GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2019

H.B. 297 Mar 6, 2019 HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30076-SH-1

Short Title: Psychology Interjdtl. Compact (PSYPACT). (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Grange, Dobson, and Szoka (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT (PSYPACT).

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

Whereas, this Compact is intended to regulate the day-to-day practice of telepsychology (i.e., the provision of psychological services using telecommunication technologies) by psychologists across state boundaries in the performance of their psychological practice as assigned by an appropriate authority; and

Whereas, this Compact is intended to regulate the temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology by psychologists across state boundaries for 30 days within a calendar year in the performance of their psychological practice as assigned by an appropriate authority; and

Whereas, this Compact is intended to authorize State Psychology Regulatory Authorities to afford legal recognition, in a manner consistent with the terms of the Compact, to psychologists licensed in another state; and

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

Whereas, this Compact does not apply when a psychologist is licensed in both the Home and Receiving States; and

Whereas, this Compact does not apply to permanent in-person, face-to-face practice, it does allow for authorization of temporary psychological practice; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 18A of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, G.S. 90-270.1 through G.S. 90-270.22, is recodified as Article 18G of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, G.S. 90-270.135 through G.S. 90-270.159.

SECTION 2. Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article to read:

"Article 18H.

"Psychology Interjurisdictional Licensure Compact.

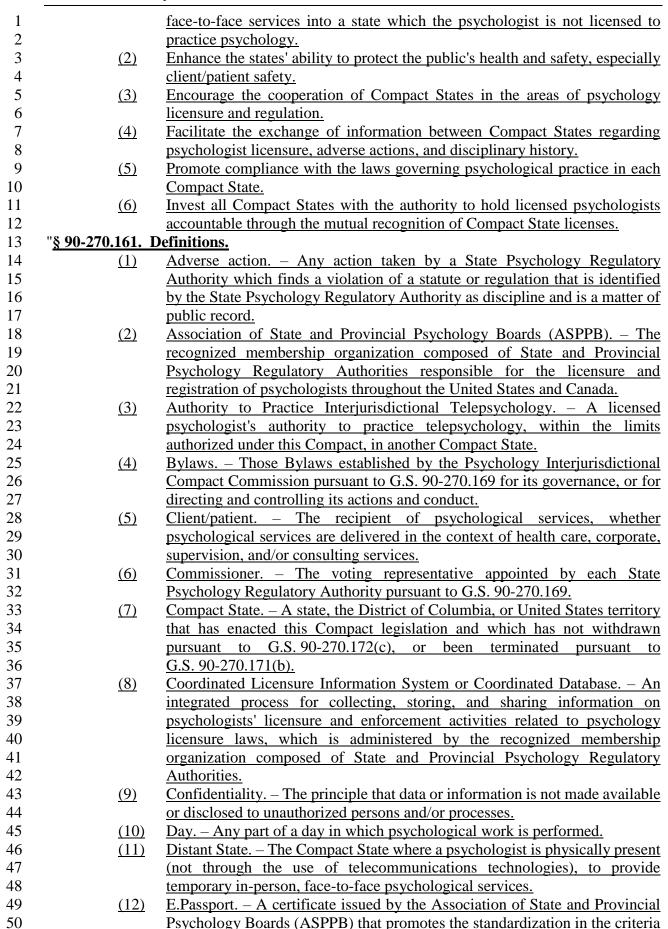
"§ 90-270.160. Purpose.

This Compact is designed to achieve the following purposes and objectives:

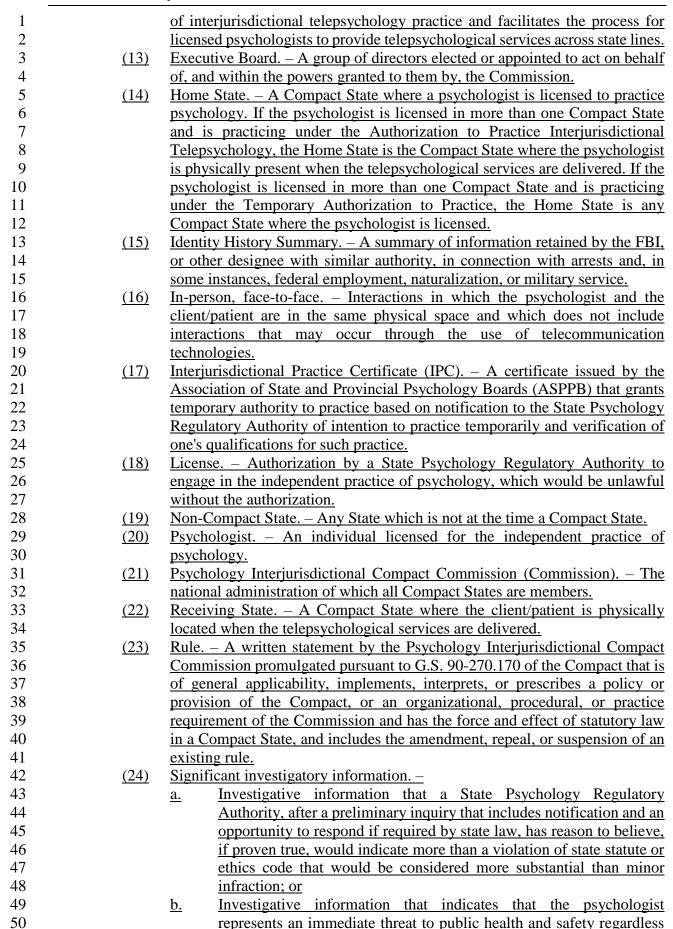
(1) <u>Increase public access to professional psychological services by allowing for telepsychological practice across state lines as well as temporary in-person,</u>

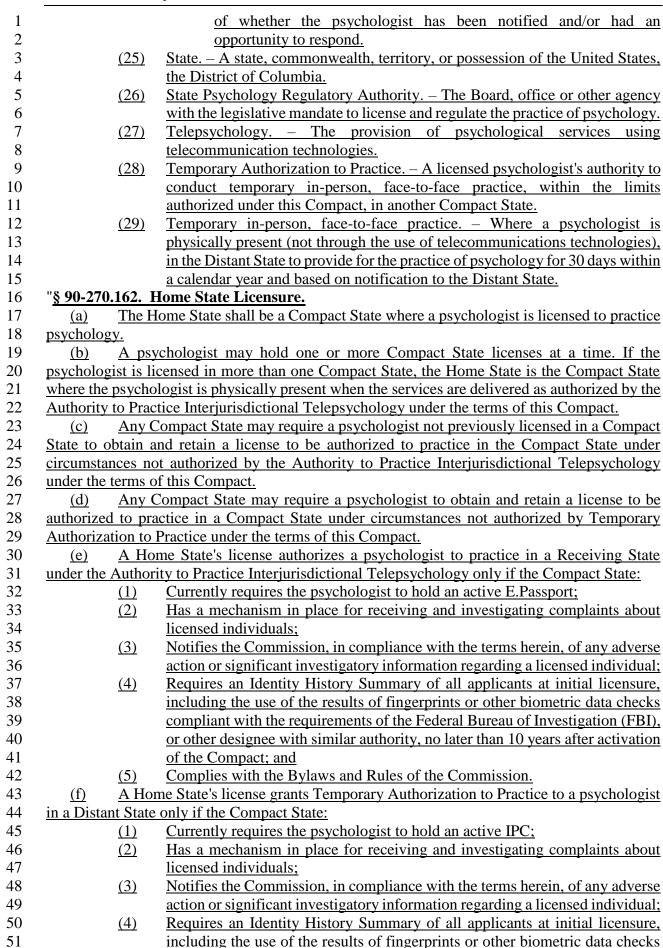


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1		comp	liant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI),
2			er designee with similar authority, no later than 10 years after activation
3			Compact; and
4	(5)		blies with the Bylaws and Rules of the Commission.
5			et Privilege to Practice Telepsychology.
6	_		tes shall recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a Compact
7			th G.S. 90-270.162, to practice telepsychology in other Compact States
8			hich the psychologist is not licensed, under the Authority to Practice
9		•	* * · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	•	-	sychology as provided in the Compact.
10			he Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology under the
11	-	sions of	this Compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a Compact State
12	must:	TT 11	
13	<u>(1)</u>		a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education
14		that w	as, at the time the degree was awarded:
15		<u>a.</u>	Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S.
16			Department of Education to grant graduate degrees, or authorized by
17			Provincial Statute or Royal Charter to grant doctoral degrees; or
18		<u>b.</u>	A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to
19			sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision by a foreign credential
20			evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of
21			Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign
22			credential evaluation service; and
23	<u>(2)</u>	Hold	a graduate degree in psychology that meets the following criteria:
24		<u>a.</u>	The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, must be
25			clearly identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a
26			program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and
27			brochures its intent to educate and train professional psychologists;
28		<u>b.</u>	The psychology program must stand as a recognizable, coherent,
29			organizational entity within the institution;
30		<u>c.</u>	There must be a clear authority and primary responsibility for the core
31		_	and specialty areas whether or not the program cuts across
32			administrative lines;
33		<u>d.</u>	The program must consist of an integrated, organized sequence of
34			study;
35		<u>e.</u>	There must be an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and
36		<u>c.</u>	breadth to carry out its responsibilities;
37		<u>f.</u>	The designated director of the program must be a psychologist and a
38		<u>1.</u>	member of the core faculty;
39		σ	The program must have an identifiable body of students who are
40		<u>g.</u>	matriculated in that program for a degree;
41		h	The program must include supervised practicum, internship, or field
42		<u>h.</u>	training appropriate to the practice of psychology;
43		:	The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years
		<u>i.</u>	
44			of full-time graduate study for doctoral degree and a minimum of one
45			academic year of full-time graduate study for master's degree;
46		<u>j.</u>	The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the Rules
47	(2)	ъ	of the Commission.
48	<u>(3)</u>		ss a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a
49			State which is a Compact State;
50	<u>(4)</u>	<u>Have</u>	no history of adverse action that violate the Rules of the Commission;

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1 Have no criminal record history reported on an Identity History Summary that (5) 2 violates the Rules of the Commission; 3 Possess a current, active E.Passport; (6) 4 Provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice, conformity with (7) 5 standards of practice, competence in telepsychology technology; criminal 6 background; and knowledge and adherence to legal requirements in the home 7 and receiving states, and provide a release of information to allow for primary 8 source verification in a manner specified by the Commission; and 9 Meet other criteria as defined by the Rules of the Commission. (8) 10 The Home State maintains authority over the license of any psychologist practicing (c) 11 into a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology. 12 A psychologist practicing into a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice 13 Interjurisdictional Telepsychology will be subject to the Receiving State's scope of practice. A 14 Receiving State may, in accordance with that state's due process law, limit or revoke a 15 psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology in the Receiving State 16 and may take any other necessary actions under the Receiving State's applicable law to protect 17 the health and safety of the Receiving State's citizens. If a Receiving State takes action, the state 18 shall promptly notify the Home State and the Commission. 19 If a psychologist's license in any Home State, another Compact State, or any Authority (e) 20 to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology in any Receiving State is restricted, suspended, or 21 otherwise limited, the E.Passport shall be revoked and, therefore, the psychologist shall not be 22 eligible to practice telepsychology in a Compact State under the Authority to Practice 23 Interjurisdictional Telepsychology. 24 "§ 90-270.164. Compact Temporary Authorization to Practice. 25 Compact States shall also recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a Compact 26 State in conformance with G.S. 90-270.162, to practice temporarily in other Compact States 27 (Distant States) in which the psychologist is not licensed, as provided in the Compact. 28 (b) To exercise the Temporary Authorization to Practice under the terms and provisions 29 of this Compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a Compact State must: 30 (1) Hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education 31 that was, at the time the degree was awarded: 32 Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. <u>a.</u> 33 Department of Education to grant graduate degrees, or authorized by 34 Provincial Statute or Royal Charter to grant doctoral degrees; or 35 A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to <u>b.</u> 36 sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision by a foreign credential 37 evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of 38 Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign 39 credential evaluation service; and 40 Hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets the following criteria: **(2)** The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, must be 41 <u>a.</u> 42 clearly identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a 43 program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and 44 brochures its intent to educate and train professional psychologists; 45 The psychology program must stand as a recognizable, coherent, <u>b.</u> organizational entity within the institution; 46 47 There must be a clear authority and primary responsibility for the core <u>c.</u> 48 and specialty areas whether or not the program cuts across

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The program must consist of an integrated, organized sequence of

administrative lines;

study;

<u>d.</u>

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- 1 There must be an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and e. 2 breadth to carry out its responsibilities; The designated director of the program must be a psychologist and a 3 <u>f.</u> 4 member of the core faculty; 5 The program must have an identifiable body of students who are <u>g.</u> 6 matriculated in that program for a degree; 7 The program must include supervised practicum, internship, or field h. 8 training appropriate to the practice of psychology; 9 The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years <u>i.</u> 10 of full-time graduate study for doctoral degrees and a minimum of one 11 academic year of full-time graduate study for master's degree; The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the Rules 12 <u>j.</u> 13 of the Commission. 14 (3) Possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a 15 Home State which is a Compact State; No history of adverse action that violate the Rules of the Commission; 16 <u>(4)</u> 17 No criminal record history that violates the Rules of the Commission: (5) 18 <u>(6)</u> Possess a current, active IPC;
 - (7) Provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice and work experience and provide a release of information to allow for primary source verification in a manner specified by the Commission; and

 (8) Most other private as a defined by the Pulse of the Commission.
 - (8) Meet other criteria as defined by the Rules of the Commission.
 - (c) A psychologist practicing into a Distant State under the Temporary Authorization to Practice shall practice within the scope of practice authorized by the Distant State.
 - (d) A psychologist practicing into a Distant State under the Temporary Authorization to Practice will be subject to the Distant State's authority and law. A Distant State may, in accordance with that state's due process law, limit or revoke a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice in the Distant State and may take any other necessary actions under the Distant State's applicable law to protect the health and safety of the Distant State's citizens. If a Distant State takes action, the state shall promptly notify the Home State and the Commission.
 - (e) <u>If a psychologist's license in any Home State, another Compact State, or any Temporary Authorization to Practice in any Distant State is restricted, suspended, or otherwise limited, the IPC shall be revoked and therefore the psychologist shall not be eligible to practice in a Compact State under the Temporary Authorization to Practice.</u>

"§ 90-270.165. Conditions of telepsychology practice in a Receiving State.

A psychologist may practice in a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology only in the performance of the scope of practice for psychology as assigned by an appropriate State Psychology Regulatory Authority, as defined in the Rules of the Commission, and under the following circumstances:

- (1) The psychologist initiates a client/patient contact in a Home State via telecommunications technologies with a client/patient in a Receiving State.
- (2) Other conditions regarding telepsychology as determined by Rules promulgated by the Commission.

"§ 90-270.166. Adverse actions.

- (a) A Home State shall have the power to impose adverse action against a psychologist's license issued by the Home State. A Distant State shall have the power to take adverse action on a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice within that Distant State.
- (b) A Receiving State may take adverse action on a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology within that Receiving State. A Home State may take adverse action against a psychologist based on an adverse action taken by a Distant State regarding temporary in-person, face-to-face practice.

- terminated and the IPC is revok

 (1) All Home Some reported to the

- (c) <u>If a Home State takes adverse action against a psychologist's license, that psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology is terminated and the E.Passport is revoked. Furthermore, that psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice is terminated and the IPC is revoked.</u>
 - All Home State disciplinary orders which impose adverse action shall be reported to the Commission in accordance with the Rules promulgated by the Commission. A Compact State shall report adverse actions in accordance with the Rules of the Commission.
 - (2) In the event discipline is reported on a psychologist, the psychologist will not be eligible for telepsychology or temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in accordance with the Rules of the Commission.
 - (3) Other actions may be imposed as determined by the Rules promulgated by the Commission.
- (d) A Home State's Psychology Regulatory Authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a licensee which occurred in a Receiving State as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the Home State. In such cases, the Home State's law shall control in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's license.
- (e) A Distant State's Psychology Regulatory Authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a psychologist practicing under Temporary Authorization Practice which occurred in that Distant State as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the Home State. In such cases, Distant State's law shall control in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice.
- (f) Nothing in this Compact shall override a Compact State's decision that a psychologist's participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse action and that such participation shall remain non-public if required by the Compact State's law. Compact States must require psychologists who enter any alternative programs to not provide telepsychology services under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology or provide temporary psychological services under the Temporary Authorization to Practice in any other Compact State during the term of the alternative program.
- (g) No other judicial or administrative remedies shall be available to a psychologist in the event a Compact State imposes an adverse action pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

"§ 90-270.167. Additional authorities invested in a Compact State's Psychology Regulatory Authority.

In addition to any other powers granted under state law, a Compact State's Psychology Regulatory Authority shall have the authority under this Compact to:

- (1) Issue subpoenas, for both hearings and investigations, which require the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Compact State's Psychology Regulatory Authority for the attendance and testimony of witnesses and/or the production of evidence from another Compact State shall be enforced in the latter state by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to that court's practice and procedure in considering subpoenas issued in its own proceedings. The issuing State Psychology Regulatory Authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage and other fees required by the service statutes of the state where the witnesses and/or evidence are located.
- (2) <u>Issue cease and desist and/or injunctive relief orders to revoke a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology and/or Temporary Authorization to Practice.</u>

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During the course of any investigation, a psychologist may not change his/her (3) Home State licensure. A Home State Psychology Regulatory Authority is authorized to complete any pending investigations of a psychologist and to take any actions appropriate under its law. The Home State Psychology Regulatory Authority shall promptly report the conclusions of such investigations to the Commission. Once an investigation has been completed, and pending the outcome of said investigation, the psychologist may change his/her Home State licensure. The Commission shall promptly notify the new Home State of any such decisions as provided in the Rules of the Commission. All information provided to the Commission or distributed by Compact States pursuant to the psychologist shall be confidential, filed under seal, and used for investigatory or disciplinary matters. The Commission may create additional rules for mandated or discretionary sharing of information by Compact States.

"§ 90-270.168. Coordinated Licensure Information System.

- The Commission shall provide for the development and maintenance of a Coordinated Licensure Information System (Coordinated Database) and reporting system containing licensure and disciplinary action information on all psychologists individuals to whom this Compact is applicable in all Compact States as defined by the Rules of the Commission.
- Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a Compact State shall submit a uniform data set to the Coordinated Database on all licensees as required by the Rules of the Commission, including:
 - Identifying information; <u>(1)</u>
 - (2) Licensure data;
 - Significant investigatory information; (3)
 - (4) Adverse actions against a psychologist's license;
 - An indicator that a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional (5) Telepsychology and/or Temporary Authorization to Practice is revoked;
 - Non-confidential information related to alternative program participation <u>(6)</u> information;
 - Any denial of application for licensure and the reasons for such denial; and <u>(7)</u>
 - Other information which may facilitate the administration of this Compact, as (8) determined by the Rules of the Commission.
- The Coordinated Database administrator shall promptly notify all Compact States of any adverse action taken against, or significant investigative information on, any licensee in a Compact State.
- Compact States reporting information to the Coordinated Database may designate information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of the Compact State reporting the information.
- Any information submitted to the Coordinated Database that is subsequently required to be expunged by the law of the Compact State reporting the information shall be removed from the Coordinated Database.

"§ 90-270.169. Establishment of the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission.

- The Compact States hereby create and establish a joint public agency known as the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission.
 - (1) The Commission is a body politic and an instrumentality of the Compact
 - **(2)** Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is located. The Commission may waive

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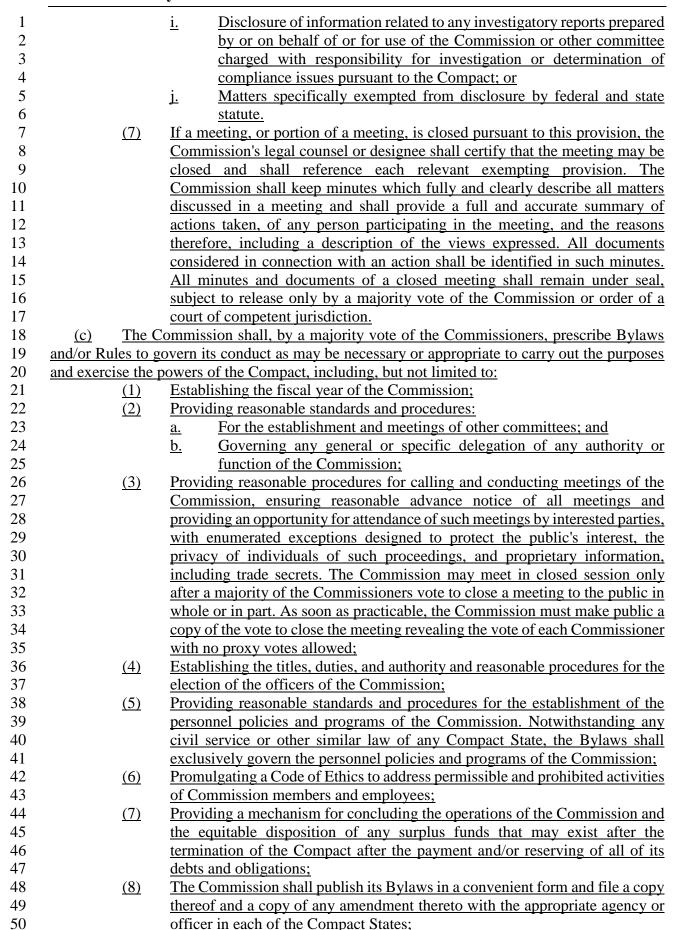
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1			venue	e and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to
2			partic	cipate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.
3		<u>(3)</u>	Noth	ing in this Compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign
4			immı	unity.
5	<u>(b)</u>	Mem		, Voting, and Meetings. –
6	3, -, /	(1)	_	Commission shall consist of one voting representative appointed by each
7		(-)		pact State who shall serve as that state's Commissioner. The State
8			-	hology Regulatory Authority shall appoint its delegate. This delegate
9				be empowered to act on behalf of the Compact State. This delegate shall
10				nited to:
11				
			<u>a.</u>	Executive Director, Executive Secretary, or similar executive;
12			<u>b.</u>	Current member of the State Psychology Regulatory Authority of a
13				Compact State; or
14			<u>c.</u>	Designee empowered with the appropriate delegate authority to act on
15				behalf of the Compact State.
16		<u>(2)</u>		Commissioner may be removed or suspended from office as provided by
17				aw of the state from which the Commissioner is appointed. Any vacancy
18			occui	rring in the Commission shall be filled in accordance with the laws of the
19			Com	pact State in which the vacancy exists.
20		<u>(3)</u>	Each	Commissioner shall be entitled to one (1) vote with regard to the
21			prom	julgation of Rules and creation of Bylaws and shall otherwise have an
22			oppo	rtunity to participate in the business and affairs of the Commission. A
23				missioner shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the
24				ws. The Bylaws may provide for Commissioners' participation in
25			•	ings by telephone or other means of communication.
26		<u>(4)</u>		Commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year.
27		<u>(. / /</u>		tional meetings shall be held as set forth in the Bylaws.
28		<u>(5)</u>		neetings shall be open to the public, and public notice of meetings shall
29		<u>(3)</u>		ven in the same manner as required under the rule-making provisions in
30				90-270.170.
		(6)		
31		<u>(6)</u>		Commission may convene in a closed, nonpublic meeting if the
32				mission must discuss:
33			<u>a.</u>	Noncompliance of a Compact State with its obligations under the
34				Compact;
35			<u>b.</u>	The employment, compensation, discipline, or other personnel
36				matters, practices, or procedures related to specific employees or other
37				matters related to the Commission's internal personnel practices and
38				procedures;
39			<u>c.</u>	Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation against the
40				Commission;
41			<u>d.</u>	Negotiation of contracts for the purchase or sale of goods, services, or
42				real estate;
43			<u>e.</u>	Accusation against any person of a crime or formally censuring any
44			_	person;
45			<u>f.</u>	Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information
46			<u></u>	which is privileged or confidential;
47			<u>g.</u>	Disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure would
48			<u>ə:</u>	constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
49			<u>h.</u>	Disclosure of investigatory records compiled for law enforcement
50			11.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
JU				purposes;

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1		<u>(9)</u>	The Commission shall maintain its financial records in accordance with the
2			Bylaws; and
3		<u>(10)</u>	The Commission shall meet and take such actions as are consistent with the
4			provisions of this Compact and the Bylaws.
5	<u>(d)</u>	The C	ommission shall have the following powers:
6		(1)	The authority to promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate
7			implementation and administration of this Compact. The rule shall have the
8			force and effect of law and shall be binding in all Compact States;
9		<u>(2)</u>	To bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of the
10		/-	Commission, provided that the standing of any State Psychology Regulatory
11			Authority or other regulatory body responsible for psychology licensure to sue
12			or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected;
13		<u>(3)</u>	To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;
14		<u>(4)</u>	To borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including, but not
15		<u>\ \ 1/</u>	limited to, employees of a Compact State;
16		<u>(5)</u>	To hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties,
17		<u>(3)</u>	grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the
18			Compact, and to establish the Commission's personnel policies and programs
19			relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related
			personnel matters;
20 21		(6)	*
		<u>(6)</u>	To accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money, equipment,
22			supplies, materials, and services and to receive, utilize, and dispose of the
23			same, provided that at all times the Commission shall strive to avoid any
24		(7)	appearance of impropriety and/or conflict of interest;
25		<u>(7)</u>	To lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or otherwise to
26			own, hold, improve, or use any property, real, personal, or mixed, provided
27			that at all times the Commission shall strive to avoid any appearance of
28		(0)	impropriety;
29		<u>(8)</u>	To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise
30		(0)	dispose of any property, real, personal, or mixed;
31		<u>(9)</u>	To establish a budget and make expenditures;
32		<u>(10)</u>	To borrow money;
33		<u>(11)</u>	To appoint committees, including advisory committees comprised of
34			members, state regulators, state legislators or their representatives, and
35			consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as may be
36			designated in this Compact and the Bylaws;
37		<u>(12)</u>	To provide and receive information from, and to cooperate with, law
38			enforcement agencies;
39		<u>(13)</u>	To adopt and use an official seal; and
40		<u>(14)</u>	To perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve
41			the purposes of this Compact consistent with the state regulation of
42			psychology licensure, temporary in-person, face-to-face practice, and
43			telepsychology practice.
44	<u>(e)</u>	The Ex	xecutive Board. – The elected officers shall serve as the Executive Board, which
45	shall have	the pov	wer to act on behalf of the Commission according to the terms of this Compact.
46		<u>(1)</u>	The Executive Board shall be comprised of six members:
47			a. Five voting members who are elected from the current membership of
48			the Commission by the Commission.
49			b. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from the recognized membership
50			organization composed of State and Provincial Psychology Regulatory
51			Authorities.

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1 The ex-officio member must have served as staff or member on a State (2) 2 Psychology Regulatory Authority and will be selected by its respective 3 organization. 4 The Commission may remove any member of the Executive Board as <u>(3)</u> 5 provided in Bylaws. The Executive Board shall meet at least annually. 6 <u>(4)</u> 7 (5) The Executive Board shall have the following duties and responsibilities: 8 Recommend to the entire Commission changes to the Rules or Bylaws, <u>a.</u> 9 changes to this Compact legislation, fees paid by Compact States such 10 as annual dues and any other applicable fees; 11 Ensure Compact administration services are appropriately provided, b. 12 contractual or otherwise; 13 Prepare and recommend the budget: <u>c.</u> 14 Maintain financial records on behalf of the Commission; <u>d.</u> Monitor Compact compliance of member states and provide 15 <u>e.</u> compliance reports to the Commission; 16 17 <u>f.</u> Establish additional committees as necessary; and 18 g. Other duties as provided in Rules or Bylaws. 19 Financing of the Commission. – (f) 20 **(1)** The Commission shall pay or provide for the payment of the reasonable 21 expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities. The Commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources, 22 <u>(2)</u> 23 donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services. 24 <u>(3)</u> The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each 25 Compact State or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost of the 26 operations and activities of the Commission and its staff which must be in a 27 total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year for 28 which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual 29 assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined 30 by the Commission which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all Compact States. 31 32 The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the <u>(4)</u> 33 funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the Commission pledge the credit 34 of any of the Compact States, except by and with the authority of the Compact 35 36 The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and (5) 37 disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall be 38 subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its Bylaws. 39 However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission 40 shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the 41 report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report 42 of the Commission. Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification. – 43 (g) 44 The members, officers, Executive Director, employees and representatives of (1) 45 the Commission shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or 46 in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or 47 personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or 48 alleged act, error or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom 49 the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the

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scope of Commission employment, duties or responsibilities, provided that nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to protect any such person from

suit and/or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

(2) The Commission shall defend any member, officer, Executive Director, employee or representative of the Commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining his or her own counsel; and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.

(3) The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, Executive Director, employee, or representative of the Commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

"§ 90-270.170. Rule making.

(a) The Commission shall exercise its rule-making powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this section and the Rules adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall become binding as of the date specified in each rule or amendment.

(b) If a majority of the legislatures of the Compact States rejects a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the Compact, then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any Compact State.

 (c) Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of the Commission.

 (d) Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or Rules by the Commission, and at least 60 days in advance of the meeting at which the rule will be considered and voted upon, the Commission shall file a Notice of Proposed Rule Making:

(1) On the Web site of the Commission; and

 (2) On the Web site of each Compact States' Psychology Regulatory Authority or the publication in which each state would otherwise publish proposed rules.

(e) The Notice of Proposed Rule Making shall include:

 (1) The proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in which the rule will be considered and voted upon;
 (2) The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for the proposed

rule;

 (4) A request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested person; and

The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the Commission

(4) The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the Commission of their intention to attend the public hearing and any written comments.

 (f) Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the Commission shall allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions and arguments, which shall be made available to the public.

(g) The Commission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing before it adopts a rule or amendment if a hearing is requested by:

 (1) At least 25 persons who submit comments independently of each other;

 (2) A governmental subdivision or agency; or

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(3) A duly appointed person in an association that has having at least 25 members.

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- (h) If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the Commission shall publish the place, time, and date of the scheduled public hearing.
 - (1) All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the Executive Director of the Commission or other designated member in writing of their desire to appear and testify at the hearing not less than five business days before the scheduled date of the hearing.
 - (2) Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in writing.
 - (3) No transcript of the hearing is required, unless a written request for a transcript is made, in which case the person requesting the transcript shall bear the cost of producing the transcript. A recording may be made in lieu of a transcript under the same terms and conditions as a transcript. This subsection shall not preclude the Commission from making a transcript or recording of the hearing if it so chooses.
 - (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on each rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the Commission at hearings required by this section.
- (i) Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing was not held, the Commission shall consider all written and oral comments received.
- (j) The Commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final action on the proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the rule-making record and the full text of the rule.
- (k) If no written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by interested parties is received, the Commission may proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule without a public hearing.
- (*I*) Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule without prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that the usual rule-making procedures provided in the Compact and in this section shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than 90 days after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this provision, an emergency rule is one that must be adopted immediately in order to:
 - (1) Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare;
 - (2) Prevent a loss of Commission or Compact State funds;
 - (3) Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that is established by federal law or rule; or
 - (4) Protect public health and safety.
- (m) The Commission or an authorized committee of the Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted rule or amendment for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the Web site of the Commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of 30 days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made in writing, and delivered to the Chair of the Commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the approval of the Commission.

"§ 90-270.171. Oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement.

- (a) Oversight.
 - (1) The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government in each Compact State shall enforce this Compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the Compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of

1 this Compact and the rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as 2 statutory law. 3 All courts shall take judicial notice of the Compact and the rules in any judicial <u>(2)</u> 4 or administrative proceeding in a Compact State pertaining to the subject 5 matter of this Compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities, or 6 actions of the Commission. 7 The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any such (3) 8 proceeding and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all 9 purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the Commission shall render 10 a judgment or order void as to the Commission, this Compact, or promulgated 11 rules. 12 (b) Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination. – 13 If the Commission determines that a Compact State has defaulted in the (1) 14 performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this Compact or the promulgated rules, the Commission shall: 15 Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other Compact States 16 a. 17 of the nature of the default, the proposed means of remedying the 18 default, and/or any other action to be taken by the Commission; and 19 Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding <u>b.</u> 20 the default. 21 <u>(2)</u> If a state in default fails to remedy the default, the defaulting state may be terminated from the Compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the 22 23 Compact States and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred by this 24 Compact shall be terminated on the effective date of termination. A remedy 25 of the default does not relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities 26 incurred during the period of default. 27 Termination of membership in the Compact shall be imposed only after all <u>(3)</u> 28 other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to 29 suspend or terminate shall be submitted by the Commission to the Governor, 30 the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each 31 of the Compact States. 32 A Compact State which has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, <u>(4)</u> 33 obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, 34 including obligations which extend beyond the effective date of termination. 35 The Commission shall not bear any costs incurred by the state which is found <u>(5)</u> 36 to be in default or which has been terminated from the Compact, unless agreed 37 upon in writing between the Commission and the defaulting state. 38 The defaulting state may appeal the action of the Commission by petitioning (6) 39 the U.S. District Court for the state of Georgia or the federal district where the 40 Compact has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorneys' fees. 41 42 Dispute Resolution. – (c) 43 (1) Upon request by a Compact State, the Commission shall attempt to resolve 44 disputes related to the Compact which arise among Compact States and 45 between Compact and Non-Compact States. 46 (2) The Commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and 47 binding dispute resolution for disputes that arise before the Commission. 48 (d) Enforcement. – 49 <u>(1)</u> The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the 50 provisions and Rules of this Compact.

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States District Court for the State of Georgia or the federal district where the Compact has its principal offices against a Compact State in default to enforce compliance with the provisions of the Compact and its promulgated Rules and Bylaws. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

(3) The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the Commission.

The Commission may pursue any other remedies available under federal or state law.

"§ 90-270.172. Date of implementation of the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission and associated rules, withdrawal, and amendments.

- (a) The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which the Compact is enacted into law in the seventh Compact State. The provisions which become effective at that time shall be limited to the powers granted to the Commission relating to assembly and the promulgation of rules. Thereafter, the Commission shall meet and exercise rule-making powers necessary to the implementation and administration of the Compact.
- (b) Any state which joins the Compact subsequent to the Commission's initial adoption of the rules shall be subject to the rules as they exist on the date on which the Compact becomes law in that state. Any rule which has been previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the Compact becomes law in that state.
- (c) Any Compact State may withdraw from this Compact by enacting a statute repealing the same.
 - (1) A Compact State's withdrawal shall not take effect until six months after enactment of the repealing statute.
 - (2) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing State's Psychology Regulatory Authority to comply with the investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of this act prior to the effective date of withdrawal.
- (d) Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any psychology licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a Compact State and a Non-Compact State which does not conflict with the provisions of this Compact.
- (e) This Compact may be amended by the Compact States. No amendment to this Compact shall become effective and binding upon any Compact State until it is enacted into the law of all Compact States.

"§ 90-270.173. Construction and severability.

This Compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. If this Compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state member thereto, the Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining Compact States."

SECTION 3. This act becomes effective October 1, 2019. The North Carolina Psychology Board shall report to the Revisor of Statutes when the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT) set forth in Section 2 of this act has been enacted by the seven member states.