

§2171. Short title; findings and declaration of purpose -- Article 1

1. Short title. This chapter may be known and cited as "the Nurse Licensure Compact," or "the compact."

[PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

2. Legislative intent. This compact is the Maine enactment of the Nurse Licensure Compact as revised by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. The form, format and text of the compact have been changed minimally so as to conform to Maine statutory conventions. The changes are technical in nature, and it is the intent of the Legislature that this Act be interpreted as substantively the same as the Nurse Licensure Compact that is enacted by other party states.

[PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

3. Findings. The party states find that:

A. The health and safety of the public are affected by the degree of compliance with and the effectiveness of enforcement activities related to state nurse licensure laws; [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

B. Violations of nurse licensure and other laws regulating the practice of nursing may result in injury or harm to the public; [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

C. The expanded mobility of nurses and the use of advanced communication technologies as part of our nation's health care delivery system require greater coordination and cooperation among states in the areas of nurse licensure and regulation; [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

D. New practice modalities and technology make compliance with individual state nurse licensure laws difficult and complex; [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

E. The system of duplicative licensure for nurses practicing in multiple states is cumbersome and redundant for both nurses and states; and [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

F. Uniformity of nurse licensure requirements throughout the states promotes public safety and public health benefits. [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

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4. Purpose. The general purposes of this compact are to:

A. Facilitate the states' responsibility to protect the public's health and safety; [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

B. Ensure and encourage the cooperation of party states in the areas of nurse licensure and regulation; [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

C. Facilitate the exchange of information between party states in the areas of nurse regulation, investigation and adverse actions; [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

D. Promote compliance with the laws governing the practice of nursing in each jurisdiction; [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

E. Invest all party states with the authority to hold a nurse accountable for meeting all state practice laws in the state in which the patient is located at the time care is rendered through the mutual recognition of party state licenses; [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

F. Decrease redundancies in the consideration and issuance of nurse licenses; and [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

G. Provide opportunities for interstate practice by nurses who meet uniform licensure requirements. [PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2017, c. 258, Pt. A, §1 (NEW).

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