

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1028

January Session, 2023



AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

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

- 1 Section 1. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 10-264l of the general
- 2 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
- 3 (Effective July 1, 2023):
- 4 (a) The Department of Education shall, within available
- 5 appropriations, establish a grant program (1) to assist (A) local and
- 6 regional boards of education, (B) regional educational service centers,
- 7 (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on
- 8 behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers
- 9 Community College, and (D) cooperative arrangements pursuant to
- section 10-158a, and (2) in assisting the state in meeting its obligations
- pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any
- 12 related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the
- 13 commissioner, to assist (A) the Board of Trustees of the Community-
- 14 Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college,
- 15 (B) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on
- behalf of a state university, (C) the Board of Trustees of The University
- of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (D) the board of governors
- 18 for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in

subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, and (E) any third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner with the operation of interdistrict magnet school programs. All interdistrict magnet schools shall be operated in conformance with the same laws and regulations applicable to public schools. For the purposes of this section "an interdistrict magnet school program" means a program which (i) supports racial, ethnic and economic diversity, (ii) offers a special and high quality curriculum, and (iii) requires students who are enrolled to attend at least half-time. An interdistrict magnet school program does not include a regional agricultural science and technology school, a technical education and career school or a regional special education center. For the school [years] year commencing July 1, 2017, [to July 1, 2023, inclusive] and each school year thereafter, the governing authority for each interdistrict magnet school program shall (I) restrict the number of students that may enroll in the school from a participating district to seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment, and (II) maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-264r, as amended by this act.

(b) (1) Applications for interdistrict magnet school program operating grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be submitted annually to the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, except that on and after July 1, 2009, applications for such operating grants for new interdistrict magnet schools, other than those that the commissioner determines will assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, shall not be accepted until the commissioner develops a comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan. The commissioner shall submit such comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan on or before

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- October 1, 2016, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations.
 - (2) In determining whether an application shall be approved and funds awarded pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (A) Whether the program offered by the school is likely to increase student achievement; (B) whether the program is likely to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation; (C) the percentage of the student enrollment in the program from each participating district; and (D) the proposed operating budget and the sources of funding for the interdistrict magnet school. For a magnet school not operated by a local or regional board of education, the commissioner shall only approve a proposed operating budget that, on a per pupil basis, does not exceed the maximum allowable threshold established in accordance with this subdivision. The maximum allowable threshold shall be an amount equal to one hundred twenty per cent of the state average of the quotient obtained by dividing net current expenditures, as defined in section 10-261, by average daily membership, as defined in said section, for the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. The Department of Education shall establish the maximum allowable threshold no later than December fifteenth of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. If requested by an applicant that is not a local or regional board of education, the commissioner may approve a proposed operating budget that exceeds the maximum allowable threshold if the commissioner determines that there are extraordinary programmatic needs. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, June 30, 2018, June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, in the case of an interdistrict magnet school that will assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, the commissioner shall also consider whether the school is meeting the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to

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section 10-264r, as amended by this act. If such school has not met such reduced-isolation setting standards, it shall not be entitled to receive a grant pursuant to this section unless the commissioner finds that it is appropriate to award a grant for an additional year or years and approves a plan to bring such school into compliance with such reduced-isolation setting standards. If requested by the commissioner, the applicant shall meet with the commissioner or the commissioner's designee to discuss the budget and sources of funding.

- (3) For the fiscal [years] <u>year</u> ending June 30, 2018, [to June 30, 2023, inclusive] <u>and each fiscal year thereafter</u>, the commissioner shall not award a grant to an interdistrict magnet school program that (A) has more than seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment from one school district, or (B) does not maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-264r, as amended by this act, except the commissioner may award a grant to such school for an additional year or years if the commissioner finds it is appropriate to do so and approves a plan to bring such school into compliance with such residency or reduced-isolation setting standards.
- (4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, if an interdistrict magnet school program does not maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to section 10-264r, as amended by this act, for two or more consecutive years, the commissioner may impose a financial penalty on the operator of such interdistrict magnet school program, or take any other measure, in consultation with such operator, as may be appropriate to assist such operator in complying with such reduced-isolation setting standards.
- Sec. 2. Subparagraph (C) of subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 10-264*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 2023):

(C) (i) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that began operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars, (II) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fiftyfive per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of three thousand dollars, (III) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of seven thousand eighty-five dollars.

(ii) For the fiscal [year] <u>years</u> ending June 30, 2020, [and each fiscal year thereafter] <u>to June 30, 2023, inclusive</u>, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that began operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount

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154 equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, 155 using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand three hundred 156 forty-four dollars, (II) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty 157 158 per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total 159 number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data 160 of record, in the amount of three thousand sixty dollars, (III) for each 161 enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least 162 fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's 163 students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled 164 students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount 165 of eight thousand three hundred forty-four dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least 166 167 fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's 168 students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled 169 students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount 170 of seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars.

- Sec. 3. Subsection (o) of section 10-264*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 2023):
- 174 (o) For the school years commencing July 1, 2009, to July 1, 2018, 175 inclusive, and for the school year commencing July 1, 2023, and each 176 school year thereafter, any local or regional board of education 177 operating an interdistrict magnet school pursuant to the decision in 178 Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order 179 in effect, shall not charge tuition for any student enrolled in a preschool 180 program or in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in an interdistrict 181 magnet school operated by such school district, except the Hartford 182 school district may charge tuition for any student enrolled in the Great 183 Path Academy.
- Sec. 4. Section 10-264r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

Not later than July 1, 2017, the Commissioner of Education shall develop, and revise as necessary thereafter, reduced-isolation [setting] enrollment standards for interdistrict magnet school programs that shall serve as the enrollment requirements for purposes of section 10-264l, as amended by this act. Such standards shall (1) comply with the decision of Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, for an interdistrict magnet school program located in the Sheff region, as defined in subsection (k) of section 10-264l, as amended by this act, (2) define the term "reduced-isolation student" for purposes of the standards, [(2)] (3) establish a requirement for the minimum percentage of reduced-isolation students that can be enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school program, provided such minimum percentage is not less than twenty per cent of the total school enrollment, [(3)] (4) allow an interdistrict magnet school program to have a total school enrollment of reduced-isolation students that is not more than one per cent below the minimum percentage established by the commissioner, provided the commissioner approves a plan that is designed to bring the number of reduced-isolation students of such interdistrict magnet school program into compliance with the minimum percentage, and [(4)] (5) for the school year commencing July 1, 2018, authorize the commissioner to establish on or before May 1, 2018, and revise as necessary thereafter, an alternative reduced-isolation student enrollment percentage for an interdistrict magnet school program located in the Sheff region, [as defined in subsection (k) of section 10-264*l*₁] provided the commissioner (A) determines that such alternative (i) increases opportunities for students who are residents of Hartford to access an educational setting with reduced racial isolation or other categories of diversity, including, but not limited to, geography, socioeconomic status, special education, English language learners and academic achievement, (ii) complies with the decision of Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, and (B) approves a plan for such interdistrict magnet school program that is designed to bring the number of reduced-isolation students of such interdistrict magnet school program into compliance with such alternative or the minimum percentage described in subdivision (2) of

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221 this section. Not later than May 1, 2018, the commissioner shall submit 222 a report on each alternative reduced-isolation student enrollment 223 percentage established, pursuant to subdivision (4) of this section, for 224 an interdistrict magnet school program located in the Sheff region to the 225 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of 226 matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of 227 section 11-4a. The reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict 228 magnet school programs shall not be deemed to be regulations, as 229 defined in section 4-166.

- Sec. 5. Section 10-262s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):
- 232 (a) The Commissioner of Education may, to assist the state in meeting 233 its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 234 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the 235 Commissioner of Education, transfer funds appropriated for the Sheff 236 settlement to the following: (1) Grants for interdistrict cooperative 237 programs pursuant to section 10-74d, (2) grants for state charter schools 238 pursuant to section 10-66ee, (3) grants for the interdistrict public school 239 attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa, (4) grants for 240 interdistrict magnet schools pursuant to section 10-264l, as amended by 241 this act, and (5) to the Technical Education and Career System for 242 programming.
- 243 (b) The Commissioner of Education may, to assist the state in meeting 244 its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 245 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the 246 Commissioner of Education, award grants with funds appropriated for 247 the Sheff settlement for academic and social student support programs for the following voluntary interdistrict programs: (1) Interdistrict 248 249 cooperative programs pursuant to section 10-74d, (2) the interdistrict 250 public school attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa, (3) 251 interdistrict magnet school programs pursuant to section 10-264l, as 252 amended by this act, and (4) the Technical Education and Career 253 System.

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- Sec. 6. Section 10-15f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):
- 256 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military
- 257 Children.
- 258 ARTICLE I
- 259 PURPOSE
- It is the purpose of this compact to remove barriers to educational
- 261 success imposed on children of military families because of frequent
- 262 moves and deployment of their parents by:
- A. Facilitating the timely enrollment of children of military families
- and ensuring that they are not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty
- in the transfer of education records from the previous school districts or
- variations in entrance or age requirements.
- B. Facilitating the student placement process through which children
- of military families are not disadvantaged by variations in attendance
- 269 requirements, scheduling, sequencing, grading, course content or
- assessment.
- 271 C. Facilitating the qualification and eligibility for enrollment,
- 272 educational programs, and participation in extracurricular academic,
- 273 athletic, and social activities.
- D. Facilitating the on-time graduation of children of military families.
- 275 E. Providing for the promulgation and enforcement of administrative
- 276 rules implementing the provisions of this compact.
- F. Providing for the uniform collection and sharing of information
- between and among member states, schools and military families under
- this compact.
- 280 G. Promoting coordination between this compact and other compacts

281 affecting military children. 282 H. Promoting flexibility and cooperation between the educational 283 system, parents and the student in order to achieve educational success 284 for the student. 285 ARTICLE II 286 **DEFINITIONS** 287 As used in this compact, unless the context clearly requires a different 288 construction: 289 A. "Active duty" means full-time duty status in the active uniformed 290 service of the United States, including members of the National Guard 291 and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 USC [Section] 292 Chapters 1209 and 1211. 293 B. "Children of military families" means school-aged children, 294 enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade, in the household of an 295 active duty member. 296 C. "Compact commissioner" means the voting representative of each 297 compacting state appointed pursuant to Article VIII of this compact. 298 D. "Deployment" means the period one month prior to the service 299 members' departure from their home station on military orders to six 300 months after return to their home station. 301 E. "Educational records" means the official records, files, and data 302 directly related to a student and maintained by the school or local 303 education agency, including, but not limited, to records encompassing 304 all the material kept in the student's cumulative folder such as general 305 identifying data, records of attendance and of academic work 306 completed, records of achievement and results of evaluative tests, health

data, disciplinary status, test protocols and individualized education

programs.

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- F. "Extracurricular activities" means a voluntary activity sponsored by the school or local education agency or an organization sanctioned by the local education agency. Extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to, preparation for and involvement in public performances, contests, athletic competitions, demonstrations, displays and club activities.
- G. "Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children" means the commission that is created under Article IX of this compact, which is generally referred to as the Interstate Commission.
- H. "Local education agency" means a public authority legally constituted by the state as an administrative agency to provide control of and direction for kindergarten through twelfth grade public educational institutions.
- I. "Member state" means a state that has enacted this compact.
- 323 J. "Military installation" means a base, camp, post, station, yard, 324 center, homeport facility for any ship, or other activity under the 325 jurisdiction of the Department of Defense, including any leased facility, 326 which is located within any of the several states, the District of 327 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, 328 Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Marianas Islands and any other 329 U.S. Territory. Such term does not include any facility used primarily 330 for civil works, rivers and harbors projects, or flood control projects.
- 331 K. "Nonmember state" means a state that has not enacted this compact.
- L. "Receiving state" means the state to which a child of a military family is sent, brought or caused to be sent or brought.
- M. "Rule" means a written statement by the Interstate Commission promulgated pursuant to Article XII of this compact that is of general applicability, implements, interprets or prescribes a policy or provision of the compact, or an organizational, procedural or practice requirement

- of the Interstate Commission, and has the force and effect of statutory
- 340 law in a member state, and includes the amendment, repeal or
- 341 suspension of an existing rule.
- N. "Sending state" means the state from which a child of a military
- family is sent, brought or caused to be sent or brought.
- O. "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia,
- 345 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam,
- 346 American Samoa, the Northern Marianas Islands and any other U.S.
- 347 territory.
- P. "Student" means the child of a military family for whom the local
- 349 education agency receives public funding and who is formally enrolled
- in kindergarten through twelfth grade.
- Q. "Transition" means (1) the formal and physical process of
- 352 transferring from school to school, or (2) the period of time in which a
- 353 student moves from one school in the sending state to another school in
- 354 the receiving state.
- R. "Uniformed services" means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine
- 356 Corps, Coast Guard as well as the Commissioned Corps of the National
- 357 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Services.
- S. "Veteran" means a person who served in the uniformed services
- and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other
- 360 than dishonorable.
- 361 ARTICLE III
- 362 APPLICABILITY
- A. Except as otherwise provided in Section B, this compact shall
- apply to the children of:
- 1. Active duty members of the uniformed services as defined in this
- 366 compact, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on

367	active duty orders pursuant to 10 USC [Section] Chapters 1209 and 1211;
368 369 370	2. Members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one year after medical discharge or retirement; and
371 372 373	3. Members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one year after death.
374 375	B. The provisions of this interstate compact shall only apply to local education agencies as defined in this compact.
376	C. The provisions of this compact shall not apply to the children of:
377	1. Inactive members of the National Guard and military reserves;
378 379	2. Members of the uniformed services now retired, except as provided in Section A;
380 381	3. Veterans of the uniformed services, except as provided in Section A of this Article; and
382 383 384	4. Other U.S. Dept. of Defense personnel and other federal agency civilian and contract employees not defined as active duty members of the uniformed services.
385	ARTICLE IV
386	EDUCATIONAL RECORDS & ENROLLMENT
387	A. In the event that official education records cannot be released to
388	the parents for the purpose of transfer, the custodian of the records in
389	the sending state shall prepare and furnish to the parent a complete set
390	of unofficial educational records containing uniform information as
391	determined by the Interstate Commission. Upon receipt of the unofficial
392	education records by a school in the receiving state, the school shall
393	enroll and appropriately place the student based on the information

provided in the unofficial records pending validation by the official records, as quickly as possible.

- B. Simultaneous with the enrollment and conditional placement of the student, the school in the receiving state shall request the student's official education record from the school in the sending state. Upon receipt of this request, the school in the sending state will process and furnish the official education records to the school in the receiving state within ten days or within such time as is reasonably determined under the rules promulgated by the Interstate Commission.
- C. Compacting states shall give thirty days from the date of enrollment or within such time as is reasonably determined under the rules promulgated by the Interstate Commission, for students to obtain any immunizations required by the receiving state. For a series of immunizations, initial vaccinations must be obtained within thirty days or within such time as is reasonably determined under the rules promulgated by the Interstate Commission.
- D. Students shall be allowed to continue their enrollment at grade level in the receiving state commensurate with their grade level, including kindergarten, from a local education agency in the sending state at the time of transition, regardless of age. A student that has satisfactorily completed the prerequisite grade level in the local education agency in the sending state shall be eligible for enrollment in the next highest grade level in the receiving state, regardless of age. A student transferring after the start of the school year in the receiving state shall enter the school in the receiving state on their validated level from an accredited school in the sending state.
- ARTICLE V
- 421 PLACEMENT & ATTENDANCE
 - A. When the student transfers before or during the school year, the receiving state school shall initially honor placement of the student in educational courses based on the student's enrollment in the sending

state school and educational assessments conducted at the school in the sending state if the courses are offered. Course placement includes, but is not limited to, honors, International Baccalaureate, advanced placement, vocational, technical and career pathways courses. Continuing the student's academic program from the previous school and promoting placement in academically and career challenging courses should be paramount when considering placement. This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the courses.

B. The receiving state school shall initially honor placement of the student in educational programs based on current educational assessments conducted at the school in the sending state or participation and placement in like programs in the sending state. Such programs include, but are not limited to: (1) Gifted and talented programs; and (2) English as a second language. This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student.

C. (1) In compliance with the federal requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C.A. Section 1400 et seq., the receiving state shall initially provide comparable services to a student with disabilities based on his current individualized education program; and (2) In compliance with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C.A. Section 794, and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C.A. Sections 12131-12165, the receiving state shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of incoming students with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title II Plan, to provide the student with equal access to education. This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student.

D. Local education agency administrative officials shall have flexibility in waiving course and program prerequisites, or other

- preconditions for placement in courses and programs offered under the jurisdiction of the local education agency.
- E. A student whose parent or legal guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined by the compact, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting, shall be granted additional excused absences at the discretion of the local education agency superintendent to visit with his parent or legal guardian relative to such leave or deployment of the parent or guardian.
- 467 ARTICLE VI
- 468 ELIGIBILITY
- 469 A. Eligibility for enrollment
- 1. Special power of attorney, relative to the guardianship of a child of
- a military family and executed under applicable law shall be sufficient
- 472 for the purposes of enrollment and all other actions requiring parental
- 473 participation and consent.
- 2. A local education agency shall be prohibited from charging local
- 475 tuition to a transitioning military child placed in the care of a
- 476 noncustodial parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives
- in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent.
- 478 3. A transitioning military child, placed in the care of a noncustodial
- 479 parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives in a
- 480 jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent, may continue to
- attend the school in which he was enrolled while residing with the
- 482 custodial parent.
- B. State and local education agencies shall facilitate the opportunity
- 484 for transitioning military children's inclusion in extracurricular
- activities, regardless of application deadlines, to the extent they are
- 486 otherwise qualified.

487 ARTICLE VII

488 GRADUATION

- In order to facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families states and local education agencies shall incorporate the following procedures:
 - A. Local education agency administrative officials shall waive specific courses required for graduation if similar course work has been satisfactorily completed in another local education agency or shall provide reasonable justification for denial. Should a waiver not be granted to a student who would qualify to graduate from the sending school, the local education agency shall provide an alternative means of acquiring required coursework so that graduation may occur on time.
 - B. States shall accept: (1) Exit or end-of-course exams required for graduation from the sending state; or (2) national norm-referenced achievement tests; or (3) alternative testing, in lieu of testing requirements for graduation in the receiving state. In the event the above alternatives cannot be accommodated by the receiving state for a student transferring in his senior year, then the provisions of Article VII, Section C shall apply.
 - C. Should a military student transferring at the beginning or during his or her senior year be ineligible to graduate from the receiving local education agency after all alternatives have been considered, the sending and receiving local education agencies shall ensure the receipt of a diploma from the sending local education agency, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the sending local education agency. In the event that one of the states in question is not a member of this compact, the member state shall use best efforts to facilitate the ontime graduation of the student in accordance with Sections A and B of this Article.

516 ARTICLE VIII

517 STATE COORDINATION

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- A. Each member state shall, through the creation of a State Council or use of an existing body or board, provide for the coordination among its agencies of government, local education agencies and military installations concerning the state's participation in, and compliance with, this compact and Interstate Commission activities. While each member state may determine the membership of its own State Council, its membership must include at least: The state superintendent of education, superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of military children, representative from a military installation, one representative each from the legislative and executive branches of government, and other offices and stakeholder groups the State Council deems appropriate. A member state that does not have a school district deemed to contain a high concentration of military children may appoint a superintendent from another school district to represent local education agencies on the State Council.
- B. The State Council of each member state shall appoint or designate a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of this compact.
- C. The compact commissioner responsible for the administration and management of the state's participation in the compact shall be appointed by the Governor or as otherwise determined by each member state.
- D. The compact commissioner and the military family education liaison designated herein shall be ex-officio members of the State Council, unless either is already a full voting member of the State Council.
- 544 ARTICLE IX
- 545 INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY 546 FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

- The member states hereby create the "Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children". The activities of the Interstate Commission are the formation of public policy and are a discretionary state function. The Interstate Commission shall:
- A. Be a body corporate and joint agency of the member states and shall have all the responsibilities, powers and duties set forth herein, and such additional powers as may be conferred upon it by a subsequent concurrent action of the respective legislatures of the member states in accordance with the terms of this compact.
- B. Consist of one Interstate Commission voting representative from each member state who shall be that state's compact commissioner.
- 1. Each member state represented at a meeting of the Interstate Commission is entitled to one vote.
- 2. A majority of the total member states shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, unless a larger quorum is required by the bylaws of the Interstate Commission.
 - 3. A representative shall not delegate a vote to another member state. In the event the compact commissioner is unable to attend a meeting of the Interstate Commission, the Governor or State Council may delegate voting authority to another person from their state for a specified meeting.
- 4. The bylaws may provide for meetings of the Interstate Commission to be conducted by telecommunication or electronic communication.
- C. Consist of ex-officio, nonvoting representatives who are members of interested organizations. Such ex-officio members, as defined in the bylaws, may include, but not be limited to, members of the representative organizations of military family advocates, local education agency officials, parent and teacher groups, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Education Commission of the States, the Interstate Agreement on the Qualification of Educational Personnel and

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- other interstate compacts affecting the education of children of military members.
 - D. Meet at least once each calendar year. The chairperson may call additional meetings and, upon the request of a simple majority of the member states, shall call additional meetings.
 - E. Establish an executive committee, whose members shall include the officers of the Interstate Commission and such other members of the Interstate Commission as determined by the bylaws. Members of the executive committee shall serve a one-year term. Members of the executive committee shall be entitled to one vote each. The executive committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the Interstate Commission, with the exception of rulemaking, during periods when the Interstate Commission is not in session. The executive committee shall oversee the day-to-day activities of the administration of the compact including enforcement and compliance with the provisions of the compact, its bylaws and rules, and other such duties as deemed necessary. The U.S. Dept. of Defense, shall serve as an ex-officio, nonvoting member of the executive committee.
 - F. Establish bylaws and rules that provide for conditions and procedures under which the Interstate Commission shall make its information and official records available to the public for inspection or copying. The Interstate Commission may exempt from disclosure information or official records to the extent they would adversely affect personal privacy rights or proprietary interests.
 - G. Give public notice of all meetings and all meetings shall be open to the public, except as set forth in the rules or as otherwise provided in the compact. The Interstate Commission and its committees may close a meeting, or portion thereof, where it determines by two-thirds vote that an open meeting would be likely to:
- 1. Relate solely to the Interstate Commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;

- 2. Disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal and state statute;
- 3. Disclose trade secrets or commercial or financial information which is privileged or confidential;
- 4. Involve accusing a person of a crime, or formally censuring a person;
- 5. Disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- 6. Disclose investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes; or
- 7. Specifically relate to the Interstate Commission's participation in a civil action or other legal proceeding.
- 620 H. Cause its legal counsel or designee to certify that a meeting may 621 be closed and shall reference each relevant exemptible provision for any 622 meeting, or portion of a meeting, which is closed pursuant to this 623 provision. The Interstate Commission shall keep minutes which shall 624 fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall 625 provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, and the reasons 626 therefor, including a description of the views expressed and the record 627 of a roll call vote. All documents considered in connection with an action 628 shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a 629 closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release by a majority 630 vote of the Interstate Commission.
 - I. Collect standardized data concerning the educational transition of the children of military families under this compact as directed through its rules which shall specify the data to be collected, the means of collection and data exchange and reporting requirements. Such methods of data collection, exchange and reporting shall, insofar as is reasonably possible, conform to current technology and coordinate its information functions with the appropriate custodian of records as

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638	identified in the bylaws and rules.		
639 640 641 642 643 644 645	J. Create a process that permits military officials, education officials and parents to inform the Interstate Commission if and when there are alleged violations of the compact or its rules or when issues subject to the jurisdiction of the compact or its rules are not addressed by the state or local education agency. This section shall not be construed to create a private right of action against the Interstate Commission or any member state.		
646	ARTICLE X		
647	POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION		
648	The Interstate Commission shall have the following powers:		
649	A. To provide for dispute resolution among member states.		
650 651 652 653 654	B. To promulgate rules and take all necessary actions to effect the goals, purposes and obligations as enumerated in this compact. The rules shall have the force and effect of statutory law and shall be binding in the compact states to the extent and in the manner provided in this compact.		
655 656 657	C. To issue, upon request of a member state, advisory opinions concerning the meaning or interpretation of the interstate compact, its bylaws, rules and actions.		
658 659 660 661	D. To enforce compliance with the compact provisions, the rules promulgated by the Interstate Commission, and the bylaws, using all necessary and proper means, including but not limited to the use of judicial process.		
662 663	E. To establish and maintain offices which shall be located within one or more of the member states.		

F. To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.

- G. To borrow, accept, hire or contract for services of personnel.
- H. To establish and appoint committees including, but not limited to,
- an executive committee as required by Article IX, Section E, which shall
- have the power to act on behalf of the Interstate Commission in carrying
- out its powers and duties hereunder.
- I. To elect or appoint such officers, attorneys, employees, agents, or
- 671 consultants, and to fix their compensation, define their duties and
- 672 determine their qualifications; and to establish the Interstate
- 673 Commission's personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of
- interest, rates of compensation, and qualifications of personnel.
- I. To accept any and all donations and grants of money, equipment,
- 676 supplies, materials, and services, and to receive, utilize, and dispose of
- 677 it.
- K. To lease, purchase, accept contributions or donations of, or
- otherwise to own, hold, improve or use any property, real, personal or
- 680 mixed.
- L. To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or
- otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal or mixed.
- M. To establish a budget and make expenditures.
- N. To adopt a seal and bylaws governing the management and
- operation of the Interstate Commission.
- O. To report annually to the legislatures, governors, judiciary, and
- state councils of the member states concerning the activities of the
- 688 Interstate Commission during the preceding year. Such reports shall
- also include any recommendations that may have been adopted by the
- 690 Interstate Commission.
- P. To coordinate education, training and public awareness regarding
- the compact, its implementation and operation for officials and parents

- 693 involved in such activity.
- 694 Q. To establish uniform standards for the reporting, collecting and 695 exchanging of data.
- 696 R. To maintain corporate books and records in accordance with the 697 bylaws.
- 698 S. To perform such functions as may be necessary or appropriate to 699 achieve the purposes of this compact.
- 700 T. To provide for the uniform collection and sharing of information 701 between and among member states, schools and military families under
- this compact.

- 703 ARTICLE XI
- 704 ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF THE INTERSTATE
- 705 **COMMISSION**
- 706 A. The Interstate Commission shall, by a majority of the members
- 707 present and voting, within twelve months after the first Interstate
- 708 Commission meeting, adopt bylaws to govern its conduct as may be
- 709 necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the compact,
- 710 including, but not limited to:
- 711 1. Establishing the fiscal year of the Interstate Commission;
- 712 2. Establishing an executive committee, and such other committees as
- 713 may be necessary;
- 714 3. Providing for the establishment of committees and for governing
- 715 any general or specific delegation of authority or function of the
- 716 Interstate Commission;
- 717 4. Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting
- 718 meetings of the Interstate Commission, and ensuring reasonable notice
- 719 of each such meeting;

- 5. Establishing the titles and responsibilities of the officers and staff of the Interstate Commission;
- 6. Providing a mechanism for concluding the operations of the Interstate Commission and the return of surplus funds that may exist upon the termination of the compact after the payment and reserving of all of its debts and obligations;
- 7. Providing start-up rules for initial administration of the compact.
- 727 B. The Interstate Commission shall, by a majority of the members, 728 elect annually from among its members a chairperson, a vice-729 chairperson, and a treasurer, each of whom shall have such authority 730 and duties as may be specified in the bylaws. The chairperson or, in the 731 chairperson's absence or disability, the vice-chairperson, shall preside at 732 all meetings of the Interstate Commission. The officers so elected shall 733 serve without compensation or remuneration from the Interstate 734 Commission provided that, subject to the availability of budgeted 735 funds, the officers shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary costs 736 and expenses incurred by them in the performance of their 737 responsibilities as officers of the Interstate Commission.
- 738 C. Executive Committee, Officers and Personnel
- 739 1. The executive committee shall have such authority and duties as 740 may be set forth in the bylaws, including, but not limited to:
- a. Managing the affairs of the Interstate Commission in a manner consistent with the bylaws and purposes of the Interstate Commission;
- b. Overseeing an organizational structure within, and appropriate procedures for the Interstate Commission to provide for the creation of rules, operating procedures, and administrative and technical support functions; and
- 747 c. Planning, implementing, and coordinating communications and 748 activities with other state, federal and local government organizations

in order to advance the goals of the Interstate Commission.

- 2. The executive committee may, subject to the approval of the Interstate Commission, appoint or retain an executive director for such period, upon such terms and conditions and for such compensation, as the Interstate Commission may deem appropriate. The executive director shall serve as secretary to the Interstate Commission, but shall not be a member of the Interstate Commission. The executive director shall hire and supervise such other persons as may be authorized by the Interstate Commission.
- D. The Interstate Commission's executive director and its employees shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for a claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused or arising out of or relating to an actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred, within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities provided, such person shall not be protected from suit or liability for damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of such person.
- 1. The liability of the Interstate Commission's executive director and employees or Interstate Commission representatives, acting within the scope of such person's employment or duties for acts, errors, or omissions occurring within such person's state may not exceed the limits of liability set forth under the Constitution and laws of that state for state officials, employees, and agents. The Interstate Commission is considered to be an instrumentality of the states for the purposes of any such action. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to protect such person from suit or liability for damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of such person.
- 2. The Interstate Commission shall defend the executive director and its employees and, subject to the approval of the Attorney General or

other appropriate legal counsel of the member state represented by an Interstate Commission representative, shall defend such Interstate Commission representative in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of an actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties or responsibilities, or that the defendant had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such person.

3. To the extent not covered by the state involved, member state, or the Interstate Commission, the representatives or employees of the Interstate Commission shall be held harmless in the amount of a settlement or judgment, including attorney's fees and costs, obtained against such persons arising out of an actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such persons had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such persons.

ARTICLE XII

RULEMAKING FUNCTIONS OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

A. The Interstate Commission shall promulgate reasonable rules in order to effectively and efficiently achieve the purposes of this compact. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the Interstate Commission exercises its rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope of the purposes of this compact, or the powers granted hereunder, then such an action by the Interstate Commission shall be invalid and have no force or effect.

B. Rules shall be made pursuant to a rulemaking process that

- 812 substantially conforms to the "Model State Administrative Procedure
- 813 Act," of 1981 Act, Uniform Laws Annotated, Vol. 15, p.1 (2000) as
- amended, as may be appropriate to the operations of the Interstate
- 815 Commission.
- 816 C. Not later than thirty days after a rule is promulgated, any person
- 817 may file a petition for judicial review of the rule provided, the filing of
- 818 such a petition shall not stay or otherwise prevent the rule from
- 819 becoming effective unless the court finds that the petitioner has a
- 820 substantial likelihood of success. The court shall give deference to the
- actions of the Interstate Commission consistent with applicable law and
- shall not find the rule to be unlawful if the rule represents a reasonable
- 823 exercise of the Interstate Commission's authority.
- D. If a majority of the legislatures of the compacting states rejects a
- rule by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to
- 826 adopt the compact, then such rule shall have no further force and effect
- 827 in any compacting state.
- 828 ARTICLE XIII
- 829 OVERSIGHT, ENFORCEMENT, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION
- A. Oversight
- 1. The executive, legislative and judicial branches of state government
- in each member state shall enforce this compact and shall take all actions
- 833 necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and
- 834 intent. The provisions of this compact and the rules promulgated
- hereunder shall have standing as statutory law.
- 2. All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the rules in
- any judicial or administrative proceeding in a member state pertaining
- 838 to the subject matter of this compact which may affect the powers,
- 839 responsibilities or actions of the Interstate Commission.
- 3. The Interstate Commission shall be entitled to receive all service of

- process in any such proceeding, and shall have standing to intervene in
- the proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to
- the Interstate Commission shall render a judgment or order void as to
- the Interstate Commission, this compact or promulgated rules.
- B. If the Interstate Commission determines that a member state has
- defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under
- 847 this compact, or the bylaws or promulgated rules, the Interstate
- 848 Commission shall:
- 1. Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other member
- states of the nature of the default, the means of curing the default and
- 851 any action taken by the Interstate Commission. The Interstate
- 852 Commission shall specify the conditions by which the defaulting state
- must cure its default.
- 2. Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance
- 855 regarding the default.
- 3. If the defaulting state fails to cure the default, the defaulting state
- shall be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a
- 858 majority of the member states and all rights, privileges and benefits
- conferred by this compact shall be terminated from the effective date of
- 860 termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending state of
- obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of the default.
- 4. Suspension or termination of membership in the compact shall be
- imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been
- 864 exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by the
- 865 Interstate Commission to the Governor, the majority and minority
- leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the member
- states.
- 5. The state which has been suspended or terminated is responsible
- 869 for all assessments, obligations and liabilities incurred through the
- 870 effective date of suspension or termination including obligations, the
- 871 performance of which extends beyond the effective date of suspension

- 872 or termination.
- 6. The Interstate Commission shall not bear any costs relating to any state that has been found to be in default or which has been suspended or terminated from the compact, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing between the Interstate Commission and the defaulting state.
- 7. The defaulting state may appeal the action of the Interstate Commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Interstate Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation including reasonable attorney's fees.

C. Dispute Resolution

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- 1. The Interstate Commission shall attempt, upon the request of a member state, to resolve disputes which are subject to the compact and which may arise among member states and between member and nonmember states.
- 2. The Interstate Commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

891 D. Enforcement

- 1. The Interstate Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of this compact.
- 2. The Interstate Commission may, by majority vote of the members, initiate legal action in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or, at the discretion of the Interstate Commission, in the federal district where the Interstate Commission has its principal offices, to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact, its promulgated rules and bylaws, against a member state in default. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the

- event judicial enforcement is necessary the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation including reasonable attorney's fees.
- 3. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the Interstate Commission. The Interstate Commission may avail itself of any other remedies available under state law or the regulation of a profession.
- 907 ARTICLE XIV
- 908 FINANCING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION
- A. The Interstate Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization and ongoing activities.
- 912 B. The Interstate Commission may levy on and collect an annual 913 assessment from each member state to cover the cost of the operations 914 and activities of the Interstate Commission and its staff which must be 915 in a total amount sufficient to cover the Interstate Commission's annual 916 budget as approved each year. The aggregate annual assessment 917 amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the 918 Interstate Commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all 919 member states.
 - C. The Interstate Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the Interstate Commission pledge the credit of any of the member states, except by and with the authority of the member state.
 - D. The Interstate Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Interstate Commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Interstate Commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual

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931	report of the Interstate Commission.			
932	ARTICLE XV			
933	MEMBER STATES, EFFECTIVE DATE AND AMENDMENT			
934	A. Any state is eligible to become a member state.			
935	B. The compact shall become effective and binding upon legislative			
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937	effective date shall be no earlier than December 1, 2007. Thereafter it			
938	shall become effective and binding as to any other member state upon			
939	enactment of the compact into law by that state. The governors of			
940	nonmember states or their designees shall be invited to participate in			
941	the activities of the Interstate Commission on a nonvoting basis prior to			
942	adoption of the compact by all states.			
943	C. The Interstate Commission may propose amendments to the			
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945	become effective and binding upon the Interstate Commission and the			
946	member states unless and until it is enacted into law by unanimous			
947	consent of the member states.			
948	ARTICLE XVI			
949	WITHDRAWAL AND DISSOLUTION			
950	A. Withdrawal			
951	1. Once effective, the compact shall continue in force and remain			
952	binding upon each and every member state provided a member state			
953	may withdraw from the compact by specifically repealing the statute,			
954	which enacted the compact into law.			
955	2. Withdrawal from this compact shall be by the enactment of a			
956	statute repealing the same, but shall not take effect until one year after			
957	the effective date of such statute and until written notice of the			
958	withdrawal has been given by the withdrawing state to the Governor of			

- 959 each other member jurisdiction.
- 960 3. The withdrawing state shall immediately notify the chairperson of
- 961 the Interstate Commission in writing upon the introduction of
- 962 legislation repealing this compact in the withdrawing state. The
- 963 Interstate Commission shall notify the other member states of the
- 964 withdrawing state's intent to withdraw within sixty days of its receipt
- 965 thereof.
- 966 4. The withdrawing state is responsible for all assessments,
- 967 obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of
- 968 withdrawal, including obligations, the performance of which extend
- 969 beyond the effective date of withdrawal.
- 5. Reinstatement following withdrawal of a member state shall occur
- 971 upon the withdrawing state reenacting the compact or upon such later
- 972 date as determined by the Interstate Commission.
- 973 B. Dissolution of Compact
- 974 1. This compact shall dissolve effective upon the date of the
- 975 withdrawal or default of the member state which reduces the
- 976 membership in the compact to one member state.
- 977 2. Upon the dissolution of this compact, the compact becomes null
- and void and shall be of no further force or effect, and the business and
- 979 affairs of the Interstate Commission shall be concluded and surplus
- 980 funds shall be distributed in accordance with the bylaws.
- 981 ARTICLE XVII
- 982 SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION
- A. The provisions of this compact shall be severable, and if any
- 984 phrase, clause, sentence or provision is deemed unenforceable, the
- 985 remaining provisions of the compact shall be enforceable.
- 986 B. The provisions of this compact shall be liberally construed to

- 987 effectuate its purposes.
- C. Nothing in this compact shall be construed to prohibit the applicability of other interstate compacts to which the states are members.
- 991 ARTICLE XVIII
- 992 BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND OTHER LAWS
- 993 A. Other Laws
- 1. Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law of a member state that is not inconsistent with this compact.
- 996 2. All member states' laws conflicting with this compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict.
- 998 B. Binding Effect of the Compact
- 1. All lawful actions of the Interstate Commission, including all rules and bylaws promulgated by the Interstate Commission, are binding upon the member states.
- 2. All agreements between the Interstate Commission and the member states are binding in accordance with their terms.
- 3. In the event any provision of this compact exceeds the constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any member state, such provision shall be ineffective to the extent of the conflict with the constitutional provision in question in that member state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:					
Section 1	July 1, 2023	10-264l(a) and (b)			
Sec. 2	July 1, 2023	10-2641(c)(3)(C)			
Sec. 3	July 1, 2023	10-264l(o)			
Sec. 4	July 1, 2023	10-264r			

Sec. 5	July 1, 2023	10-262s
Sec. 6	July 1, 2023	10-15f

ED Joint Favorable Subst.