



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5197

LCO No. 1358



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING SOCIAL WORKERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Social Work Licensure
2 Compact is hereby enacted into law and entered into by the state of
3 Connecticut with any and all jurisdictions legally joining therein in
4 accordance with its terms. The compact is substantially as follows:

5 SOCIAL WORK LICENSURE COMPACT

6 SECTION 1. PURPOSE

7 The purpose of the compact is to facilitate interstate practice of
8 regulated social workers by improving public access to competent social
9 work services. The compact preserves the regulatory authority of states
10 to protect public health and safety through the current system of state
11 licensure. The compact is designed to achieve the following objectives:

- 12 (1) Increase public access to social work services;
- 13 (2) Reduce overly burdensome and duplicative requirements

14 associated with holding multiple licenses;

15 (3) Enhance the member states' ability to protect public health and
16 safety;

17 (4) Encourage the cooperation of member states in regulating
18 multistate practice;

19 (5) Promote mobility and address workforce shortages by eliminating
20 the necessity for licenses in multiple states by providing for the mutual
21 recognition of other member states' licenses;

22 (6) Support military families;

23 (7) Facilitate the exchange of licensure and disciplinary information
24 among member states;

25 (8) Authorize all member states to hold a regulated social worker
26 accountable for abiding by a member state's laws, regulations and
27 applicable professional standards in the member state in which the
28 client is located at the time care is rendered; and

29 (9) Allow for the use of telehealth to facilitate increased access to
30 regulated social work services.

31 SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

32 As used in the compact, except as otherwise provided:

33 (1) "Active military member" means any individual with full-time
34 duty status in the active armed forces of the United States, including,
35 but not limited to, members of the National Guard and Reserve.

36 (2) "Adverse action" means any administrative, civil, equitable or
37 criminal action permitted by a state's laws that is imposed by a licensing
38 authority or other authority against a regulated social worker, including
39 actions against an individual's license or multistate authorization to
40 practice, including, but not limited to, revocation, suspension,

41 probation, monitoring of the licensee, limitation on the licensee's
42 practice or any other encumbrance on licensure affecting a regulated
43 social worker's authorization to practice, including, but not limited to,
44 the issuance of a cease and desist action.

45 (3) "Alternative program" means a nondisciplinary monitoring or
46 practice remediation process approved by a licensing authority to
47 address practitioners with an impairment.

48 (4) "Charter member state" means a member state that has enacted
49 legislation to adopt the compact, which legislation predates the effective
50 date of the compact as described in section 14 of the compact.

51 (5) "Compact" means the Social Work Licensure Compact enacted
52 into law and entered into by the state pursuant to this section.

53 (6) "Compact commission" or "commission" means the government
54 agency described in section 10 of the compact as the Social Work
55 Licensure Compact Commission whose membership consists of all
56 states that have enacted the compact and that operates as an
57 instrumentality of the member states.

58 (7) "Current significant investigative information" means
59 investigative information that:

60 (A) A licensing authority, after a preliminary inquiry that includes
61 notification and an opportunity for the regulated social worker to
62 respond, has reason to believe is not groundless and, if proved true,
63 would indicate more than a minor infraction, as may be defined by the
64 commission; or

65 (B) Indicates that the regulated social worker represents an
66 immediate threat to public health and safety, as may be defined by the
67 commission, regardless of whether the regulated social worker has been
68 notified and has had an opportunity to respond.

69 (8) "Data system" means a repository of information about licensees,

70 including, continuing education, examination, licensure, current
71 significant investigative information, disqualifying events, multistate
72 license and adverse action information or other information as required
73 by the commission.

74 (9) "Disqualifying event" means any adverse action or incident that
75 results in an encumbrance that disqualifies or makes the licensee
76 ineligible to either obtain, retain or renew a multistate license.

77 (10) "Domicile" means the jurisdiction in which the licensee resides
78 and intends to remain indefinitely.

79 (11) "Encumbrance" means a revocation or suspension of, or any
80 limitation on, the full and unrestricted practice of social work licensed
81 and regulated by a licensing authority.

82 (12) "Executive committee" means a group of delegates elected or
83 appointed to act on behalf of, and within the powers granted to them
84 by, the compact and commission.

85 (13) "Home state" means the member state that is the licensee's
86 primary domicile.

87 (14) "Impairment" means a condition that may impair a practitioner's
88 ability to engage in full and unrestricted practice as a regulated social
89 worker without some type of intervention and may include alcohol and
90 drug dependence, a mental health impairment or a neurological or
91 physical impairment.

92 (15) "Licensee" means an individual who holds a license from a state
93 to practice as a regulated social worker.

94 (16) "Licensing authority" means the board or agency of a member
95 state, or the equivalent, that is responsible for the licensing and
96 regulation of regulated social workers.

97 (17) "Member state" means a state, commonwealth, district or

98 territory of the United States that has enacted the compact.

99 (18) "Multistate authorization to practice" means a legally authorized
100 privilege to practice that is equivalent to a license and associated with a
101 multistate license permitting the practice of social work in a remote
102 state.

103 (19) "Multistate license" means a license to practice as a regulated
104 social worker issued by a home state licensing authority that authorizes
105 the regulated social worker to practice in all member states under
106 multistate authorization to practice.

107 (20) "Qualifying national exam" means a national licensing
108 examination approved by the commission.

109 (21) "Regulated social worker" means any clinical, master's or
110 bachelor's social worker licensed by a member state regardless of the
111 title used by such member state.

112 (22) "Remote state" means a member state other than the licensee's
113 home state.

114 (23) "Rule" or "rule of the commission" means a regulation or
115 regulations duly promulgated by the commission, as authorized by the
116 compact, that has the force of law.

117 (24) "Single state license" means a social work license issued by any
118 state that authorizes practice only within the issuing state and does not
119 include multistate authorization to practice in any member state.

120 (25) "Social work" or "social work services" means the application of
121 social work theory, knowledge, methods, ethics and the professional use
122 of self to restore or enhance social, psychosocial or biopsychosocial
123 functioning of individuals, couples, families, groups, organizations and
124 communities through the care and services provided by a regulated
125 social worker as set forth in the member state's statutes and regulations
126 in the state where the services are being provided.

127 (26) "State" means any state, commonwealth, district or territory of
128 the United States that regulates the practice of social work.

129 (27) "Unencumbered license" means a license that authorizes a
130 regulated social worker to engage in the full and unrestricted practice of
131 social work.

132 SECTION 3. STATE PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPACT

133 (a) To be eligible to participate in the compact, a potential member
134 state shall:

135 (1) License and regulate the practice of social work at either the
136 clinical, master's or bachelor's category;

137 (2) Require applicants for licensure to graduate from a program that
138 is:

139 (A) Operated by a college or university recognized by the licensing
140 authority;

141 (B) Accredited, or in candidacy by an institution that subsequently
142 becomes accredited, by an accrediting agency recognized by either:

143 (i) The Council for Higher Education Accreditation, or its successor;
144 or

145 (ii) The United States Department of Education; and

146 (C) Corresponds to the licensure sought as outlined in section 4 of the
147 compact;

148 (3) Require applicants for clinical licensure to complete a period of
149 supervised practice; and

150 (4) Have a mechanism in place for receiving, investigating and
151 adjudicating complaints about licensees.

152 (b) To maintain membership in the compact, a member state shall:

153 (1) Require that applicants for a multistate license pass a qualifying
154 national exam for the corresponding category of multistate license
155 sought as outlined in section 4 of the compact;

156 (2) Participate fully in the commission's data system, including using
157 the commission's unique identifier as defined in the rules of the
158 commission;

159 (3) Notify the commission, in compliance with the terms of the
160 compact and rules, of any adverse action or the availability of current
161 significant investigative information regarding a licensee;

162 (4) Implement procedures for considering the criminal history
163 records of applicants for a multistate license, which procedures shall
164 include the submission of fingerprints or other biometric-based
165 information by applicants for the purpose of obtaining an applicant's
166 criminal history record information from the Federal Bureau of
167 Investigation and the agency responsible for retaining such state's
168 criminal records;

169 (5) Comply with the rules of the commission;

170 (6) Require an applicant to obtain or retain a license in the home state
171 and meet the home state's qualifications for licensure or renewal of
172 licensure, as well as all other applicable home state laws;

173 (7) Authorize a licensee holding a multistate license in any member
174 state to practice in accordance with the terms of the compact and rules
175 of the commission; and

176 (8) Designate a delegate to participate in the commission meetings.

177 (c) A member state meeting the requirements of subsections (a) and
178 (b) of this section of the compact shall designate the categories of social
179 work licensure that are eligible for issuance of a multistate license for
180 applicants in such member state. To the extent that any member state
181 does not meet the requirements for participation in the compact at any

182 particular category of social work licensure, such member state may
183 choose to issue a multistate license to applicants that otherwise meet the
184 requirements of section 4 of the compact for issuance of a multistate
185 license in such category or categories of licensure.

186 (d) The home state may charge a fee for granting the multistate
187 license.

188 SECTION 4. SOCIAL WORKER PARTICIPATION IN THE
189 COMPACT

190 (a) To be eligible for a multistate license under the terms and
191 provisions of the compact, an applicant, regardless of category shall:

192 (1) Hold or be eligible for an active, unencumbered license in the
193 home state;

194 (2) Pay any applicable fees, including any state fee, for the multistate
195 license;

196 (3) Submit, in connection with an application for a multistate license,
197 fingerprints or other biometric data for the purpose of obtaining
198 criminal history record information from the Federal Bureau of
199 Investigation and the agency responsible for retaining such state's
200 criminal records;

201 (4) Notify the home state of any adverse action, encumbrance or
202 restriction on any professional license taken by any member state or
203 non-member state not later than thirty days after the date the action has
204 been taken;

205 (5) Meet any continuing competence requirements established by the
206 home state; and

207 (6) Abide by the laws, regulations and applicable standards in the
208 member state where the client is located at the time care is rendered.

209 (b) An applicant for a clinical-category multistate license shall meet

210 all of the following requirements:

211 (1) Fulfill a competency requirement that shall be satisfied by either:

212 (A) Passage of a clinical-category qualifying national exam;

213 (B) Licensure of the applicant in the applicant's home state at the
214 clinical category, beginning prior to such time as a qualifying national
215 exam was required by the home state and accompanied by a period of
216 continuous social work licensure thereafter, all of which may be further
217 governed by the rules of the commission; or

218 (C) The substantial equivalency of the foregoing competency
219 requirements that the commission may determine by rule.

220 (2) Attain at least a master's degree in social work from a program
221 that is:

222 (A) Operated by a college or university recognized by the licensing
223 authority; and

224 (B) Accredited, or in candidacy that subsequently becomes
225 accredited, by an accrediting agency recognized by either:

226 (i) The Council for Higher Education Accreditation, or its successor;
227 or

228 (ii) The United States Department of Education.

229 (3) Fulfill a practice requirement that shall be satisfied by
230 demonstrating completion of either:

231 (A) A period of postgraduate supervised clinical practice equal to a
232 minimum of three thousand hours;

233 (B) A minimum of two years of full-time postgraduate supervised
234 clinical practice; or

235 (C) The substantial equivalency of the foregoing practice

236 requirements that the commission may determine by rule.

237 (c) An applicant for a master's-category multistate license shall meet
238 all of the following requirements:

239 (1) Fulfill a competency requirement that shall be satisfied by either:

240 (A) Passage of a master's-category qualifying national exam;

241 (B) Licensure of the applicant in the applicant's home state at the
242 master's category, beginning prior to such time as a qualifying national
243 exam was required by the home state at the master's category and
244 accompanied by a continuous period of social work licensure thereafter,
245 all of which may be further governed by the rules of the commission; or

246 (C) The substantial equivalency of the foregoing competency
247 requirements that the commission may determine by rule.

248 (2) Attain at least a master's degree in social work from a program
249 that is:

250 (A) Operated by a college or university recognized by the licensing
251 authority; and

252 (B) Accredited, or in candidacy that subsequently becomes
253 accredited, by an accrediting agency recognized by either:

254 (i) The Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor;
255 or

256 (ii) The United States Department of Education.

257 (d) An applicant for a bachelor's-category multistate license shall
258 meet all of the following requirements:

259 (1) Fulfill a competency requirement that shall be satisfied by either:

260 (A) Passage of a bachelor's-category qualifying national exam;

261 (B) Licensure of the applicant in the applicant's home state at the
262 bachelor's category, beginning prior to such time as a qualifying
263 national exam was required by the home state and accompanied by a
264 period of continuous social work licensure thereafter, all of which may
265 be further governed by the rules of the commission; or

266 (C) The substantial equivalency of the foregoing competency
267 requirements that the commission may determine by rule.

268 (2) Attain at least a bachelor's degree in social work from a program
269 that is:

270 (A) Operated by a college or university recognized by the licensing
271 authority; and

272 (B) Accredited, or in candidacy that subsequently becomes
273 accredited, by an accrediting agency recognized by either:

274 (i) The Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor;
275 or

276 (ii) The United States Department of Education.

277 (e) The multistate license for a regulated social worker is subject to
278 the renewal requirements of the home state. The regulated social worker
279 shall maintain compliance with the requirements of subsection (a) of
280 this section of the compact to be eligible to renew a multistate license.

281 (f) The regulated social worker's services in a remote state are subject
282 to such member state's regulatory authority. A remote state may, in
283 accordance with due process and such member state's laws, remove a
284 regulated social worker's multistate authorization to practice in the
285 remote state for a specific period of time, impose fines and take any
286 other necessary actions to protect the health and safety of its citizens.

287 (g) If a multistate license is encumbered, the regulated social worker's
288 multistate authorization to practice shall be deactivated in all remote

289 states until the multistate license is no longer encumbered.

290 (h) If a multistate authorization to practice is encumbered in a remote
291 state, the regulated social worker's multistate authorization to practice
292 may be deactivated in such state until the multistate authorization to
293 practice is no longer encumbered.

294 SECTION 5. ISSUANCE OF A MULTISTATE LICENSE

295 (a) Upon receipt of an application for multistate license, the home
296 state licensing authority shall determine the applicant's eligibility for a
297 multistate license in accordance with section 4 of the compact.

298 (b) If such applicant is eligible pursuant to section 4 of the compact,
299 the home state licensing authority shall issue a multistate license that
300 authorizes the applicant or regulated social worker to practice in all
301 member states under a multistate authorization to practice.

302 (c) Upon issuance of a multistate license, the home state licensing
303 authority shall designate whether the regulated social worker holds a
304 multistate license in the bachelor's, master's or clinical category of social
305 work.

306 (d) A multistate license issued by a home state to a resident in such
307 state shall be recognized by all compact member states as authorizing
308 social work practice under a multistate authorization to practice
309 corresponding to each category of licensure regulated in each member
310 state.

311 SECTION 6. AUTHORITY OF INTERSTATE COMPACT
312 COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATE LICENSING AUTHORITIES

313 (a) Nothing in the compact, or any rule of the commission, shall be
314 construed to limit, restrict or in any way reduce the ability of a member
315 state to enact and enforce laws, regulations or other rules related to the
316 practice of social work in such state, where such laws, regulations or
317 other rules are not inconsistent with the provisions of the compact.

318 (b) Nothing in the compact shall affect the requirements established
319 by a member state for the issuance of a single state license.

320 (c) Nothing in the compact, or any rule of the commission, shall be
321 construed to limit, restrict or in any way reduce the ability of a member
322 state to take adverse action against a licensee's single state license to
323 practice social work in such state.

324 (d) Nothing in the compact, or any rule of the commission, shall be
325 construed to limit, restrict or in any way reduce the ability of a remote
326 state to take adverse action against a licensee's multistate authorization
327 to practice in such state.

328 (e) Nothing in the compact, or any rule of the commission, shall be
329 construed to limit, restrict or in any way reduce the ability of a licensee's
330 home state to take adverse action against a licensee's multistate license
331 based upon information provided by a remote state.

332 SECTION 7. REISSUANCE OF A MULTISTATE LICENSE BY A
333 NEW HOME STATE

334 (a) A licensee may hold a multistate license, issued by the licensee's
335 home state, in only one member state at any given time.

336 (b) If a licensee changes the licensee's home state by moving between
337 two member states:

338 (1) The licensee shall immediately apply for the reissuance of the
339 licensee's multistate license in the licensee's new home state. The
340 licensee shall pay all applicable fees and notify the prior home state in
341 accordance with the rules of the commission.

342 (2) Upon receipt of an application to reissue a multistate license, the
343 new home state shall verify that the multistate license is active,
344 unencumbered and eligible for reissuance under the terms of the
345 compact and the rules of the commission. The multistate license issued
346 by the prior home state shall be deactivated and all member states shall

347 be notified in accordance with the applicable rules adopted by the
348 commission.

349 (3) Prior to the reissuance of the multistate license, the new home
350 state shall conduct procedures for considering the criminal history
351 records of the licensee. Such procedures shall include the submission of
352 fingerprints or other biometric-based information by applicants for the
353 purpose of obtaining an applicant's criminal history record information
354 from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the agency responsible for
355 retaining such state's criminal records.

356 (4) If required for initial licensure, the new home state may require
357 completion of jurisprudence requirements in the new home state.

358 (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of the compact, if a licensee
359 does not meet the requirements set forth in the compact for the
360 reissuance of a multistate license by the new home state, then the
361 licensee shall be subject to the new home state requirements for the
362 issuance of a single state license in such state.

363 (c) If a licensee changes the licensee's primary state of residence by
364 moving from a member state to a nonmember state, or from a
365 nonmember state to a member state, then the licensee shall be subject to
366 the state requirements for the issuance of a single state license in the new
367 home state.

368 (d) Nothing in the compact shall interfere with a licensee's ability to
369 hold a single state license in multiple states. For the purposes of the
370 compact, a licensee shall have only one home state and only one
371 multistate license.

372 (e) Nothing in the compact shall interfere with the requirements
373 established by a member state for the issuance of a single state license.

374 SECTION 8. MILITARY FAMILIES

375 An active military member or the active military member's spouse

376 shall designate a home state where the individual has a multistate
377 license. The individual may retain the individual's home state
378 designation during the period the service member is on active duty.

379 SECTION 9. ADVERSE ACTIONS

380 (a) In addition to the other powers conferred by state law, a remote
381 state shall have the authority, in accordance with state due process law,
382 to:

383 (1) Take adverse action against a regulated social worker's multistate
384 authorization to practice only within such member state, and issue
385 subpoenas for both hearings and investigations that require the
386 attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of
387 evidence. Subpoenas issued by a licensing authority in a member state
388 for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of
389 evidence from another member state shall be enforced in the latter state
390 by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and
391 procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings
392 pending before it. The issuing licensing authority shall pay any witness
393 fees, travel expenses, mileage and other fees required by the service
394 statutes of the state in which the witnesses or evidence are located.

395 (2) Only the home state shall have the power to take adverse action
396 against a regulated social worker's multistate license.

397 (b) For purposes of taking adverse action, the home state shall give
398 the same priority and effect to reported conduct received from a
399 member state as it would if the conduct had occurred within the home
400 state. In so doing, the home state shall apply its own state laws to
401 determine appropriate action.

402 (c) The home state shall complete any pending investigations of a
403 regulated social worker who changes the regulated social worker's
404 home state during the course of the investigations. The home state shall
405 also have the authority to take appropriate action and shall promptly
406 report the conclusions of the investigations to the administrator of the

407 data system. The administrator of the data system shall promptly notify
408 the new home state of any adverse actions.

409 (d) A member state, if otherwise permitted by state law, may recover
410 from the affected regulated social worker the costs of investigations and
411 dispositions of cases resulting from any adverse action taken against
412 such regulated social worker.

413 (e) A member state may take adverse action based on the factual
414 findings of another member state, provided that the member state
415 follows its own procedures for taking the adverse action.

416 (f) Joint investigations:

417 (1) In addition to the authority granted to a member state by its
418 respective social work practice act or other applicable state law, any
419 member state may participate with other member states in joint
420 investigations of licensees.

421 (2) Member states shall share any investigative, litigation or
422 compliance materials in furtherance of any joint or individual
423 investigation initiated under the compact.

424 (g) If adverse action is taken by the home state against the multistate
425 license of a regulated social worker, the regulated social worker's
426 multistate authorization to practice in all other member states shall be
427 deactivated until all encumbrances have been removed from the
428 multistate license. All home state disciplinary orders that impose
429 adverse action against the license of a regulated social worker shall
430 include a statement that the regulated social worker's multistate
431 authorization to practice is deactivated in all member states until all
432 conditions of the decision, order or agreement are satisfied.

433 (h) If a member state takes adverse action, it shall promptly notify the
434 administrator of the data system. The administrator of the data system
435 shall promptly notify the home state and all other member states of any
436 adverse actions by remote states.

437 (i) Nothing in the compact shall override a member state's decision
438 that participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of
439 adverse action.

440 (j) Nothing in the compact shall authorize a member state to demand
441 the issuance of subpoenas for attendance and testimony of witnesses or
442 the production of evidence from another member state for lawful
443 actions within such member state.

444 (k) Nothing in the compact shall authorize a member state to impose
445 discipline against a regulated social worker who holds a multistate
446 authorization to practice for lawful actions within another member
447 state.

448 SECTION 10. ESTABLISHMENT OF SOCIAL WORK LICENSURE
449 COMPACT COMMISSION

450 (a) The compact member states hereby create and establish a joint
451 government agency whose membership consists of all member states
452 that have enacted the compact known as the Social Work Licensure
453 Compact Commission. The commission is an instrumentality of the
454 compact states acting jointly and not an instrumentality of any one state.
455 The commission shall come into existence on or after the effective date
456 of the compact as set forth in section 14 of the compact.

457 (b) Membership, voting and meetings:

458 (1) Each member state shall have and be limited to one delegate
459 selected by such member state's state licensing authority.

460 (2) The delegate shall be either:

461 (A) A current member of the state licensing authority at the time of
462 appointment, who is a regulated social worker or public member of the
463 state licensing authority; or

464 (B) An administrator of the state licensing authority, or the

465 administrator's designee.

466 (3) The commission shall by rule or bylaw establish a term of office
467 for delegates and may by rule or bylaw establish term limits.

468 (4) The commission may recommend removal or suspension of any
469 delegate from office.

470 (5) A member state's licensing authority shall fill any vacancy of its
471 delegate occurring on the commission not later than sixty days after the
472 vacancy.

473 (6) Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote on all matters before
474 the commission requiring a vote by commission delegates.

475 (7) A delegate shall vote in person or by such other means as
476 provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for delegates to meet
477 by telecommunication, video conference or other means of
478 communication.

479 (8) The commission shall meet at least once during each calendar
480 year. Additional meetings may be held as set forth in the bylaws. The
481 commission may meet by telecommunication, video conference or other
482 similar electronic means.

483 (c) The commission shall have the following powers:

484 (1) Establish the fiscal year of the commission;

485 (2) Establish code of conduct and conflict of interest policies;

486 (3) Establish and amend rules and bylaws;

487 (4) Maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws;

488 (5) Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions
489 of the compact, the commission's rules and the bylaws;

490 (6) Initiate and conclude legal proceedings or actions in the name of

491 the commission, provided the standing of any state licensing board to
492 sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected;

493 (7) Maintain and certify records and information provided to a
494 member state as the authenticated business records of the commission,
495 and designate an agent to do so on the commission's behalf;

496 (8) Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

497 (9) Borrow, accept or contract for services of personnel, including, but
498 not limited to, employees of a member state;

499 (10) Conduct an annual financial review;

500 (11) Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation,
501 define duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out
502 the purposes of the compact and establish the commission's personnel
503 policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of
504 personnel and other related personnel matters;

505 (12) Assess and collect fees;

506 (13) Accept any and all appropriate gifts, donations, grants of money,
507 other sources of revenue, equipment, supplies, materials and services,
508 and receive, utilize and dispose of the same, provided, at all times, the
509 commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety or conflict of
510 interest;

511 (14) Lease, purchase, retain, own, hold, improve or use any property,
512 real, personal or mixed or any undivided interest therein;

513 (15) Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon or
514 otherwise dispose of any property real, personal or mixed;

515 (16) Establish a budget and make expenditures;

516 (17) Borrow money;

517 (18) Appoint committees, including standing committees, composed
518 of members, state regulators, state legislators, or their representatives,
519 and consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as
520 may be designated in the compact and the bylaws;

521 (19) Provide and receive information from, and cooperate with, law
522 enforcement agencies;

523 (20) Establish and elect an executive committee, including a
524 chairperson and a vice-chairperson;

525 (21) Determine whether a state's adopted language is materially
526 different from the model compact language such that the state would
527 not qualify for participation in the compact; and

528 (22) Perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate
529 to achieve the purposes of the compact.

530 (d) The executive committee:

531 (1) The executive committee shall have the power to act on behalf of
532 the commission according to the terms of the compact. The powers,
533 duties and responsibilities of the executive committee shall include:

534 (A) Oversee the day-to-day activities of the administration of the
535 compact, including enforcement and compliance with the provisions of
536 the compact, its rules and bylaws and other such duties as deemed
537 necessary;

538 (B) Recommend to the commission changes to the rules or bylaws,
539 changes to the compact legislation, fees charged to compact member
540 states, fees charged to licensees and other fees;

541 (C) Ensure compact administration services are appropriately
542 provided, including by contract;

543 (D) Prepare and recommend the budget;

544 (E) Maintain financial records on behalf of the commission;

545 (F) Monitor compact compliance of member states and provide
546 compliance reports to the commission;

547 (G) Establish additional committees as necessary;

548 (H) Exercise the powers and duties of the commission during the
549 interim between commission meetings, except for adopting or
550 amending rules, adopting or amending bylaws and exercising any other
551 powers and duties expressly reserved to the commission by rule or
552 bylaw; and

553 (I) Other duties as provided in the rules or bylaws of the commission.

554 (2) The executive committee shall be composed of not more than
555 eleven members:

556 (A) The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the commission shall be
557 voting members of the executive committee; and

558 (B) The commission shall elect five voting members from the current
559 membership of the commission.

560 (C) Up to four ex-officio, nonvoting members from four recognized
561 national social work organizations.

562 (D) The ex-officio members shall be selected by their respective
563 organizations.

564 (3) The commission may remove any member of the executive
565 committee as provided in the commission's bylaws.

566 (4) The executive committee shall meet at least annually.

567 (A) Executive committee meetings shall be open to the public, except
568 the executive committee may meet in a closed, nonpublic meeting as
569 provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (f) of this section of the

570 compact.

571 (B) The executive committee shall give seven days' notice of its
572 meetings, posted on its Internet web site and as determined to provide
573 notice to persons with an interest in the business of the commission.

574 (C) The executive committee may hold a special meeting in
575 accordance with subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of
576 this section of the compact.

577 (e) The commission shall adopt and provide to the member states an
578 annual report.

579 (f) Meetings of the commission:

580 (1) All meetings shall be open to the public, except the commission
581 may meet in a closed, nonpublic meeting as provided in subdivision (2)
582 of this subsection of the compact.

583 (A) Public notice for all meetings of the full commission of meetings
584 shall be given in the same manner as required under the rulemaking
585 provisions in section 12 of the compact, except the commission may hold
586 a special meeting as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision of
587 the compact.

588 (B) The commission may hold a special meeting when it shall meet to
589 conduct emergency business by giving forty-eight hours' notice to all
590 commissioners on the commission's Internet web site and by other
591 means as provided in the commission's rules. The commission's legal
592 counsel shall certify that the commission's need to meet qualifies as an
593 emergency.

594 (2) The commission or the executive committee or other committees
595 of the commission may convene in a closed, nonpublic meeting for the
596 commission or executive committee or other committees of the
597 commission to receive legal advice or to discuss:

598 (A) Noncompliance of a member state with its obligations under the
599 compact;

600 (B) The employment, compensation, discipline or other matters,
601 practices or procedures related to specific employees;

602 (C) Current or threatened discipline of a licensee by the commission
603 or by a member state's licensing authority;

604 (D) Current, threatened or reasonably anticipated litigation;

605 (E) Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease or sale of goods,
606 services or real estate;

607 (F) Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person;

608 (G) Trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is
609 privileged or confidential;

610 (H) Information of a personal nature where disclosure would
611 constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

612 (I) Investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes;

613 (J) Information related to any investigative reports prepared by or on
614 behalf of or for use of the commission or other committee charged with
615 responsibility of investigation or determination of compliance issues
616 pursuant to the compact;

617 (K) Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal or
618 member state law; or

619 (L) Other matters as promulgated by the commission by rule.

620 (3) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed, the presiding officer
621 shall state that the meeting shall be closed and reference each relevant
622 exempting provision, and such reference shall be recorded in the
623 minutes.

624 (4) The commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe
625 all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate
626 summary of actions taken, and the reasons therefore, including a
627 description of the views expressed. All documents considered in
628 connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All
629 minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal,
630 subject to release only by a majority vote of the commission or order of
631 a court of competent jurisdiction.

632 (g) Financing of the commission:

633 (1) The commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the
634 reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization and ongoing
635 activities.

636 (2) The commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue
637 sources as provided in subdivision (13) of subsection (c) of this section
638 of the compact.

639 (3) The commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment
640 from each member state and impose fees on licensees of member states
641 to whom it grants a multistate license to cover the cost of the operations
642 and activities of the commission and its staff, which shall be in a total
643 amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year for
644 which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual
645 assessment amount for member states shall be allocated based upon a
646 formula that the commission shall promulgate by rule.

647 (4) The commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to
648 securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the commission
649 pledge the credit of any of the member states, except by and with the
650 authority of the member state.

651 (5) The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and
652 disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall
653 be subject to the financial review and accounting procedures established
654 under its bylaws, except all receipts and disbursements of funds

655 handled by the commission shall be subject to an annual financial
656 review by a certified or licensed public accountant, and the report of the
657 financial review shall be included in and become part of the annual
658 report of the commission.

659 (h) Qualified immunity, defense and indemnification:

660 (1) The members, officers, executive director, employees and
661 representatives of the commission shall be immune from suit and
662 liability, both personally and in their official capacity, for any claim for
663 damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability
664 caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission
665 that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a
666 reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission
667 employment, duties or responsibilities, provided nothing in this
668 subdivision shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or
669 liability for any damage, loss, injury or liability caused by the intentional
670 or wilful or wanton misconduct of that person. The procurement of
671 insurance of any type by the commission shall not in any way
672 compromise or limit the immunity granted hereunder.

673 (2) The commission shall defend any member, officer, executive
674 director, employee or representative of the commission in any civil
675 action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act,
676 error or omission that occurred within the scope of commission
677 employment, duties or responsibilities, or as determined by the
678 commission that the person against whom the claim is made had a
679 reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission
680 employment, duties or responsibilities, provided (A) nothing in this
681 subdivision shall be construed to prohibit such person from retaining
682 their own counsel at their own expense, and (B) the actual or alleged act,
683 error or omission did not result from that person's intentional or wilful
684 or wanton misconduct.

685 (3) The commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member,
686 officer, executive director, employee or representative of the

687 commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained
688 against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or
689 omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment,
690 duties or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for
691 believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties
692 or responsibilities, provided the actual or alleged act, error or omission
693 did not result from the intentional or wilful or wanton misconduct of
694 that person.

695 (4) Nothing in this section of the compact shall be construed as a
696 limitation on the liability of any licensee for professional malpractice or
697 misconduct that shall be governed solely by any other applicable state
698 laws.

699 (5) Nothing in the compact shall be interpreted to waive or otherwise
700 abrogate a member state's state action immunity or state action
701 affirmative defense with respect to antitrust claims under the Sherman
702 Act, 15 USC 1 et seq., as amended from time to time, Clayton Antitrust
703 Act, 15 USC 12-27, as amended from time to time, or any other state or
704 federal antitrust or anticompetitive law or regulation.

705 (6) Nothing in the compact shall be construed to be a waiver of
706 sovereign immunity by the member states or by the commission.

707 SECTION 11. DATA SYSTEM

708 (a) The commission shall provide for the development, maintenance,
709 operation and utilization of a coordinated data system.

710 (b) The commission shall assign each applicant for a multistate license
711 a unique identifier, as determined by the rules of the commission.

712 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law, a member state
713 shall submit a uniform data set to the data system on all individuals to
714 whom the compact is applicable as required by the rules of the
715 commission, including:

- 716 (1) Identifying information;
- 717 (2) Licensure data;
- 718 (3) Adverse actions against a license and information related thereto;
- 719 (4) Nonconfidential information related to alternative program
720 participation, the beginning and ending dates of such participation and
721 other information related to such participation not made confidential
722 under member state law;
- 723 (5) Any denial of application for licensure, and the reason for such
724 denial;
- 725 (6) The presence of current significant investigative information; and
- 726 (7) Other information that may facilitate the administration of the
727 compact or the protection of the public, as determined by the rules of
728 the commission.
- 729 (d) The records and information provided to a member state
730 pursuant to the compact or through the data system, when certified by
731 the commission or an agent thereof, shall constitute the authenticated
732 business records of the commission and be entitled to any associated
733 hearsay exception in any relevant judicial, quasi-judicial or
734 administrative proceedings in a member state.
- 735 (e) Current significant investigative information pertaining to a
736 licensee in any member state shall only be available to other member
737 states. It shall be the responsibility of the member states to report any
738 adverse action against a licensee and to monitor the database to
739 determine whether adverse action has been taken against a licensee.
740 Adverse action information pertaining to a licensee in any member state
741 shall be available to any other member state.
- 742 (f) A member state contributing information to the data system may
743 designate information that shall not be shared with the public without

744 the express permission of the contributing state.

745 (g) Any information submitted to the data system that is
746 subsequently expunged pursuant to federal law or the laws of the
747 member state contributing the information shall be removed from the
748 data system.

749 SECTION 12. RULEMAKING

750 (a) The commission shall promulgate reasonable rules to effectively
751 and efficiently implement and administer the purposes and provisions
752 of the compact. A rule shall be invalid and have no force or effect only
753 if a court of competent jurisdiction holds that the rule is invalid because
754 the commission exercised its rulemaking authority in a manner that is
755 beyond the scope and purposes of the compact, or the powers granted
756 hereunder, or based upon another applicable standard of review.

757 (b) The rules of the commission shall have the force of law in each
758 member state, provided that where the rules of the commission conflict
759 with the laws of the member state that establish the member state's laws,
760 regulations and applicable standards that govern the practice of social
761 work as held by a court of competent jurisdiction, the rules of the
762 commission shall be ineffective in such state to the extent of the conflict.

763 (c) The commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to
764 the criteria set forth in this section of the compact and the rules adopted
765 thereunder. A rule shall become binding on the day following adoption
766 or the date specified in the rule or amendment, whichever is later.

767 (d) If a majority of the legislatures of the member states rejects a rule
768 or portion of a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same
769 manner used to adopt the compact not later than four years after the
770 date of adoption of the rule, such rule shall have no further force and
771 effect in any member state.

772 (e) Rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of the
773 commission.

774 (f) Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the commission shall hold a
775 public hearing and allow persons to provide oral and written comments,
776 data, facts, opinions and arguments.

777 (g) Prior to adoption of a proposed rule by the commission, and at
778 least thirty days in advance of the meeting at which the commission will
779 hold a public hearing on the proposed rule, the commission shall
780 provide a notice of proposed rulemaking:

781 (1) On the Internet web site of the commission or other publicly
782 accessible platform;

783 (2) To persons who have requested notice of the commission's notices
784 of proposed rulemaking; and

785 (3) In such other way as the commission may by rule specify.

786 (h) The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:

787 (1) The time, date and location of the public hearing at which the
788 commission will hear public comments on the proposed rule and, if
789 different, the time, date and location of the meeting where the
790 commission will consider and vote on the proposed rule;

791 (2) If the hearing is held via telecommunication, video conference or
792 other electronic means, the commission shall include the mechanism for
793 access to the hearing in the notice of proposed rulemaking;

794 (3) The text of the proposed rule and the reason therefor;

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

797 (5) The manner in which interested persons may submit written
798 comments.

799 (i) All hearings shall be recorded. A copy of the recording and all
800 written comments and documents received by the commission in

801 response to the proposed rule shall be available to the public.

802 (j) Nothing in this section of the compact shall be construed as
803 requiring a separate hearing on each rule. Rules may be grouped for the
804 convenience of the commission at hearings required by this section of
805 the compact.

806 (k) The commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final
807 action on the proposed rule based on the rulemaking record and the full
808 text of the rule.

809 (1) The commission may adopt changes to the proposed rule
810 provided the changes do not enlarge the original purpose of the
811 proposed rule.

812 (2) The commission shall provide an explanation of the reasons for
813 substantive changes made to the proposed rule as well as reasons for
814 substantive changes not made that were recommended by commenters.

815 (3) The commission shall determine a reasonable effective date for the
816 rule. Except for an emergency as provided in subsection (l) of this
817 section of the compact, the effective date of the rule shall be no sooner
818 than thirty days after issuing the notice that it adopted or amended the
819 rule.

820 (l) Upon determination that an emergency exists, the commission
821 may consider and adopt an emergency rule with forty-eight hours'
822 notice, with opportunity to comment, provided the usual rulemaking
823 procedures provided in the compact and in this section of the compact
824 shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible,
825 but in no event later than ninety days after the effective date of the rule.
826 For the purposes of this subsection, an emergency rule is one that shall
827 be adopted immediately to:

828 (1) Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety or welfare;

829 (2) Prevent a loss of commission or member state funds;

830 (3) Meet a deadline for the promulgation of a rule that is established
831 by federal law or rule; or

832 (4) Protect public health and safety.

833 (m) The commission or an authorized committee of the commission
834 may direct revisions to a previously adopted rule for purposes of
835 correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency
836 or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on
837 the Internet web site of the commission. The revision shall be subject to
838 challenge by any person for a period of thirty days after posting. The
839 revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in
840 a material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made in writing and
841 delivered to the commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no
842 challenge is made, the revision shall take effect without further action.
843 If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the
844 approval of the commission.

845 (n) No member state's rulemaking requirements shall apply under
846 the compact.

847 SECTION 13. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND
848 ENFORCEMENT

849 (a) Oversight:

850 (1) The executive and judicial branches of state government in each
851 member state shall enforce the compact and take all actions necessary
852 and appropriate to implement the compact.

853 (2) Except as otherwise provided in the compact, venue is proper and
854 judicial proceedings by or against the commission shall be brought
855 solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the
856 principal office of the commission is located. The commission may
857 waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or
858 consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.
859 Nothing in this subdivision shall affect or limit the selection or propriety

860 of venue in any action against a licensee for professional malpractice,
861 misconduct or any such similar matter.

862 (3) The commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in
863 any proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the
864 compact and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for
865 all purposes. Failure to provide the commission service of process shall
866 render a judgment or order void as to the commission, the compact or
867 promulgated rules.

868 (b) Default, technical assistance and termination:

869 (1) If the commission determines that a member state has defaulted
870 in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under the
871 compact or the promulgated rules, the commission shall provide
872 written notice to the defaulting state. The notice of default shall describe
873 the default, the proposed means of curing the default and any other
874 action that the commission may take, and offer training and specific
875 technical assistance regarding the default.

876 (2) The commission shall provide a copy of the notice of default to the
877 other member states.

878 (c) If a state in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting state
879 may be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a
880 majority of the delegates of the member states, and all rights, privileges
881 and benefits conferred on such state by the compact may be terminated
882 on the effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not
883 relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during
884 the period of default.

885 (d) Termination of membership in the compact shall be imposed only
886 after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted.
887 Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by the
888 commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the
889 defaulting state's legislature, the defaulting state's state licensing
890 authority and each of the member states' state licensing authority.

891 (e) A state that has been terminated from membership in the compact
892 is responsible for all assessments, obligations and liabilities incurred
893 through the effective date of termination, including obligations that
894 extend beyond the effective date of termination.

895 (f) Upon the termination of a state's membership from the compact,
896 such state shall immediately provide notice to all licensees within such
897 state of such termination. The terminated state shall continue to
898 recognize all licenses granted pursuant to the compact for a minimum
899 of six months after the date of said notice of termination.

900 (g) The commission shall not bear any costs related to a state that is
901 found to be in default or that has been terminated from the compact,
902 unless agreed upon in writing between the commission and the
903 defaulting state.

904 (h) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the commission by
905 petitioning the United States District Court for the District of Columbia
906 or the federal district where the commission has its principal offices. The
907 prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including
908 reasonable attorney's fees.

909 (i) Dispute resolution:

910 (1) Upon request by a member state, the commission shall attempt to
911 resolve disputes related to the compact that arise among member states
912 and between member and nonmember states.

913 (2) The commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both
914 mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

915 (j) Enforcement:

916 (1) By majority vote as provided by rule, the commission may initiate
917 legal action against a member state in default in the United States
918 District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where
919 the commission has its principal offices to enforce compliance with the

920 provisions of the compact and its promulgated rules. The relief sought
921 may include both injunctive relief and damages. If judicial enforcement
922 is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such
923 litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees. The remedies in this
924 subdivision shall not be the exclusive remedies of the commission. The
925 commission may pursue any other remedies available under federal or
926 the defaulting member state's law.

927 (2) A member state may initiate legal action against the commission
928 in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the
929 federal district where the commission has its principal offices to enforce
930 compliance with the provisions of the compact and its promulgated
931 rules. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages.
932 In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall
933 be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's
934 fees.

935 (3) No person other than a member state shall enforce the compact
936 against the commission.

937 SECTION 14. EFFECTIVE DATE, WITHDRAWAL AND
938 AMENDMENT

939 (a) The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the
940 compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh member state.

941 (1) On or after the effective date of the compact, the commission shall
942 convene and review the enactment of each of the charter member states
943 to determine if the statute enacted by each such charter member state is
944 materially different than the model compact statute.

945 (A) A charter member state whose enactment is found to be
946 materially different from the model compact statute shall be entitled to
947 the default process set forth in section 13 of the compact.

948 (B) If any member state is later found to be in default, or is terminated
949 or withdraws from the compact, the commission shall remain in

950 existence and the compact shall remain in effect even if the number of
951 member states is less than seven.

952 (2) Member states enacting the compact subsequent to the charter
953 member states shall be subject to the process set forth in subdivision (21)
954 of subsection (c) of section 10 of the compact to determine if their
955 enactments are materially different from the model compact statute and
956 whether they qualify for participation in the compact.

957 (3) All actions taken for the benefit of the commission or in
958 furtherance of the purposes of the administration of the compact prior
959 to the effective date of the compact or the commission coming into
960 existence shall be considered to be actions of the commission unless
961 specifically repudiated by the commission.

962 (4) Any state that joins the compact subsequent to the commission's
963 initial adoption of the rules and bylaws shall be subject to the rules and
964 bylaws as they exist on the date on which the compact becomes law in
965 such state. Any rule that has been previously adopted by the
966 commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the
967 compact becomes law in such state.

968 (b) Any member state may withdraw from the compact by enacting
969 a statute repealing the same.

970 (1) A member state's withdrawal shall not take effect until one
971 hundred eighty days after enactment of the repealing statute.

972 (2) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the
973 withdrawing state's licensing authority to comply with the investigative
974 and adverse action reporting requirements of the compact prior to the
975 effective date of withdrawal.

976 (3) Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing from the compact,
977 a withdrawing state shall immediately provide notice of such
978 withdrawal to all licensees within such state. Notwithstanding any
979 subsequent statutory enactment to the contrary, such withdrawing state

980 shall continue to recognize all licenses granted pursuant to the compact
981 for a minimum of one hundred eighty days after the date of such notice
982 of withdrawal.

983 (c) Nothing contained in the compact shall be construed to invalidate
984 or prevent any licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement
985 between a member state and a nonmember state that does not conflict
986 with the provisions of the compact.

987 (d) The compact may be amended by the member states. No
988 amendment to the compact shall become effective and binding upon
989 any member state until it is enacted into the laws of all member states.

990 SECTION 15. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

991 (a) The compact and the commission's rulemaking authority shall be
992 liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes, implementation and
993 administration of the compact. Provisions of the compact expressly
994 authorizing or requiring the promulgation of rules shall not be
995 construed to limit the commission's rulemaking authority solely for
996 such purposes.

997 (b) The provisions of the compact shall be severable and if any phrase,
998 clause, sentence or provision of the compact is held by a court of
999 competent jurisdiction to be contrary to the constitution of any member
1000 state, a state seeking participation in the compact or the United States,
1001 or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or
1002 circumstance is held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent
1003 jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of the compact and the
1004 applicability thereof to any other government, agency, person or
1005 circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

1006 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section of
1007 the compact, the commission may deny a state's participation in the
1008 compact or, in accordance with the requirements of subsection (b) of
1009 section 13 of the compact, terminate a member state's participation in
1010 the compact, if it determines that a constitutional requirement of a

1011 member state is a material departure from the compact. If the compact
1012 is held to be contrary to the constitution of any member state, the
1013 compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining member
1014 states and in full force and effect as to the member state affected as to all
1015 severable matters.

1016 SECTION 16. CONSISTENT EFFECT AND CONFLICT WITH
1017 OTHER STATE LAWS

1018 (a) A licensee providing services in a remote state under a multistate
1019 authorization to practice shall adhere to the laws and regulations,
1020 including applicable standards, of the remote state where the client is
1021 located at the time care is rendered.

1022 (b) Nothing in this section of the compact shall be construed to
1023 prevent or inhibit the enforcement of any other law of a member state
1024 that is not inconsistent with the compact.

1025 (c) Any laws, statutes, regulations or other legal requirements in a
1026 member state in conflict with the compact are superseded to the extent
1027 of the conflict.

1028 (d) All permissible agreements between the commission and the
1029 member states are binding in accordance with the terms of such
1030 agreements.

1031 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Public
1032 Health shall require each person applying for licensure as a social
1033 worker to submit to a state and national fingerprint-based criminal
1034 history records check pursuant to section 29-17a of the general statutes.
1035 For the purposes of this section, (1) "social worker" means an individual
1036 licensed for the independent practice of social work, and (2) "licensure"
1037 means authorization by a state social worker regulatory authority to
1038 engage in the independent practice of social work, the practice of which
1039 would be unlawful without such authorization.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

PH *Joint Favorable*