



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE  
**Joint Fiscal Office**

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## Fiscal Note

5/31/2023

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# **H.86 – An Act Relating to Vermont’s adoption of the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact<sup>1</sup>**

As Passed by the General Assembly

## **Bill Summary**

The bill proposes the State adopt the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC), which allows licensed audiologists and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) residing in a compact member state to practice in other compact member states. Entering the compact will result in an estimated revenue reduction of approximately \$16,800 from the loss of licensing fees and approximately \$400 from the loss of application fees from out-of-state applicants from compact states in fiscal year 2024. The bill also establishes a biennial \$50 privilege to practice fee which will offset revenue losses by an estimated \$3,500.

## **Background and Details**

The compact was developed by the Council of State Governments (CSG) and its National Center for Interstate Compacts. Like all interstate licensure compacts, the ASLP-IC establishes uniform requirements for a “compact license.” The ASLP-IC reached the number of states necessary to convene a compact commission in January 2022. The compact commission is in the process of establishing bylaws and initial rules with compact privileges expected to be issued in 2023. As of August 2022, 23 states, including New Hampshire, have joined the compact.<sup>2</sup>

## **Revenue Reductions**

In Vermont, licenses for audiologists and SLPs are renewed in August of even years for a fee of \$240. Revenues from license and application fees are deposited into the Professional Regulatory Fee Fund (21150). According to the Office of Professional Regulation (OPR), there are 76 audiologists and 636 SLPs licensed in Vermont. Of those, 11 audiologists and 59 SLPs are from states that have signed onto the ASLP-IC. OPR estimates it would see a revenue reduction of \$16,800 from the loss of licensing fees and approximately \$400 from the loss of application fees from out-of-state applicants from compact states in fiscal year 2024. Additional states joining the ASLP-IC could further impact revenue; 9 states including Vermont have legislation pending regarding joining the compact.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/Docs/BILLS/H-0086/H-0086%20As%20Passed%20by%20Both%20House%20and%20Senate%20Unofficial.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://aslpcompact.com/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://aslpcompact.com/compact-map/>

## Compact Fees

The fee to purchase Compact privileges varies state to state. Applicants will pay a compact commission fee and an optional state fee charged for each state compact privilege. The bill would establish a biennial \$50 privilege to practice fee in Vermont. This will offset some of the revenue losses by an estimated \$3,500.

While current state applications are done online, OPR will need to process compact applications manually, requiring significantly more staff time. OPR’s license platform could automate compact applications by building a compact-specific portal, but that would require additional financial resources.

## Summary

- The estimated revenue loss for fiscal year 2024 is approximately \$17,200.
  - Loss of licensing fees = \$16,800
  - Loss of application fees = \$400
- The biennial \$50 privilege fee will offset revenue losses by approximately \$3,500.
- If more states join the ASLP-IC, future revenue impacts will be greater.
- More staff and/or IT resources could be needed at OPR to process fees received through this and other compacts.

Est. Out-of-state Applicants # <sup>1</sup>	Current Fee (When paid)	Est. Revenue Loss <sup>2</sup>		\$50 Privilege Fee	Est. Revenue Loss w/ Fee
		FY 2024	FY 2025		
70	\$240 (Even Years)	(\$17,200)		\$3,500	(\$13,700)

<sup>1</sup> Based on the current number of Vermont licensees from States that have signed onto compact

<sup>2</sup> Licenses are renewed on 2-year cycles.

## Other considerations

Three other bills related to adopting interstate licensure compacts also passed the General Assembly during the 2023 Legislative Session, each of which will also result in revenue losses to the Office of Professional Regulations.

- H.62 – An act relating to the Interstate Counseling Compact<sup>4</sup>
- H.77 – An act relating to Vermont’s adoption of the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact<sup>5</sup>
- H.282 – An act relating to the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> <https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2024/H.62>

<sup>5</sup> <https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2024/H.77>

<sup>6</sup> <https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2024/H.282>