

SB 281: Clarifying Compact Details



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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Senate Health & Social Services

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Costs Associated with the Compacts for the State

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC)

- Annual cost for membership: \$0
- Impact on licensing fees: None

Physician Assistant Licensure Compact (PA Compact)

- Annual cost for membership: TBD (compact not yet operational)
- Impact on licensing fees: None expected
- *Note: If Alaska joins before the Compact Commission convenes, we will be able to vote on this issue when it is decided*

Psychologist Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT)

- \$10 for each ATIP or TAP applicant who lists Alaska as their home state (up to \$6,000 annually)
- Impact on licensing fees: Negligible



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Costs Associated with the Compacts for Licensees

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC)

- \$700 initially (one time) + standard licensing fees in each state the physician wants to practice in

Physician Assistant Licensure Compact (PA Compact)

- TBD (compact not yet operational)

Psychologist Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT)

- \$400 (initial) to ASPBB to obtain E.Passport + \$100 annual renewal
- \$200 (initial) to ASPBB to obtain Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC) + \$50 annual renewal
- \$40 annually to PSYPACT for Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology (APIT) to practice telepsychology
- \$40 annually to PSPACT for Temporary Authorization to Practice (TAP) for 30 days of in-person practice in non-home state(s)



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How Do We Know Who is Practicing in Alaska?

How would we know who is practicing in Alaska?

- Same way we do now:
 - The division doesn't track a licensee's residency, physical location, employment, or if they're practicing at all
 - We'll simply know who can legally practice in Alaska

How will we know who is legally able to practice in Alaska?

- **IMLC:** Employers, hospitals, and the public can check the division's online professional license search (as they can now)
- **PA Compact:** TBD (likely the division's online professional license search and/or an online compact directory)
- **PSYPACT:** Online compact directory



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Cultural Competency of Licensees Practicing Through the Compacts

- **Interstate Medical Licensure Compact:** There is no requirement for cultural training for licensure as a physician in Alaska now; expedited licensees will meet same standards
- **Physician Assistant Licensure Compact:** There is no requirement for cultural training for licensure as an PA in Alaska now; compact licensees will meet same standards
- **Psychologist Interjurisdictional Compact:** There is no requirement for cultural training for licensure as a psychologist in Alaska now; APIT and TAP practitioners will meet same standards



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Disciplinary Authority Under the Compacts

Investigations & Discipline:

- All member states must notify the compact (and therefore one another) of significant investigative information and disciplinary actions for compact licensees
 - Better communication and collaboration between states = improved safeguards for public health and safety
 - Disciplinary actions for all licensees are already public
- All member states are authorized – under their own state laws – to take adverse action against any professionals providing care to patients/clients in Alaska
 - Practitioners must abide by the practice laws in the state their client is located



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Impact on the Number of Providers in Alaska

Alaska-Specific Data from Our Only Active Compact (Physical Therapy) is Positive

- Data does not support the concern that Alaska will "export" providers
 - Under PT Compact: 5x more providers from other states have obtained compact privileges in Alaska vs. Alaska providers obtaining privileges in other states:
 - Privileges to practice in Alaska: 127 PTs + 15 PTAs
 - Alaskans obtaining privileges to practice elsewhere: 24 PTs + 6 PTAs

Research on Access to Care and Physician-Practice Growth After the IMLC

- After joining the IMLC, states saw a 3% increase in new out-of-state physician practices
- States participating in the IMLC saw nearly 2x the practice growth of nonparticipating states
- State participation in the IMLC leads to greater practice growth and physicians' adding new practice locations in IMLC states



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Questions?

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