2 appropriate to achieve the purpose of the Interstate Medical  
3 Licensure Compact.

4 ARTICLE 13 - Finance Powers

5 A. The interstate commission may levy on and  
6 collect an annual assessment from each member state to cover  
7 the cost of the operations and activities of the interstate  
8 commission and its staff. The total assessment must be  
9 sufficient to cover the annual budget approved each year for  
10 which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate  
11 annual assessment amount shall be allocated upon a formula to  
12 be determined by the interstate commission, which shall  
13 promulgate a rule binding upon all member states.

14 B. The interstate commission shall not incur  
15 obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to  
16 meet the same.

17 C. The interstate commission shall not pledge the  
18 credit of any of the member states, except by, and with the  
19 authority of, the member state.

20 D. The interstate commission shall be subject to a  
21 yearly financial audit conducted by a certified or licensed  
22 accountant, and the report of the audit shall be included in  
23 the annual report of the interstate commission.

24 ARTICLE 14 - Organization and Operation of the Interstate  
25 Commission

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1           A. The interstate commission shall, by a majority  
2 of commissioners present and voting, adopt bylaws to govern the  
3 interstate commission's conduct as may be necessary or  
4 appropriate to carry out the purposes of the Interstate Medical  
5 Licensure Compact within twelve months of the first interstate  
6 commission meeting.

7           B. The interstate commission shall elect or appoint  
8 annually from among its commissioners a chair, a vice chair and  
9 a treasurer, each of whom shall have such authority and duties  
10 as may be specified in the bylaws. The chair or, in the  
11 chair's absence or disability, the vice chair, shall preside at  
12 all meetings of the interstate commission.

13           C. Officers selected pursuant to Subsection B of  
14 this article shall serve without remuneration from the  
15 interstate commission.

16           D. The officers and employees of the interstate  
17 commission shall be immune from suit and liability, either  
18 personally or in their official capacity, for a claim for  
19 damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil  
20 liability caused or arising out of, or relating to, an actual  
21 or alleged act, error or omission that occurred, or that such  
22 person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred, within  
23 the scope of interstate commission employment, duties or  
24 responsibilities; provided that such person shall not be  
25 protected from suit or liability for damage, loss, injury or

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1 liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton  
2 misconduct of such person.

3 E. The liability of the executive director and  
4 employees of the interstate commission or representatives of  
5 the interstate commission, acting within the scope of such  
6 person's employment or duties for acts, errors or omissions  
7 occurring within such person's state, may not exceed the limits  
8 of liability set forth under the constitution and laws of that  
9 state for state officials, employees and agents. The  
10 interstate commission is considered to be an instrumentality of  
11 the states for the purpose of any such action. Nothing in this  
12 subsection shall be construed to protect such person from suit  
13 or liability for damage, loss, injury or liability caused by  
14 the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of such  
15 person.

16 F. The interstate commission shall defend the  
17 executive director and its employees, and, subject to the  
18 approval of the attorney general or other appropriate legal  
19 counsel of the member state represented by an interstate  
20 commission representative, shall defend such interstate  
21 commission representative in any civil action seeking to impose  
22 liability arising out of an actual or alleged act, error or  
23 omission that occurred within the scope of interstate  
24 commission employment, duties or responsibilities, or that the  
25 defendant had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within

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1 the scope of interstate commission employment, duties or  
2 responsibilities; provided that the actual or alleged act,  
3 error or omission did not result from intentional or willful  
4 and wanton misconduct on the part of such person.

5 G. To the extent not covered by the state involved,  
6 member state or the interstate commission, the representatives  
7 or employees of the interstate commission shall be held  
8 harmless in the amount of a settlement or judgment, including  
9 attorney fees and costs, obtained against such persons arising  
10 out of an actual or alleged act, error or omission that  
11 occurred within the scope of the interstate commission  
12 employment, duties or responsibilities, or that such persons  
13 had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope  
14 of interstate commission employment, duties or  
15 responsibilities; provided that the actual or alleged act,  
16 error or omission did not result from intentional or willful  
17 and wanton misconduct on the part of such person.

18 ARTICLE 15 - Rulemaking Functions of the Interstate Commission

19 A. The interstate commission shall promulgate  
20 reasonable rules to effectively and efficiently achieve the  
21 purpose of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact; provided  
22 that in the event the interstate commission exercises  
23 rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope of  
24 the purposes of that compact or the powers granted by that  
25 compact, then such an action by the interstate commission shall

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1 be invalid and have no force or effect.

2 B. Rules deemed appropriate for the operations of  
3 the interstate commission shall be made pursuant to a  
4 rulemaking process that substantially conforms to the model  
5 state administrative procedure act of 2010 and subsequent  
6 amendments to that act.

7 C. No later than thirty days after a rule is  
8 promulgated, a person may file a petition for judicial review  
9 of the rule in the United States district court for the  
10 District of Columbia or the federal district where the  
11 interstate commission has its principal offices; provided that  
12 the filing of such a petition shall not stay or otherwise  
13 prevent the rule from becoming effective unless the court finds  
14 that the petitioner has a substantial likelihood of success.  
15 The court shall give deference to the actions of the interstate  
16 commission consistent with applicable law and shall not find  
17 the rule to be unlawful if the rule represents a reasonable  
18 exercise of the authority granted to the interstate commission.

19 ARTICLE 16 - Oversight of Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

20 A. The executive, legislative and judicial branches  
21 of state government in each member state shall enforce the  
22 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and shall take all actions  
23 necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes  
24 and intent. The provisions of that compact and the rules  
25 promulgated pursuant to that compact shall have standing as

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1 statutory law but shall not override existing state authority  
2 to regulate the practice of medicine.

3 B. All courts shall take judicial notice of the  
4 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and rules promulgated  
5 pursuant to that compact in any judicial or administrative  
6 proceeding in a member state pertaining to the subject matter  
7 of that compact that may affect the powers, responsibilities or  
8 actions of the interstate commission.

9 C. The interstate commission shall be entitled to  
10 receive all services of process in such proceeding and shall  
11 have standing to intervene in the proceeding for all purposes.  
12 Failure to provide service of process to the interstate  
13 commission shall render a judgment or order void as to the  
14 interstate commission, the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact  
15 or promulgated rules.

16 ARTICLE 17 - Enforcement of Interstate Medical Licensure  
17 Compact

18 A. The interstate commission, in the reasonable  
19 exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and  
20 rules of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

21 B. The interstate commission may, by majority vote  
22 of the commissioners, initiate legal action in the United  
23 States district court for the District of Columbia, or, at the  
24 discretion of the interstate commission, in the federal  
25 district where the interstate commission has its principal

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1 offices, to enforce compliance with the provisions of the  
2 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, and its promulgated rules  
3 and bylaws, against a member state in default. The relief  
4 sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the  
5 event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party  
6 shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including  
7 reasonable attorney fees.

8 C. The remedies provided in this article shall not  
9 be the exclusive remedies of the interstate commission. The  
10 interstate commission may avail itself of any other remedies  
11 available under state law or regulation of a profession.

#### 12 ARTICLE 18 - Default Procedures

13 A. The grounds for default include failure of a  
14 member state to perform such obligations or responsibilities  
15 imposed upon the member state by the Interstate Medical  
16 Licensure Compact or the rules and bylaws of the interstate  
17 commission promulgated pursuant to that compact.

18 B. If the interstate commission determines that a  
19 member state has defaulted in the performance of the member  
20 state's obligations or responsibilities under the Interstate  
21 Medical Licensure Compact, or the bylaws or promulgated rules,  
22 the interstate commission shall:

23 (1) provide written notice to the defaulting  
24 state and other member states of the nature of the default, the  
25 means of curing the default and any action taken by the

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1 interstate commission. The interstate commission shall specify  
2 the conditions by which the defaulting state must cure its  
3 default; and

4 (2) provide remedial training and specific  
5 technical assistance regarding the default.

6 C. If the defaulting state fails to cure the  
7 default, the defaulting state shall be terminated from the  
8 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact upon an affirmative vote  
9 of a majority of the commissioners, and all rights, privileges  
10 and benefits conferred by the compact shall terminate on the  
11 effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not  
12 relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities  
13 incurred during the period of the default.

14 D. Termination of membership in the Interstate  
15 Medical Licensure Compact shall be imposed only after all other  
16 means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of  
17 intent to terminate shall be given by the interstate commission  
18 to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the  
19 defaulting state's legislature and each of the member states.

20 E. The interstate commission shall establish rules  
21 and procedures to address licenses and physicians that are  
22 materially impacted by the termination of a member state or the  
23 withdrawal of a member state.

24 F. The member state that has been terminated is  
25 responsible for all dues, obligations and liabilities incurred

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1 through the effective date of termination, including  
2 obligations, the performance of which extend beyond the  
3 effective date of termination.

4 G. The interstate commission shall not bear any  
5 costs relating to any state that has been found to be in  
6 default or that has been terminated from the Interstate Medical  
7 Licensure Compact unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in  
8 writing between the interstate commission and the defaulting  
9 state.

10 H. The defaulting state may appeal the action of  
11 the interstate commission by petitioning the United States  
12 district court for the District of Columbia or the federal  
13 district where the interstate commission has its principal  
14 offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of  
15 such litigation, including reasonable attorney fees.

16 ARTICLE 19 - Dispute Resolution

17 A. The interstate commission shall attempt, upon  
18 the request of a member state, to resolve disputes that are  
19 subject to the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and that  
20 may arise among member states or member boards.

21 B. The interstate commission shall promulgate rules  
22 providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution as  
23 appropriate.

24 ARTICLE 20 - Member States, Effective Date and Amendment

25 A. Any state is eligible to become a member of the

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1 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

2 B. The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact shall  
3 become effective and binding upon legislative enactment of the  
4 compact into law by no less than seven states. Thereafter, it  
5 shall become effective and binding on a state upon enactment of  
6 the compact into law by that state.

7 C. The governors of nonmember states, or the  
8 governors' designees, shall be invited to participate in the  
9 activities of the interstate commission on a nonvoting basis  
10 prior to adoption of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact  
11 by all states.

12 D. The interstate commission may propose amendments  
13 to the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact for enactment by  
14 the member states. No amendment shall become effective and  
15 binding upon the interstate commission and the member states  
16 unless and until the amendment is enacted into law by unanimous  
17 consent of the member states.

18 ARTICLE 21 - Withdrawal

19 A. Once effective, the Interstate Medical Licensure  
20 Compact shall continue in force and remain binding upon each  
21 member state; provided that a member state may withdraw from  
22 the compact by specifically repealing the statute that enacted  
23 the compact into law.

24 B. Withdrawal from the Interstate Medical Licensure  
25 Compact shall be by the enactment of a statute repealing the

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1 compact, but shall not take effect until one year after the  
2 effective date of that law and until written notice of the  
3 withdrawal has been given by the withdrawing state to the  
4 governor of each other member state.

5 C. The withdrawing state shall immediately notify  
6 the chair of the interstate commission in writing upon the  
7 introduction of legislation to repeal the Interstate Medical  
8 Licensure Compact in the withdrawing state.

9 D. The interstate commission shall notify the other  
10 member states of the withdrawing state's intent to withdraw  
11 within sixty days of receipt of notice provided under  
12 Subsection C of this article.

13 E. The withdrawing state is responsible for all  
14 dues, obligations and liabilities incurred through the  
15 effective date of withdrawal, including obligations, the  
16 performance of which extend beyond the effective date of  
17 withdrawal.

18 F. Reinstatement following withdrawal of a member  
19 state shall occur upon the withdrawing state reenacting the  
20 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact or upon such later date as  
21 determined by the interstate commission.

22 G. The interstate commission is authorized to  
23 develop rules to address the impact of the withdrawal of a  
24 member state on licenses granted in other member states to  
25 physicians who designated the withdrawing member state as the

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1 state of principal license.

2 ARTICLE 22 - Dissolution

3 A. The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact shall  
4 dissolve effective upon the date of the withdrawal or default  
5 of the member state that reduces the membership of the compact  
6 to one member state.

7 B. Upon the dissolution of the Interstate Medical  
8 Licensure Compact, the compact becomes void and shall be of no  
9 further force, and the business and affairs of the interstate  
10 commission shall be concluded and surplus funds shall be  
11 distributed in accordance with the bylaws.

12 ARTICLE 23 - Severability and Construction

13 A. The provisions of the Interstate Medical  
14 Licensure Compact shall be severable, and if any phrase,  
15 clause, sentence or provision is deemed unenforceable, the  
16 remaining provisions of the compact shall be enforceable.

17 B. The provisions of the Interstate Medical  
18 Licensure Compact shall be liberally construed to effectuate  
19 the purposes of that compact.

20 C. Nothing in the Interstate Medical Licensure  
21 Compact shall be construed to prohibit the applicability of  
22 other interstate compacts to which the member states are  
23 members.

24 ARTICLE 24 - Binding Effect of the Interstate Medical Licensure  
25 Compact and Other Laws

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1           A. Nothing in the Interstate Medical Licensure  
2 Compact prevents the enforcement of any other law of a member  
3 state that is not inconsistent with that compact.

4           B. All laws in a member state in conflict with the  
5 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact are superseded to the  
6 extent of the conflict.

7           C. All lawful actions of the interstate commission,  
8 including all rules and bylaws promulgated by the interstate  
9 commission, are binding upon the member states.

10          D. All agreements between the interstate commission  
11 and the member states are binding in accordance with their  
12 terms.

13          E. In the event any provision of the Interstate  
14 Medical Licensure Compact exceeds the constitutional limits  
15 imposed on the legislature of any member state, such provision  
16 shall be ineffective to the extent of the conflict with the  
17 constitutional provision in question in that member state."

18           SECTION 3. [NEW MATERIAL] APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS.--

19           A. The governor shall appoint two members of the  
20 New Mexico medical board who are licensed physicians to serve  
21 as commissioners. One member shall be a medical doctor and one  
22 member shall be an osteopathic physician. A member shall serve  
23 until the member's successor has been appointed and qualified.  
24 Each member serves at the pleasure of the governor or until the  
25 member is no longer a member of the New Mexico medical board.

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1 If a position is vacated, the position shall be filled by  
2 appointment by the governor of a medical board member who meets  
3 the qualification of the vacating member.

4 B. The governor may appoint an alternative  
5 commissioner who meets the qualifications of Subsection D of  
6 Article 11 of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact to serve  
7 in the absence of a regular commissioner and who has voting  
8 authority only for a specified meeting of the interstate  
9 commission.

10 SECTION 4. [NEW MATERIAL] RULES OF INTERSTATE  
11 COMMISSION.--The interstate commission shall file copies of its  
12 current bylaws and rules with the state records administrator  
13 in accordance with the State Rules Act.