

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE ZACK FIELDS

Fairview • South Addition • Forest Park • Downtown • North Star

Sectional Analysis Narrative

HB 352 Version A: #34-LS1327\A

“An Act Relating to Interstate Medical Licensure Compacts”

Sections 1 through 4 establish the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC).

The IMLC adds the State Medical Board’s duty to implement the compact and creates a streamlined “expedited license” pathway for physicians to practice across member states.

A physician designates one member state as their State of Principal License, typically their state of residence or primary practice, and that board verifies credentials and issues a letter of qualification. The physician may then obtain full, unrestricted licenses in additional member states without completing each state’s full individual application process.

To be eligible, a physician must hold a full, unrestricted license, have no criminal convictions or active disciplinary proceedings, and meet national education and certification standards. Fingerprint-based background checks are required as part of the application.

Each state retains complete authority to license, regulate, and discipline physicians practicing within its borders. Disciplinary action in any member state can trigger action in all others, and revocation of a physician’s principal license automatically affects their licenses in all other member states.

The compact is administered by an interstate commission with representatives from each member state.

Sections 1 through 4 also establish the PA Licensure Compact.

This compact creates a mutual recognition framework for physician assistants. Rather than a separate expedited license, a PA holding a qualifying home-state license may apply for a “compact privilege” to practice in any other participating state.

Eligibility requires accredited PA education (recognized by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant – ARC-PA), current national certification from the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA), and a clean disciplinary and criminal record.

Each state retains authority over its own PA licenses and may discipline or revoke compact privileges for PAs practicing within its borders. A centralized data system tracks licensure status and adverse

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE ZACK FIELDS

Fairview • South Addition • Forest Park • Downtown • North Star

actions across all participating states, and if a PA's home-state license is restricted or revoked, compact privileges in all other states are automatically suspended.

Sections 4 and 7 authorize the relevant licensing boards to collect fees for expedited licenses and compact privileges, consistent with each compact's fee provisions.

Sections 5 through 10 establish the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT).

PSYPACT covers two specific practice scenarios: telepsychology and temporary in-person services. A licensed psychologist in a PSYPACT state may provide telepsychology services to clients in any other PSYPACT state and may also travel to another PSYPACT state to provide in-person psychological services for up to 30 days per year without needing a separate license in that state.

To participate, a psychologist must hold an active E. Passport (for telepsychology) or an Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (for temporary in-person practice). The state where a client is located governs the applicable scope of practice, and Home States retain authority over their own licensees.

Any adverse action in any PSYPACT state immediately revokes both the E. Passport and the IPC, removing compact privileges in all member states. This bill also adds a fingerprint-based background check requirement for psychologist licensure consistent with PSYPACT standards.

Section 11 authorizes the Department of Public Safety to conduct national criminal history record checks in connection with licensure under all four compacts.

Sections 12 and 13 establish the Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact (REPLICA).

REPLICA allows licensed EMS personnel (EMTs, Advanced EMTs, and paramedics) to cross state lines and immediately provide care under a recognized "privilege to practice," without a separate license in each state they enter.

Eligibility requires an unrestricted home-state EMS license at or above the EMT level and operation under the supervision of a licensed Medical Director.

A provider's scope of practice in a remote state defaults to their home-state scope unless restricted by that state. REPLICA also includes provisions to expedite licensure for veterans and military spouses. Disciplinary actions in any member state automatically affect a provider's compact privileges across all states, and a centralized database tracks licensure and adverse action information.