
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 869 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY TOMLINSON, BOSCOLA, GORDNER, COMMITTA, FONTANA AND
BROOKS, SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 63 (Professions and Occupations (State Licensed))
2 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers and
3 duties, further providing for definitions and providing for
4 virtual operation.

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

7 Section 1. Section 3102 of Title 63 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding definitions to read:

9 § 3102. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
11 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 * * *

14 "Distance education." Instruction offered by any means where
15 the licensee is in a separate physical location from the
16 instructor and communication is accomplished through one or more
17 technological media. The term includes real-time or delayed
18 interaction using voice, video, data or text, including

1 instruction provided online, via correspondence or interactive
2 video.

3 * * *

4 "Practice act." A statute governing the licensure,
5 certification, registration or permit of a profession that is
6 under the jurisdiction of a licensing board or licensing
7 commission.

8 * * *

9 "Virtual platform." Live-stream synchronous
10 videoconferencing or similar virtual presence technology.

11 "Virtual supervision." The act of supervision of hours
12 necessary for a license, certificate, registration or permit in
13 a practice act done in a manner that allows the supervisor to be
14 in a separate physical location from the supervisee while using
15 a virtual platform to maintain a continuous real-time virtual
16 presence as if in person.

17 Section 2. Title 63 is amended by adding a section to read:
18 § 3107.1. Virtual operation.

19 (a) Virtual meetings.--In addition to the requirements of a
20 practice act to hold public meetings to conduct business, each
21 licensing board and licensing commission shall use a virtual
22 platform to conduct business when a public meeting is held.

23 (b) Quorum.--Notwithstanding the provisions of a practice
24 act, for the purposes of a quorum, a licensing board or
25 licensing commission may use a virtual platform to establish a
26 quorum and effectuate business if the platform allows for live
27 participation. Licensing board or licensing commission meetings
28 conducted in this manner shall not need to meet location
29 requirements as may be required in a practice act.

30 (c) Distance education.--Each licensing board and licensing

1 commission shall establish rules and regulations for continuing
2 education that provides for distance education if continuing
3 education is required for a license, certificate, registration
4 or permit in a practice act.

5 (d) Virtual supervision.--In order to meet the supervision
6 requirements for license, certificate, registration or permit
7 hours in a practice act, each licensing board and licensing
8 commission shall establish rules and regulations providing for
9 virtual supervision in a manner that meets the requirements for
10 licensure, certification, registration or permit and is
11 acceptable to the licensing board and licensing commission.

12 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.