

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2030 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY GUZMAN, KHAN, HILL-EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, WAXMAN,
SANCHEZ, MAYES, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, RIVERA AND MALAGARI,
NOVEMBER 12, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
NOVEMBER 17, 2025

AN ACT

1 Authorizing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the
2 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Interstate Compact;
3 providing for the form of the compact; and imposing
4 additional powers and duties on the Governor and the
5 Secretary of the Commonwealth.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Short title.

9 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Advanced
10 Practice Registered Nurse Interstate Compact.

11 Section 2. Authority to execute compact.

12 The Governor of Pennsylvania, on behalf of this State, is
13 hereby authorized to execute a compact in substantially the
14 following form with any one or more of the states of the United
15 States and the General Assembly hereby signifies in advance its
16 approval and ratification of the compact:

17 ARTICLE I

18 Findings and Declaration of Purpose

1 a. The party states find that:

2 1. The health and safety of the public are affected by
3 the degree of compliance with APRN licensure requirements and
4 the effectiveness of enforcement activities related to state
5 APRN licensure laws;

6 2. Violations of APRN licensure and other laws regulating
7 the practice of nursing may result in injury or harm to the
8 public;

9 3. The expanded mobility of APRNs and the use of advanced
10 communication and intervention technologies as part of our
11 nation's health care delivery system require greater
12 coordination and cooperation among states in the areas of
13 APRN licensure and regulation;

14 4. New practice modalities and technology make compliance
15 with individual state APRN licensure laws difficult and
16 complex;

17 5. The current system of duplicative APRN licensure for
18 APRNs practicing in multiple states is cumbersome and
19 redundant for healthcare delivery systems, payors, state
20 licensing boards, regulators and APRNs;

21 6. Uniformity of APRN licensure requirements throughout
22 the states promotes public safety and public health benefits
23 as well as providing a mechanism to increase access to care.

24 b. The general purposes of this Compact are to:

25 1. Facilitate the states' responsibility to protect the
26 public's health and safety;

27 2. Ensure and encourage the cooperation of party states
28 in the areas of APRN licensure and regulation, including
29 promotion of uniform licensure requirements;

30 3. Facilitate the exchange of information between party

1 states in the areas of APRN regulation, investigation and
2 adverse actions;

3 4. Promote compliance with the laws governing APRN
4 practice in each jurisdiction;

5 5. Invest all party states with the authority to hold an
6 APRN accountable for meeting all state practice laws in the
7 state in which the patient is located at the time care is
8 rendered through the mutual recognition of party state
9 privileges to practice;

10 6. Decrease redundancies in the consideration and
11 issuance of APRN licenses; and

12 7. Provide opportunities for interstate practice by APRNs
13 who meet uniform licensure requirements.

14 ARTICLE II

15 Definitions

16 As used in this Compact:

17 a. "Advanced practice registered nurse" or "APRN" means a
18 registered nurse who has gained additional specialized
19 knowledge, skills and experience through a program of study
20 recognized or defined by the Interstate Commission of APRN
21 Compact Administrators ("Commission"), and who is licensed to
22 perform advanced nursing practice. An advanced practice
23 registered nurse is licensed in an APRN role that is congruent
24 with an APRN educational program, certification, and Commission
25 rules.

26 b. "Adverse action" means any administrative, civil,
27 equitable or criminal action permitted by a state's laws which
28 is imposed by a licensing board or other authority against an
29 APRN, including actions against an individual's license or
30 multistate licensure privilege such as revocation, suspension,

1 probation, monitoring of the licensee, limitation on the
2 licensee's practice, or any other encumbrance on licensure
3 affecting an APRN's authorization to practice, including the
4 issuance of a cease and desist action.

5 c. "Alternative program" means a, non-disciplinary monitoring
6 program approved by a licensing board.

7 d. "APRN licensure" means the regulatory mechanism used by a
8 party state to grant legal authority to practice as an APRN.

9 e. "APRN uniform licensure requirements" means the minimum
10 uniform licensure, education and examination requirements set
11 forth in Article III.b of this Compact.

12 f. "Coordinated licensure information system" means an
13 integrated process for collecting, storing and sharing
14 information on APRN licensure and enforcement activities related
15 to APRN licensure laws that is administered by a nonprofit
16 organization composed of and controlled by licensing boards.

17 g. "Current significant investigatory information" means:

18 1. Investigative information that a licensing board,
19 after a preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an
20 opportunity for the APRN to respond, if required by state
21 law, has reason to believe is not groundless and, if proved
22 true, would indicate more than a minor infraction; or

23 2. Investigative information that indicates that the APRN
24 represents an immediate threat to public health and safety
25 regardless of whether the APRN has been notified and had an
26 opportunity to respond.

27 h. "Encumbrance" means a revocation or suspension of, or any
28 limitation on, the full and unrestricted practice of nursing
29 imposed by a licensing board in connection with a disciplinary
30 proceeding.

i. "Home state" means the party state that is the APRN's primary state of residence.

j. "Licensing board" means a party state's regulatory body responsible for regulating the practice of advanced practice registered nursing.

k. "Multistate license" means an APRN license to practice as an APRN issued by a home state licensing board that authorizes the APRN to practice as an APRN in all party states under a multistate licensure privilege, in the same role and population focus as the APRN is licensed in the home state.

l. "Multistate licensure privilege" means a legal authorization associated with an APRN multistate license that permits an APRN to practice as an APRN in a remote state, in the same role and population focus as the APRN is licensed in the home state.

m. "Non-controlled prescription drug" means a device or drug that is not a controlled substance and is prohibited under state or federal law from being dispensed without a prescription. The term includes a device or drug that bears or is required to bear the legend "Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription" or "prescription only" or other legend that complies with federal law.

n. "Party state" means any state that has adopted this Compact.

o. "Population focus" means one of the six population foci of family/individual across the lifespan, adult-gerontology, pediatrics, neonatal, women's health/gender-related and psych/mental health.

p. "Prescriptive authority" means the legal authority to prescribe medications and devices as defined by party state

1 laws.

2 q. "Remote state" means a party state that is not the home
3 state.

4 r. "Role" means one of the four recognized roles of certified
5 registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA), certified nurse-midwives
6 (CNM), clinical nurse specialists (CNS) and certified nurse
7 practitioners (CNP).

8 s. "Single-state license" means an APRN license issued by a
9 party state that authorizes practice only within the issuing
10 state and does not include a multistate licensure privilege to
11 practice in any other party state.

12 t. "State" means a state, territory or possession of the
13 United States and the District of Columbia.

14 u. "State practice laws" means a party state's laws, rules,
15 and regulations that govern APRN practice, define the scope of
16 advanced nursing practice and create the methods and grounds for
17 imposing discipline except that prescriptive authority shall be
18 treated in accordance with Article III.f and g of this Compact.
19 "State practice laws" does not include:

20 1. A party state's laws, rules, and regulations requiring
21 supervision or collaboration with a healthcare professional,
22 except for laws, rules, and regulations regarding prescribing
23 controlled substances;

24 2. The requirements necessary to obtain and retain an
25 APRN license, except for qualifications or requirements of
26 the home state.

27 ARTICLE III

28 General Provisions and Jurisdiction

29 a. A state must implement procedures for considering the
30 criminal history records of applicants for initial APRN

1 licensure or APRN licensure by endorsement. Such procedures
2 shall include the submission of fingerprints or other biometric-
3 based information by APRN applicants for the purpose of
4 obtaining an applicant's criminal history record information
5 from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the agency
6 responsible for retaining that state's criminal records.

7 b. Each party state shall require an applicant to satisfy the
8 following APRN uniform licensure requirements to obtain or
9 retain a multistate license in the home state:

10 1. Meets the home state's qualifications for licensure or
11 renewal of licensure, as well as, all other applicable state
12 laws;

13 2. i. Has completed an accredited graduate-level
14 education program that prepares the applicant for one of
15 the four recognized roles and population foci; or

16 ii. Has completed a foreign APRN education program
17 for one of the four recognized roles and population foci
18 that (a) has been approved by the authorized accrediting
19 body in the applicable country and (b) has been verified
20 by an independent credentials review agency to be
21 comparable to a licensing board-approved APRN education
22 program;

23 3. Has, if a graduate of a foreign APRN education program
24 not taught in English or if English is not the individual's
25 native language, successfully passed an English proficiency
26 examination that includes the components of reading,
27 speaking, writing and listening;

28 4. Has successfully passed a national certification
29 examination that measures APRN, role and population-focused
30 competencies and maintains continued competence as evidenced

1 by recertification in the role and population focus through
2 the national certification program;

3 5. Holds an active, unencumbered license as a registered
4 nurse and an active, unencumbered authorization to practice
5 as an APRN;

6 6. Has successfully passed an NCLEX-RN® examination or
7 recognized predecessor, as applicable;

8 7. Has practiced for at least 2,080 hours as an APRN in a
9 role and population focus congruent with the applicant's
10 education and training. For purposes of this section,
11 practice shall not include hours obtained as part of
12 enrollment in an APRN education program;

13 8. Has submitted, in connection with an application for
14 initial licensure or licensure by endorsement, fingerprints
15 or other biometric data for the purpose of obtaining criminal
16 history record information from the Federal Bureau of
17 Investigation and the agency responsible for retaining that
18 state or, if applicable, foreign country's criminal records;

19 9. Has not been convicted or found guilty, or has entered
20 into an agreed disposition, of a felony offense under
21 applicable state, federal or foreign criminal law;

22 10. Has not been convicted or found guilty, or has
23 entered into an agreed disposition, of a misdemeanor offense
24 related to the practice of nursing as determined by factors
25 set forth in rules adopted by the Commission;

26 11. Is not currently enrolled in an alternative program;

27 12. Is subject to self-disclosure requirements regarding
28 current participation in an alternative program; and

29 13. Has a valid United States Social Security number.

30 c. An APRN issued a multistate license shall be licensed in

1 an approved role and at least one approved population focus.

2 d. An APRN multistate license issued by a home state to a
3 resident in that state will be recognized by each party state as
4 authorizing the APRN to practice as an APRN in each party state,
5 under a multistate licensure privilege, in the same role and
6 population focus as the APRN is licensed in the home state.

7 e. Nothing in this Compact shall affect the requirements
8 established by a party state for the issuance of a single-state
9 license, except that an individual may apply for a single-state
10 license, instead of a multistate license, even if otherwise
11 qualified for the multistate license. However, the failure of
12 such an individual to affirmatively opt for a single state
13 license may result in the issuance of a multistate license.

14 f. Issuance of an APRN multistate license shall include
15 prescriptive authority for noncontrolled prescription drugs.

16 g. For each state in which an APRN seeks authority to
17 prescribe controlled substances, the APRN shall satisfy all
18 requirements imposed by such state in granting and/or renewing
19 such authority.

20 h. An APRN issued a multistate license is authorized to
21 assume responsibility and accountability for patient care
22 independent of any supervisory or collaborative relationship.
23 This authority may be exercised in the home state and in any
24 remote state in which the APRN exercises a multistate licensure
25 privilege.

26 i. All party states shall be authorized, in accordance with
27 state due process laws, to take adverse action against an APRN's
28 multistate licensure privilege such as revocation, suspension,
29 probation or any other action that affects an APRN's
30 authorization to practice under a multistate licensure

1 privilege, including cease and desist actions. If a party state
2 takes such action, it shall promptly notify the administrator of
3 the coordinated licensure information system. The administrator
4 of the coordinated licensure information system shall promptly
5 notify the home state of any such actions by remote states.

6 j. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Compact, an
7 APRN practicing in a party state must comply with the state
8 practice laws of the state in which the client is located at the
9 time service is provided. APRN practice is not limited to
10 patient care, but shall include all advanced nursing practice as
11 defined by the state practice laws of the party state in which
12 the client is located. APRN practice in a party state under a
13 multistate licensure privilege will subject the APRN to the
14 jurisdiction of the licensing board, the courts, and the laws of
15 the party state in which the client is located at the time
16 service is provided.

17 k. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Compact,
18 this Compact does not affect additional requirements imposed by
19 states for advanced practice registered nursing. However, a
20 multistate licensure privilege to practice registered nursing
21 granted by a party state shall be recognized by other party
22 states as satisfying any state law requirement for registered
23 nurse licensure as a precondition for authorization to practice
24 as an APRN in that state.

25 l. Individuals not residing in a party state shall continue
26 to be able to apply for a party state's singlestate APRN license
27 as provided under the laws of each party state. However, the
28 single-state license granted to these individuals will not be
29 recognized as granting the privilege to practice as an APRN in
30 any other party state.

ARTICLE IV

Applications for APRN Licensure in a Party State

a. Upon application for an APRN multistate license, the licensing board in the issuing party state shall ascertain, through the coordinated licensure information system, whether the applicant has ever held or is the holder of a licensed practical/vocational nursing license, a registered nursing license or an advanced practice registered nurse license issued by any other state, whether there are any encumbrances on any license or multistate licensure privilege held by the applicant, whether any adverse action has been taken against any license or multistate licensure privilege held by the applicant and whether the applicant is currently participating in an alternative program.

b. An APRN may hold a multistate APRN license, issued by the home state, in only one party state at a time.

c. If an APRN changes primary state of residence by moving between two party states, the APRN must apply for APRN licensure in the new home state, and the multistate license issued by the prior home state shall be deactivated in accordance with applicable Commission rules.

1. The APRN may apply for licensure in advance of a change in primary state of residence.

2. A multistate APRN license shall not be issued by the new home state until the APRN provides satisfactory evidence of a change in primary state of residence to the new home state and satisfies all applicable requirements to obtain a multistate APRN license from the new home state.

d. If an APRN changes primary state of residence by moving from a party state to a non-party state, the APRN multistate

1 license issued by the prior home state will convert to a single-
2 state license, valid only in the former home state.

3 ARTICLE V

4 Additional Authorities Invested in
5 Party State Licensing Boards

6 a. In addition to the other powers conferred by state law, a
7 licensing board shall have the authority to:

8 1. Take adverse action against an APRN's multistate
9 licensure privilege to practice within that party state.

10 i. Only the home state shall have power to take
11 adverse action against an APRN's license issued by the
12 home state.

13 ii. For purposes of taking adverse action, the home
14 state licensing board shall give the same priority and
15 effect to reported conduct that occurred outside of the
16 home state as it would if such conduct had occurred
17 within the home state. In so doing, the home state shall
18 apply its own state laws to determine appropriate action.

19 2. Issue cease and desist orders or impose an encumbrance
20 on an APRN's authority to practice within that party state.

21 3. Complete any pending investigations of an APRN who
22 changes primary state of residence during the course of such
23 investigations. The licensing board shall also have the
24 authority to take appropriate action(s) and shall promptly
25 report the conclusions of such investigations to the
26 administrator of the coordinated licensure information
27 system. The administrator of the coordinated licensure
28 information system shall promptly notify the new home state
29 of any such actions.

30 4. Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations

1 that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses, as
2 well as, the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a
3 party state licensing board for the attendance and testimony
4 of witnesses and/or the production of evidence from another
5 party state shall be enforced in the latter state by any
6 court of competent jurisdiction, according to that court's
7 practice and procedure in considering subpoenas issued in its
8 own proceedings. The issuing licensing board shall pay any
9 witness fees, travel expenses, mileage and other fees
10 required by the service statutes of the state in which the
11 witnesses and/or evidence are located.

12 5. Obtain and submit, for an APRN licensure applicant,
13 fingerprints or other biometric-based information to the
14 Federal Bureau of Investigation for criminal background
15 checks, receive the results of the Federal Bureau of
16 Investigation record search on criminal background checks and
17 use the results in making licensure decisions.

18 6. If otherwise permitted by state law, recover from the
19 affected APRN the costs of investigations and disposition of
20 cases resulting from any adverse action taken against that
21 APRN.

22 7. Take adverse action based on the factual findings of
23 another party state, provided that the licensing board
24 follows its own procedures for taking such adverse action.

25 b. If adverse action is taken by a home state against an
26 APRN's multistate licensure, the privilege to practice in all
27 other party states under a multistate licensure privilege shall
28 be deactivated until all encumbrances have been removed from the
29 APRN's multistate license. All home state disciplinary orders
30 that impose adverse action against an APRN's multistate license

1 shall include a statement that the APRN's multistate licensure
2 privilege is deactivated in all party states during the pendency
3 of the order.

4 c. Nothing in this Compact shall override a party state's
5 decision that participation in an alternative program may be
6 used in lieu of adverse action. The home state licensing board
7 shall deactivate the multistate licensure privilege under the
8 multistate license of any APRN for the duration of the APRN's
9 participation in an alternative program.

10 ARTICLE VI

11 Coordinated Licensure Information System and 12 Exchange of Information

13 a. All party states shall participate in a coordinated
14 licensure information system of all APRNs, licensed registered
15 nurses and licensed practical/vocational nurses. This system
16 will include information on the licensure and disciplinary
17 history of each APRN, as submitted by party states, to assist in
18 the coordinated administration of APRN licensure and enforcement
19 efforts.

20 b. The Commission, in consultation with the administrator of
21 the coordinated licensure information system, shall formulate
22 necessary and proper procedures for the identification,
23 collection and exchange of information under this Compact.

24 c. All licensing boards shall promptly report to the
25 coordinated licensure information system any adverse action, any
26 current significant investigative information, denials of
27 applications (with the reasons for such denials) and APRN
28 participation in alternative programs known to the licensing
29 board regardless of whether such participation is deemed
30 nonpublic and/or confidential under state law.

1 d. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all party
2 state licensing boards contributing information to the
3 coordinated licensure information system may designate
4 information that may not be shared with non-party states or
5 disclosed to other entities or individuals without the express
6 permission of the contributing state.

7 e. Any personally identifiable information obtained from the
8 coordinated licensure information system by a party state
9 licensing board shall not be shared with non-party states or
10 disclosed to other entities or individuals except to the extent
11 permitted by the laws of the party state contributing the
12 information.

13 f. Any information contributed to the coordinated licensure
14 information system that is subsequently required to be expunged
15 by the laws of the party state contributing the information
16 shall be removed from the coordinated licensure information
17 system.

18 g. The Compact administrator of each party state shall
19 furnish a uniform data set to the Compact administrator of each
20 other party state, which shall include, at a minimum:

21 1. Identifying information;

22 2. Licensure data;

23 3. Information related to alternative program
24 participation information; and

25 4. Other information that may facilitate the
26 administration of this Compact, as determined by Commission
27 rules.

28 h. The Compact administrator of a party state shall provide
29 all investigative documents and information requested by another
30 party state.

ARTICLE VII

Establishment of the Interstate Commission of

APRN Compact Administrators

a. The party states hereby create and establish a joint public agency known as the Interstate Commission of APRN Compact Administrators.

1. The Commission is an instrumentality of the party states.

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 venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

3. Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign immunity.

b. Membership, Voting and Meetings

1. Each party state shall have and be limited to one administrator. The head of the state licensing board or designee shall be the administrator of this Compact for each party state. Any administrator may be removed or suspended from office as provided by the law of the state from which the Administrator is appointed. Any vacancy occurring in the Commission shall be filled in accordance with the laws of the party state in which the vacancy exists.

2. Each administrator shall be entitled to one (1) vote with regard to the promulgation of rules and creation of bylaws and shall otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the business and affairs of the Commission. An

1 administrator shall vote in person or by such other means as
2 provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for an
3 administrator's participation in meetings by telephone or
4 other means of communication.

5 3. The Commission shall meet at least once during each
6 calendar year. Additional meetings shall be held as set forth
7 in the bylaws or rules of the commission.

8 4. All meetings shall be open to the public, and public
9 notice of meetings shall be given in the same manner as
10 required under the rulemaking provisions in Article VIII.

11 5. The Commission may convene in a closed, nonpublic
12 meeting if the Commission must discuss:

13 i. Noncompliance of a party state with its
14 obligations under this Compact;

15 ii. The employment, compensation, discipline or other
16 personnel matters, practices or procedures related to
17 specific employees or other matters related to the
18 Commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;

19 iii. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated
20 litigation;

21 iv. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase or sale
22 of goods, services or real estate;

23 v. Accusing any person of a crime or formally
24 censuring any person;

25 vi. Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or
26 financial information that is privileged or confidential;

27 vii. Disclosure of information of a personal nature
28 where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted
29 invasion of personal privacy;

30 viii. Disclosure of investigatory records compiled

1 for law enforcement purposes;

2 ix. Disclosure of information related to any reports
3 prepared by or on behalf of the Commission for the
4 purpose of investigation of compliance with this Compact;
5 or

6 x. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by
7 federal or state statute.

8 6. If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed
9 pursuant to this provision, the Commission's legal counsel or
10 designee shall certify that the meeting may be closed and
11 shall reference each relevant exempting provision. The
12 Commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe
13 all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full
14 and accurate summary of actions taken, and the reasons
15 therefor, including a description of the views expressed. All
16 documents considered in connection with an action shall be
17 identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a
18 closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release by
19 a majority vote of the Commission or order of a court of
20 competent jurisdiction.

21 c. The Commission shall, by a majority vote of the
22 administrators, prescribe bylaws or rules to govern its conduct
23 as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes and
24 exercise the powers of this Compact, including but not limited
25 to:

26 1. Establishing the fiscal year of the Commission;

27 2. Providing reasonable standards and procedures:

28 i. For the establishment and meetings of other
29 committees; and

30 ii. Governing any general or specific delegation of

any authority or function of the Commission.

3. Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of the Commission, ensuring reasonable advance notice of all meetings and providing an opportunity for attendance of such meetings by interested parties, with enumerated exceptions designed to protect the public's interest, the privacy of individuals, and proprietary information, including trade secrets. The Commission may meet in closed session only after a majority of the administrators vote to close a meeting in whole or in part. As soon as practicable, the Commission must make public a copy of the vote to close the meeting revealing the vote of each administrator, with no proxy votes allowed;

4. Establishing the titles, duties and authority and reasonable procedures for the election of the officers of the Commission;

5. Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the establishment of the personnel policies and programs of the Commission. Notwithstanding any civil service or other similar laws of any party state, the bylaws shall exclusively govern the personnel policies and programs of the Commission;

6. Providing a mechanism for winding up the operations of the Commission and the equitable disposition of any surplus funds that may exist after the termination of this Compact after the payment and/or reserving of all of its debts and obligations;

d. The Commission shall publish its bylaws and rules, and any amendments thereto, in a convenient form on the website of the Commission;

e. The Commission shall maintain its financial records in

1 accordance with the bylaws; and

2 f. The Commission shall meet and take such actions as are
3 consistent with the provisions of this Compact and the bylaws.

4 g. The Commission shall have the following powers:

5 1. To promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and
6 coordinate implementation and administration of this Compact.
7 The rules shall have the force and effect of law and shall be
8 binding in all party states;

9 2. To bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in
10 the name of the Commission, provided that the standing of any
11 licensing board to sue or be sued under applicable law shall
12 not be affected;

13 3. To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

14 4. To borrow, accept or contract for services of
15 personnel, including but not limited to employees of a party
16 state or nonprofit organizations;

17 5. To cooperate with other organizations that administer
18 state compacts related to the regulation of nursing,
19 including but not limited to sharing administrative or staff
20 expenses, office space or other resources;

21 6. To hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix
22 compensation, define duties, grant such individuals
23 appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of this
24 Compact, and to establish the Commission's personnel policies
25 and programs relating to conflicts of interest,
26 qualifications of personnel and other related personnel
27 matters;

28 7. To accept any and all appropriate donations, grants
29 and gifts of money, equipment, supplies, materials and
30 services, and to receive, utilize and dispose of the same;

1 provided that at all times the Commission shall strive to
2 avoid any appearance of impropriety and/or conflict of
3 interest;

4 8. To lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or
5 donations of, or otherwise to own, hold, improve or use, any
6 property, whether real, personal or mixed; provided that at
7 all times the Commission shall strive to avoid any appearance
8 of impropriety;

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

12 10. To establish a budget and make expenditures;

13 11. To borrow money;

14 12. To appoint committees, including advisory committees
15 comprised of administrators, state nursing regulators, state
16 legislators or their representatives, and consumer
17 representatives, and other such interested persons;

18 13. To issue advisory opinions;

19 14. To provide and receive information from, and to
20 cooperate with, law enforcement agencies;

21 15. To adopt and use an official seal; and

22 16. To perform such other functions as may be necessary
23 or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this Compact
24 consistent with the state regulation of APRN licensure and
25 practice.

26 h. Financing of the Commission

27 1. The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment
28 of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment,
29 organization and ongoing activities.

30 2. The Commission may also levy on and collect an annual

1 assessment from each party state to cover the cost of its
2 operations, activities and staff in its annual budget as
3 approved each year. The aggregate annual assessment amount,
4 if any, shall be allocated based upon a formula to be
5 determined by the Commission, which shall promulgate a rule
6 that is binding upon all party states.

7 3. The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind
8 prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor
9 shall the Commission pledge the credit of any of the party
10 states, except by, and with the authority of, such party
11 state.

12 4. The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all
13 receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of
14 the Commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting
15 procedures established under its bylaws. However, all
16 receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission
17 shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public
18 accountant, and the report of the audit shall be included in
19 and become part of the annual report of the Commission.

20 i. Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification

21 1. The administrators, officers, executive director,
22 employees and representatives of the Commission shall be
23 immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their
24 official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of
25 property or personal injury or other civil liability caused
26 by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or
27 omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the
28 claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred,
29 within the scope of Commission employment, duties or
30 responsibilities; provided that nothing in this paragraph

1 shall be construed to protect any such person from suit
2 and/or liability for any damage, loss, injury or liability
3 caused by the intentional, willful or wanton misconduct of
4 that person.

5 2. The Commission shall defend any administrator,
6 officer, executive director, employee or representative of
7 the Commission in any civil action seeking to impose
8 liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or
9 omission that occurred within the scope of Commission
10 employment, duties or responsibilities, or that the person
11 against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for
12 believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment,
13 duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing herein
14 shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining his
15 or her own counsel; and provided further that the actual or
16 alleged act, error or omission did not result from that
17 person's intentional, willful or wanton misconduct.

18 3. The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any
19 administrator, officer, executive director, employee or
20 representative of the Commission for the amount of any
21 settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising
22 out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission that
23 occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties or
24 responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis
25 for believing occurred within the scope of Commission
26 employment, duties or responsibilities, provided that the
27 actual or alleged act, error or omission did not result from
28 the intentional, willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

29 ARTICLE VIII

30 Rulemaking

1 a. The Commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers
2 pursuant to the criteria set forth in this Article and the rules
3 adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall become binding as
4 of the date specified in each rule or amendment and shall have
5 the same force and effect as provisions of this Compact.

6 b. Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a
7 regular or special meeting of the Commission.

8 c. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or
9 rules by the Commission, and at least sixty (60) days in advance
10 of the meeting at which the rule will be considered and voted
11 upon, the Commission shall file a notice of proposed rulemaking:

12 1. On the website of the Commission; and

13 2. On the website of each licensing board or the
14 publication in which each state would otherwise publish
15 proposed rules.

16 d. The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:

17 1. The proposed time, date and location of the meeting in
18 which the rule will be considered and voted upon;

19 2. The text of the proposed rule or amendment, and the
20 reason for the proposed rule;

21 3. A request for comments on the proposed rule from any
22 interested person; and

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

26 e. Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the Commission shall
27 allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions and
28 arguments, which shall be made available to the public.

29 f. The Commission shall grant an opportunity for a public
30 hearing before it adopts a rule or amendment.

1 g. The Commission shall publish the place, time, and date of
2 the scheduled public hearing.

3 1. Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each
4 person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable
5 opportunity to comment orally or in writing. All hearings
6 will be recorded, and a copy will be made available upon
7 request.

8 2. Nothing in this section shall be construed as
9 requiring a separate hearing on each rule. Rules may be
10 grouped for the convenience of the Commission at hearings
11 required by this section.

12 h. If no one appears at the public hearing, the Commission
13 may proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule.

14 i. Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of
15 business on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing was not
16 held, the Commission shall consider all written and oral
17 comments received.

18 j. The Commission shall, by majority vote of all
19 administrators, take final action on the proposed rule and shall
20 determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the
21 rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

22 k. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the
23 Commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule without
24 prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that
25 the usual rulemaking procedures provided in this Compact and in
26 this section shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon
27 as reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety (90) days
28 after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this
29 provision, an emergency rule is one that must be adopted
30 immediately in order to:

1 1. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety or
2 welfare;

3 2. Prevent a loss of Commission or party state funds; or

4 3. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an
5 administrative rule that is established by federal law or
6 rule.

7 1. The Commission may direct revisions to a previously
8 adopted rule or amendment for purposes of correcting
9 typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency or
10 grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be
11 posted on the website of the Commission. The revision shall be
12 subject to challenge by any person for a period of thirty (30)
13 days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on
14 grounds that the revision results in a material change to a
15 rule. A challenge shall be made in writing, and delivered to the
16 Commission, prior to the end of the notice period. If no
17 challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further
18 action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take
19 effect without the approval of the Commission.

20 ARTICLE IX

21 Oversight, Dispute Resolution and Enforcement

22 a. Oversight

23 1. Each party state shall enforce this Compact and take
24 all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate this
25 Compact's purposes and intent.

26 2. The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of
27 process in any proceeding that may affect the powers,
28 responsibilities or actions of the Commission, and shall have
29 standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes.
30 Failure to provide service of process to the Commission shall

1 render a judgment or order void as to the Commission, this
2 Compact or promulgated rules.

3 b. Default, Technical Assistance and Termination

4 1. If the Commission determines that a party state has
5 defaulted in the performance of its obligations or
6 responsibilities under this Compact or the promulgated rules,
7 the Commission shall:

8 i. Provide written notice to the defaulting state and
9 other party states of the nature of the default, the
10 proposed means of curing the default and/or any other
11 action to be taken by the Commission; and

12 ii. Provide remedial training and specific technical
13 assistance regarding the default.

14 2. If a state in default fails to cure the default, the
15 defaulting state's membership in this Compact may be
16 terminated upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the
17 administrators, and all rights, privileges and benefits
18 conferred by this Compact may be terminated on the effective
19 date of termination. A cure of the default does not relieve
20 the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred
21 during the period of default.

22 3. Termination of membership in this Compact shall be
23 imposed only after all other means of securing compliance
24 have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate
25 shall be given by the Commission to the governor of the
26 defaulting state and to the executive officer of the
27 defaulting state's licensing board, the defaulting state's
28 licensing board, and each of the party states.

29 4. A state whose membership in this Compact has been
30 terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations

1 and liabilities incurred through the effective date of
2 termination, including obligations that extend beyond the
3 effective date of termination.

4 5. The Commission shall not bear any costs related to a
5 state that is found to be in default or whose membership in
6 this Compact has been terminated, unless agreed upon in
7 writing between the Commission and the defaulting state.

8 6. The defaulting state may appeal the action of the
9 Commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the
10 District of Columbia or the federal district in which the
11 Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party
12 shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including
13 reasonable attorneys' fees.

14 c. Dispute Resolution

15 1. Upon request by a party state, the Commission shall
16 attempt to resolve disputes related to the Compact that arise
17 among party states and between party and non-party states.

18 2. The Commission shall promulgate a rule providing for
19 both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes,
20 as appropriate.

21 3. In the event the Commission cannot resolve disputes
22 among party states arising under this Compact:

23 i. The party states may submit the issues in dispute
24 to an arbitration panel, which will be comprised of
25 individuals appointed by the Compact administrator in
26 each of the affected party states and an individual
27 mutually agreed upon by the Compact administrators of all
28 the party states involved in the dispute.

29 ii. The decision of a majority of the arbitrators
30 shall be final and binding.

1 d. Enforcement

2 1. The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its
3 discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of this
4 Compact.

5 2. By majority vote, the Commission may initiate legal
6 action in the United States District Court for the District
7 of Columbia or the federal district in which the Commission
8 has its principal offices against a party state that is in
9 default to enforce compliance with the provisions of this
10 Compact and its promulgated rules and bylaws. The relief
11 sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the
12 event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party
13 shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including
14 reasonable attorneys' fees.

15 3. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive
16 remedies of the Commission. The Commission may pursue any
17 other remedies available under federal or state law.

18 ARTICLE X

19 Effective Date, Withdrawal and Amendment

20 a. This Compact shall come into limited effect at such time
21 as this Compact has been enacted into law in seven (7) party
22 states for the sole purpose of establishing and convening the
23 Commission to adopt rules relating to its operation.

24 b. Any state that joins this Compact subsequent to the
25 Commission's initial adoption of the APRN uniform licensure
26 requirements shall be subject to all rules that have been
27 previously adopted by the Commission.

28 c. Any party state may withdraw from this Compact by enacting
29 a statute repealing the same. A party state's withdrawal shall
30 not take effect until six (6) months after enactment of the

1 repealing statute.

2 d. A party state's withdrawal or termination shall not affect
3 the continuing requirement of the withdrawing or terminated
4 state's licensing board to report adverse actions and
5 significant investigations occurring prior to the effective date
6 of such withdrawal or termination.

7 e. Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to
8 invalidate or prevent any APRN licensure agreement or other
9 cooperative arrangement between a party state and a non-party
10 state that does not conflict with the provisions of this
11 Compact.

12 f. This Compact may be amended by the party states. No
13 amendment to this Compact shall become effective and binding
14 upon any party state until it is enacted into the laws of all
15 party states.

16 g. Representatives of non-party states to this Compact shall
17 be invited to participate in the activities of the Commission,
18 on a nonvoting basis, prior to the adoption of this Compact by
19 all states.

20 ARTICLE XI

21 Construction and Severability

22 This Compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate
23 the purposes thereof. The provisions of this Compact shall be
24 severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of
25 this Compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of
26 any party state or of the United States, or if the applicability
27 thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance is
28 held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Compact and
29 the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or
30 circumstance shall not be affected thereby. If this Compact

1 shall be held to be contrary to the constitution of any party
2 state, this Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to
3 the remaining party states and in full force and effect as to
4 the party state affected as to all severable matters.

5 Section 3. When and how compact becomes operative.

6 (a) General rule.--When the Governor executes the compact on
7 behalf of this State and files a verified copy with the
8 Secretary of the Commonwealth and the compact is ratified by one
9 or more other states, the compact shall become operative and
10 effective between this State and the other state or states. The
11 Governor may take action necessary to complete the exchange of
12 official documents between this State and any other state
13 ratifying the compact.

14 (b) Notice in Pennsylvania Bulletin.--The Secretary of the
15 Commonwealth shall publish a notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin
16 when the conditions in subsection (a) are satisfied and shall
17 include in the notice the date on which the compact became
18 effective and operative between this State and any other state
19 or states in accordance with this act.

20 Section 4. Compensation and expenses of compact administrator.

21 The compact administrator who represents this State, as
22 provided for in the compact, may not receive any additional
23 compensation for performing the duties and responsibilities as
24 compact administrator, but shall be entitled to reimbursement
25 for reasonable expenses actually incurred in connection with the
26 duties and responsibilities as compact administrator in the same
27 manner as for expenses incurred in connection with other duties
28 and responsibilities of the individual's office or employment.

29 Section 5. Effective date.

30 This act shall take effect in 60 days.