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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
150th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE BILL NO. 172

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 24 OF THE DELAWARE CODE CREATING A PSYCHOLOGY
INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT.

1 WHEREAS, states license psychologists, in order to protect the public through verification of education, training,
2 and experience and ensure accountability for professional practice; and

3 WHEREAS, this Compact is intended to regulate the day-to-day practice of telepsychology (i.e. the provision of
4 psychological services using telecommunication technologies) by psychologists across state boundaries in the performance
5 of their psychological practice as assigned by an appropriate authority; and

6 WHEREAS, this Compact is intended to regulate the temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology by
7 psychologists across state boundaries for 30 days within a calendar year in the performance of their psychological practice
8 as assigned by an appropriate authority;

9 WHEREAS, this Compact is intended to authorize State Psychology Regulatory Authorities to afford legal
10 recognition, in a manner consistent with the terms of the Compact, to psychologists licensed in another state;

11 WHEREAS, this Compact recognizes that states have a vested interest in protecting the public's health and safety
12 through their licensing and regulation of psychologists and that such state regulation will best protect public health and
13 safety;

14 WHEREAS, this Compact does not apply when a psychologist is licensed in both the Home and Receiving States;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, this Compact does not apply to permanent in-person, face-to-face practice, it does allow for
17 authorization of temporary psychological practice.

18 Consistent with these principles, this Compact is designed to achieve the following purposes and objectives:

19 1. Increase public access to professional psychological services by allowing for telepsychological practice across
20 state lines as well as temporary in-person, face-to-face services into a state which the psychologist is not licensed to
21 practice psychology.

22 2. Enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health and safety, especially client/patient safety.

- 23 3. Encourage the cooperation of Compact States in the areas of psychology licensure and regulation.
- 24 4. Facilitate the exchange of information between Compact States regarding psychologist licensure, adverse
25 actions and disciplinary history.
- 26 5. Promote compliance with the laws governing psychological practice in each Compact State.
- 27 6. Invest all Compact States with the authority to hold licensed psychologists accountable through the mutual
28 recognition of Compact State licenses.

29 NOW, THEREFORE:

30 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

31 Section 1. Amend Title 24 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as
32 shown by underline as follows:

33 Chapter 35A. Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact

34 § 3501A. Definitions.

35 As used in this subchapter:

36 (1) “Adverse Action” means: Any action taken by a State Psychology Regulatory Authority which finds a
37 violation of a statute or regulation that is identified by the State Psychology Regulatory Authority as discipline and is a
38 matter of public record.

39 (2) “Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB)” means: the recognized membership
40 organization composed of State and Provincial Psychology Regulatory Authorities responsible for the licensure and
41 registration of psychologists throughout the United States and Canada.

42 (3) “Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology” means: a licensed psychologist’s authority to
43 practice telepsychology, within the limits authorized under this Compact, in another Compact State.

44 (4) “Bylaws” means: those Bylaws established by the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission
45 pursuant to § 3509A of this Chapter for its governance, or for directing and controlling its actions and conduct.

46 (5) “Client/Patient” means: the recipient of psychological services, whether psychological services are
47 delivered in the context of healthcare, corporate, supervision, or consulting services.

48 (6) “Commissioner” means: the voting representative appointed by each State Psychology Regulatory
49 Authority pursuant to § 3509A of this Chapter.

50 (7) “Compact State” means: a state, the District of Columbia, or United States territory that has enacted this
51 Compact legislation and which has not withdrawn pursuant to § 3512A(c) of this Chapter or been terminated pursuant
52 to § 3511A(b) of this Chapter.

53 (8) “Coordinated Licensure Information System” also referred to as “Coordinated Database” means: an
54 integrated process for collecting, storing, and sharing information on psychologists’ licensure and enforcement
55 activities related to psychology licensure laws, which is administered by the recognized membership organization
56 composed of State and Provincial Psychology Regulatory Authorities.

57 (9) “Confidentiality” means: the principle that data or information is not made available or disclosed to
58 unauthorized persons or processes.

59 (10) “Day” means: any part of a day in which psychological work is performed.

60 (11) “Distant State” means: the Compact State where a psychologist is physically present (not through the use
61 of telecommunications technologies), to provide temporary in-person, face-to-face psychological services.

62 (12) “E.Passport” means: a certificate issued by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards
63 (ASPPB) that promotes the standardization in the criteria of interjurisdictional telepsychology practice and facilitates
64 the process for licensed psychologists to provide telepsychological services across state lines.

65 (13) “Executive Board” means: a group of directors elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within the
66 powers granted to them by, the Commission.

67 (14) “Home State” means: a Compact State where a psychologist is licensed to practice psychology. If the
68 psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact State and is practicing under the Authorization to Practice
69 Interjurisdictional Telepsychology, the Home State is the Compact State where the psychologist is physically present
70 when the telepsychological services are delivered. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact State and
71 is practicing under the Temporary Authorization to Practice, the Home State is any Compact State where the
72 psychologist is licensed.

73 (15) “Identity History Summary” means: a summary of information retained by the FBI, or other designee
74 with similar authority, in connection with arrests and, in some instances, federal employment, naturalization, or
75 military service.

76 (16) “In-Person, Face-to-Face” means: interactions in which the psychologist and the client/patient are in the
77 same physical space and which does not include interactions that may occur through the use of telecommunication
78 technologies.

79 (17) “Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC)” means: a certificate issued by the Association of State and
80 Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) that grants temporary authority to practice based on notification to the State
81 Psychology Regulatory Authority of intention to practice temporarily, and verification of one’s qualifications for such
82 practice.

83 (18) “License” means: authorization by a State Psychology Regulatory Authority to engage in the independent
84 practice of psychology, which would be unlawful without the authorization.

85 (19) “Non-Compact State” means: any State which is not at the time a Compact State.

86 (20) “Psychologist” means: an individual licensed for the independent practice of psychology.

87 (21) “Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission” also referred to as “Commission” means: the
88 national administration of which all Compact States are members.

89 (22) “Receiving State” means: a Compact State where the client/patient is physically located when the
90 telepsychological services are delivered.

91 (23) “Rule” means: a written statement by the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission
92 promulgated pursuant to § 3510A of this Chapter that is of general applicability, implements, interprets, or prescribes a
93 policy or provision of the Compact, or an organizational, procedural, or practice requirement of the Commission and
94 has the force and effect of statutory law in a Compact State, and includes the amendment, repeal or suspension of an
95 existing rule.

96 (24) “Significant Investigatory Information” means either of the following:

97 a. Investigative information that a State Psychology Regulatory Authority, after a preliminary inquiry that
98 includes notification and an opportunity to respond if required by state law, has reason to believe, if proven true,
99 would indicate more than a violation of state statute or ethics code that would be considered more substantial than
100 minor infraction.

101 b. Investigative information that indicates that the psychologist represents an immediate threat to public
102 health and safety regardless of whether the psychologist has been notified and/or had an opportunity to respond.

103 (25) “State” means: a state, commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of
104 Columbia.

105 (26) “State Psychology Regulatory Authority” means: the Board, office, or other agency with the legislative
106 mandate to license and regulate the practice of psychology.

107 (27) “Telepsychology” means: the provision of psychological services using telecommunication technologies.

108 (28) “Temporary Authorization to Practice” means: a licensed psychologist’s authority to conduct temporary
109 in-person, face-to-face practice, within the limits authorized under this Compact, in another Compact State.

110 (29) “Temporary In-Person, Face-to-Face Practice” means: where a psychologist is physically present (not
111 through the use of telecommunications technologies), in the Distant State to provide for the practice of psychology for
112 30 days within a calendar year and based on notification to the Distant State.

113 § 3502A. Home State Licensure.

114 (a) The Home State shall be a Compact State where a psychologist is licensed to practice psychology.

115 (b) A psychologist may hold one or more Compact State licenses at a time. If the psychologist is licensed in more
116 than one Compact State, the Home State is the Compact State where the psychologist is physically present when the
117 services are delivered as authorized by the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology under the terms of this
118 Compact.

119 (c) Any Compact State may require a psychologist not previously licensed in a Compact State to obtain and retain
120 a license to be authorized to practice in the Compact State under circumstances not authorized by the Authority to Practice
121 Interjurisdictional Telepsychology under the terms of this Compact.

122 (d) Any Compact State may require a psychologist to obtain and retain a license to be authorized to practice in a
123 Compact State under circumstances not authorized by Temporary Authorization to Practice under the terms of this
124 Compact.

125 (e) A Home State's license authorizes a psychologist to practice in a Receiving State under the Authority to
126 Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology only if the Compact State does all of the following:

127 (1) Currently requires the psychologist to hold an active E.Passport.

128 (2) Has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about licensed individuals.

129 (3) Notifies the Commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any adverse action or significant
130 investigatory information regarding a licensed individual.

131 (4) Requires an Identity History Summary of all applicants at initial licensure, including the use of the results
132 of fingerprints or other biometric data checks compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
133 FBI, or other designee with similar authority, no later than ten years after activation of the Compact.

134 (5) Complies with the Bylaws and Rules of the Commission.

135 (f) A Home State's license grants Temporary Authorization to Practice to a psychologist in a Distant State only if
136 the Compact State does all of the following:

137 (1) Currently requires the psychologist to hold an active IPC.

138 (2) Has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about licensed individuals.

139 (3) Notifies the Commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any adverse action or significant
140 investigatory information regarding a licensed individual.

141 (4) Requires an Identity History Summary of all applicants at initial licensure, including the use of the results
142 of fingerprints or other biometric data checks compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

143 FBI, or other designee with similar authority, no later than ten years after activation of the Compact.

144 (5) Complies with the Bylaws and Rules of the Commission.

145 § 3503A. Compact Privilege to Practice Telepsychology.

146 (a) Compact States shall recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a Compact State in conformance with §
147 3502A of this Chapter , to practice telepsychology in other Compact States (Receiving States) in which the psychologist is
148 not licensed, under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology as provided in the Compact.

149 (b) To exercise the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology under the terms and provisions of this
150 Compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a Compact State must comply with the following provisions (1) through (8):

151 (1) Hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education that was, at the time the degree
152 was awarded either:

153 a. Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to grant
154 graduate degrees, OR authorized by Provincial Statute or Royal Charter to grant doctoral degrees.

155 b. A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to (1)a. above by a foreign credential
156 evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by
157 a recognized foreign credential evaluation service.

158 (2) Hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets all of the following criteria:

159 a. The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, must be clearly identified and labeled as a
160 psychology program. Such a program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to
161 educate and train professional psychologists.

162 b. The psychology program must stand as a recognizable, coherent, organizational entity within the
163 institution.

164 c. There must be a clear authority and primary responsibility for the core and specialty areas whether or
165 not the program cuts across administrative lines.

166 d. The program must consist of an integrated, organized sequence of study.

167 e. There must be an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and breadth to carry out its
168 responsibilities.

169 f. The designated director of the program must be a psychologist and a member of the core faculty.

170 g. The program must have an identifiable body of students who are matriculated in that program for a
171 degree.

172 h. The program must include supervised internship training appropriate to the practice of psychology.

173 i. The curriculum shall encompass the completion of a doctoral degree in professional psychology.
174 j. The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the Rules of the Commission.
175 (3) Possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a Home State which is a
176 Compact State.
177 (4) Have no history of adverse action that violate the Rules of the Commission.
178 (5) Have no criminal record history reported on an Identity History Summary that violates the Rules of
179 the Commission.
180 (6) Possess a current, active E.Passport.
181 (7) Provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice, conformity with standards of practice,
182 competence in telepsychology technology; criminal background; and knowledge and adherence to legal requirements
183 in the home and receiving states, and provide a release of information to allow for primary source verification in a
184 manner specified by the Commission.
185 (8) Meet other criteria as defined by the Rules of the Commission.
186 (c) The Home State maintains authority over the license of any psychologist practicing into a Receiving State
187 under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology.
188 (d) A psychologist practicing into a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional
189 Telepsychology will be subject to the Receiving State's scope of practice. A Receiving State may, in accordance with that
190 state's due process law, limit or revoke a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology in the
191 Receiving State and may take any other necessary actions under the Receiving State's applicable law to protect the health
192 and safety of the Receiving State's citizens. If a Receiving State takes action, the state shall promptly notify the Home State
193 and the Commission.
194 (e) If a psychologist's license in any Home State, another Compact State, or any Authority to Practice
195 Interjurisdictional Telepsychology in any Receiving State, is restricted, suspended or otherwise limited, the E.Passport shall
196 be revoked and therefore the psychologist shall not be eligible to practice telepsychology in a Compact State under the
197 Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology.
198 § 3504A. Compact Temporary Authorization to Practice.
199 (a) Compact States shall also recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a Compact State in conformance
200 with § 3502A of this Chapter, to practice temporarily in other Compact States (Distant States) in which the psychologist is
201 not licensed, as provided in the Compact.
202 (b) To exercise the Temporary Authorization to Practice under the terms and provisions of this Compact, a

203 psychologist licensed to practice in a Compact State must comply with the following provisions (1) through (8):

204 (1) Hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education that was, at the time the degree
205 was awarded either:

206 a. Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to grant
207 graduate degrees, or authorized by Provincial Statute or Royal Charter to grant doctoral degrees.

208 b. A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to 1 (a) above by a foreign credential
209 evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by
210 a recognized foreign credential evaluation service.

211 (2) Hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets all of the following criteria:

212 a. The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, must be clearly identified and labeled as a
213 psychology program. Such a program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to
214 educate and train professional psychologists.

215 b. The psychology program must stand as a recognizable, coherent, organizational entity within the
216 institution.

217 c. There must be a clear authority and primary responsibility for the core and specialty areas whether or
218 not the program cuts across administrative lines.

219 d. The program must consist of an integrated, organized sequence of study.

220 e. There must be an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and breadth to carry out its
221 responsibilities.

222 f. The designated director of the program must be a psychologist and a member of the core faculty.

223 g. The program must have an identifiable body of students who are matriculated in that program for a
224 degree.

225 h. The program must include supervised internship training appropriate to the practice of psychology.

226 i. The curriculum shall encompass the completion of a doctoral degree in professional psychology.

227 j. The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the Rules of the Commission.

228 (3) Possess a current, full and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a Home State which is a Compact
229 State.

230 (4) No history of adverse action that violate the Rules of the Commission.

231 (5) No criminal record history that violates the Rules of the Commission.

232 (6) Possess a current, active IPC.

233 (7) Provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice and work experience and provide a release of
234 information to allow for primary source verification in a manner specified by the Commission.

235 (8) Meet other criteria as defined by the Rules of the Commission.

236 (c) A psychologist practicing into a Distant State under the Temporary Authorization to Practice shall practice
237 within the scope of practice authorized by the Distant State.

238 (d) A psychologist practicing into a Distant State under the Temporary Authorization to Practice will be subject to
239 the Distant State's authority and law. A Distant State may, in accordance with that state's due process law, limit or revoke a
240 psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice in the Distant State and may take any other necessary actions under the
241 Distant State's applicable law to protect the health and safety of the Distant State's citizens. If a Distant State takes action,
242 the state shall promptly notify the Home State and the Commission.

243 (e) If a psychologist's license in any Home State, another Compact State, or any Temporary Authorization to
244 Practice in any Distant State, is restricted, suspended, or otherwise limited, the IPC shall be revoked and therefore the
245 psychologist shall not be eligible to practice in a Compact State under the Temporary Authorization to Practice.

246 § 3505A. Conditions of Telepsychology Practice in a Receiving State.

247 (a) A psychologist may practice in a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional
248 Telepsychology only in the performance of the scope of practice for psychology as assigned by an appropriate State
249 Psychology Regulatory Authority, as defined in the Rules of the Commission, and under the following circumstances:

250 (1) The psychologist initiates a client/patient contact in a Home State via telecommunications technologies
251 with a client/patient in a Receiving State.

252 (2) Other conditions regarding telepsychology as determined by Rules promulgated by the Commission.

253 § 3506A. Adverse Actions.

254 (a) A Home State shall have the power to impose adverse action against a psychologist's license issued by the
255 Home State. A Distant State shall have the power to take adverse action on a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to
256 Practice within that Distant State.

257 (b) A Receiving State may take adverse action on a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional
258 Telepsychology within that Receiving State. A Home State may take adverse action against a psychologist based on an
259 adverse action taken by a Distant State regarding temporary in-person, face-to-face practice.

260 (c) If a Home State takes adverse action against a psychologist's license, that psychologist's Authority to Practice
261 Interjurisdictional Telepsychology is terminated and the E.Passport is revoked. Furthermore, that psychologist's Temporary
262 Authorization to Practice is terminated and the IPC is revoked.

263 (1) All Home State disciplinary orders which impose adverse action shall be reported to the Commission in
264 accordance with the Rules promulgated by the Commission. A Compact State shall report adverse actions in
265 accordance with the Rules of the Commission.

266 (2) In the event discipline is reported on a psychologist, the psychologist will not be eligible for
267 telepsychology or temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in accordance with the Rules of the Commission.

268 (3) Other actions may be imposed as determined by the Rules promulgated by the Commission.

269 (d) A Home State's Psychology Regulatory Authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to
270 reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a licensee which occurred in a Receiving State as it would if such conduct
271 had occurred by a licensee within the Home State. In such cases, the Home State's law shall control in determining any
272 adverse action against a psychologist's license.

273 (e) A Distant State's Psychology Regulatory Authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to
274 reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a psychologist practicing under Temporary Authorization Practice which
275 occurred in that Distant State as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the Home State. In such cases,
276 Distant State's law shall control in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to
277 Practice.

278 (f) Nothing in this Compact shall override a Compact State's decision that a psychologist's participation in an
279 alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse action and that such participation shall remain non-public if required by
280 the Compact State's law. Compact States must require psychologists who enter any alternative programs to not provide
281 telepsychology services under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology or provide temporary
282 psychological services under the Temporary Authorization to Practice in any other Compact State during the term of the
283 alternative program.

284 (g) No other judicial or administrative remedies shall be available to a psychologist in the event a Compact State
285 imposes an adverse action pursuant to subsection C, above.

286 § 3507A. Additional Authorities Invested in a Compact State's Psychology Regulatory Authority.

287 (a) In addition to any other powers granted under state law, a Compact State's Psychology Regulatory Authority
288 shall have the authority under this Compact to:

289 (1) Issue subpoenas, for both hearings and investigations, which require the attendance and testimony of
290 witnesses and the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Compact State's Psychology Regulatory Authority
291 for the attendance and testimony of witnesses, or the production of evidence from another Compact State shall be
292 enforced in the latter state by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to that court's practice and procedure in

293 considering subpoenas issued in its own proceedings. The issuing State Psychology Regulatory Authority shall pay any
294 witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes of the state where the witnesses
295 and/or evidence are located; and

296 (2) Issue cease and desist or injunctive relief orders to revoke a psychologist's Authority to Practice
297 Interjurisdictional Telepsychology or Temporary Authorization to Practice.

298 (3) During the course of any investigation, a psychologist may not change Home State licensure. A Home
299 State Psychology Regulatory Authority is authorized to complete any pending investigations of a psychologist and to
300 take any actions appropriate under its law. The Home State Psychology Regulatory Authority shall promptly report the
301 conclusions of such investigations to the Commission. Once an investigation has been completed, and pending the
302 outcome of said investigation, the psychologist may change Home State licensure. The Commission shall promptly
303 notify the new Home State of any such decisions as provided in the Rules of the Commission. All information
304 provided to the Commission or distributed by Compact States pursuant to the psychologist shall be confidential, filed
305 under seal and used for investigatory or disciplinary matters. The Commission may create additional rules for
306 mandated or discretionary sharing of information by Compact States.

307 § 3508 A. Coordination Licensure Information System.

308 (a) The Commission shall provide for the development and maintenance of a Coordinated Licensure Information
309 System (Coordinated Database) and reporting system containing licensure and disciplinary action information on all
310 psychologists individuals to whom this Compact is applicable in all Compact States as defined by the Rules of the
311 Commission.

312 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a Compact State shall submit a uniform data
313 set to the Coordinated Database on all licensees as required by the Rules of the Commission, including:

314 (1) Identifying information.

315 (2) Licensure data.

316 (3) Significant investigatory information.

317 (4) Adverse actions against a psychologist's license.

318 (5) An indicator that a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology or Temporary
319 Authorization to Practice is revoked.

320 (6) Non-confidential information related to alternative program participation information.

321 (7) Any denial of application for licensure, and the reasons for such denial.

322 (8) Other information which may facilitate the administration of this Compact, as determined by the Rules of

323 the Commission.

324 (c) The Coordinated Database administrator shall promptly notify all Compact States of any adverse action taken
325 against, or significant investigative information on, any licensee in a Compact State.

326 (d) Compact States reporting information to the Coordinated Database may designate information that may not be
327 shared with the public without the express permission of the Compact State reporting the information.

328 (e) Any information submitted to the Coordinated Database that is subsequently required to be expunged by the
329 law of the Compact State reporting the information shall be removed from the Coordinated Database.

330 § 3509A. Establishment of the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission.

331 (a) The Compact States hereby create and establish a joint public agency known as the Psychology
332 Interjurisdictional Compact Commission.

333 (1) The Commission is a body politic and an instrumentality of the Compact States.

334 (2) Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the Commission shall be brought solely and
335 exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is located. The
336 Commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative
337 dispute resolution proceedings.

338 (3) Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign immunity.

339 (b) Membership, Voting, and Meetings.

340 (1) The Commission shall consist of one voting representative appointed by each Compact State who shall
341 serve as that state's Commissioner. The State Psychology Regulatory Authority shall appoint its delegate. This
342 delegate shall be empowered to act on behalf of the Compact State. This delegate shall be limited to the following
343 individuals:

344 a. Executive Director, Executive Secretary or similar executive.

345 b. Current member of the State Psychology Regulatory Authority of a Compact State.

346 c. Designee empowered with the appropriate delegate authority to act on behalf of the Compact State.

347 (2) Any Commissioner may be removed or suspended from office as provided by the law of the state from
348 which the Commissioner is appointed. Any vacancy occurring in the Commission shall be filled in accordance with
349 the laws of the Compact State in which the vacancy exists.

350 (3) Each Commissioner shall be entitled to 1 vote with regard to the promulgation of Rules and creation of
351 Bylaws and shall otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the business and affairs of the Commission. A
352 Commissioner shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the Bylaws. The Bylaws may provide for

353 Commissioners' participation in meetings by telephone or other means of communication.

354 (4) The Commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year. Additional meetings shall be
355 held as set forth in the Bylaws.

356 (5) All meetings shall be open to the public, and public notice of meetings shall be given in the same manner as
357 required under the rulemaking provisions in § 3510A.

358 (6) The Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting if the Commission must discuss any
359 of the following:

360 a. Non-compliance of a Compact State with its obligations under the Compact.

361 b. The employment, compensation, discipline, or other personnel matters, practices, or procedures
362 related to specific employees or other matters related to the Commission's internal personnel practices and
363 procedures.

364 c. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation against the Commission.

365 d. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase or sale of goods, services or real estate.

366 e. Accusation against any person of a crime or formally censuring any person.

367 f. Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information which is privileged or confidential.

368 g. Disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly
369 unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

370 h. Disclosure of investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes.

371 i. Disclosure of information related to any investigatory reports prepared by or on behalf of or for use
372 of the Commission or other committee charged with responsibility for investigation or determination of
373 compliance issues pursuant to the Compact.

374 j. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal and state statute.

375 (7) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this provision, the Commission's legal counsel
376 or designee shall certify that the meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant exempting provision. The
377 Commission shall keep minutes which fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a
378 full and accurate summary of actions taken, of any person participating in the meeting, and the reasons therefore,
379 including a description of the views expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action shall be
380 identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release
381 only by a majority vote of the Commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

382 (c) The Commission shall, by a majority vote of the Commissioners, prescribe Bylaws or Rules to govern its

383 conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes and exercise the powers of the Compact, including but
384 not limited to:

385 (1) Establishing the fiscal year of the Commission.

386 (2) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for both of the following:

387 a. The establishment and meetings of other committees.

388 b. Governing any general or specific delegation of any authority or function of the Commission.

389 (3) Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of the Commission, ensuring
390 reasonable advance notice of all meetings and providing an opportunity for attendance of such meetings by interested
391 parties, with enumerated exceptions designed to protect the public's interest, the privacy of individuals of such
392 proceedings, and proprietary information, including trade secrets. The Commission may meet in closed session only
393 after a majority of the Commissioners vote to close a meeting to the public in whole or in part. As soon as practicable,
394 the Commission must make public a copy of the vote to close the meeting revealing the vote of each Commissioner
395 with no proxy votes allowed.

396 (4) Establishing the titles, duties and authority and reasonable procedures for the election of the officers of the
397 Commission.

398 (5) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the establishment of the personnel policies and
399 programs of the Commission. Notwithstanding any civil service or other similar law of any Compact State, the Bylaws
400 shall exclusively govern the personnel policies and programs of the Commission.

401 (6) Promulgating a Code of Ethics to address permissible and prohibited activities of Commission members
402 and employees.

403 (7) Providing a mechanism for concluding the operations of the Commission and the equitable disposition of
404 any surplus funds that may exist after the termination of the Compact after the payment and/or reserving of all of its
405 debts and obligations.

406 (8) The Commission shall publish its Bylaws in a convenient form and file a copy thereof and a copy of any
407 amendment thereto, with the appropriate agency or officer in each of the Compact States.

408 (9) The Commission shall maintain its financial records in accordance with the Bylaws.

409 (10) The Commission shall meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this Compact
410 and the Bylaws.

411 (d) The Commission shall have the following powers:

412 (1) The authority to promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate implementation and administration

413 of this Compact. The rule shall have the force and effect of law and shall be binding in all Compact States.

414 (2) To bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of the Commission, provided that the
415 standing of any State Psychology Regulatory Authority or other regulatory body responsible for psychology licensure
416 to sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected.

417 (3) To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.

418 (4) To borrow, accept or contract for services of personnel, including employees of a Compact State.

419 (5) To hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties, grant such individuals
420 appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the Compact, and to establish the Commission's personnel policies
421 and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel matters.

422 (6) To accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials and
423 services, and to receive, utilize and dispose of the same; provided that at all times the Commission shall strive to avoid
424 any appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest.

425 (7) To lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or otherwise to own, hold, improve or use, any
426 property, real, personal or mixed; provided that at all times the Commission shall strive to avoid any appearance of
427 impropriety.

428 (8) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property real,
429 personal or mixed.

430 (9) To establish a budget and make expenditures.

431 (10) To borrow money.

432 (11) To appoint committees, including advisory committees comprised of Members, State regulators, State
433 legislators or their representatives, and consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as may be
434 designated in this Compact and the Bylaws.

435 (12) To provide and receive information from, and to cooperate with, law enforcement agencies.

436 (13) To adopt and use an official seal.

437 (14) To perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this
438 Compact consistent with the state regulation of psychology licensure, temporary in-person, face-to-face practice and
439 telepsychology practice.

440 (e) The elected officers shall serve as the Executive Board, which shall have the power to act on behalf of the
441 Commission according to the terms of this Compact.

442 (1) The Executive Board shall be comprised of six members:

443 a. Five voting members who are elected from the current membership of the Commission by the
444 Commission;

445 b. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from the recognized membership organization composed of State
446 and Provincial Psychology Regulatory Authorities.

447 (2) The ex-officio member must have served as staff or member on a State Psychology Regulatory Authority
448 and will be selected by its respective organization.

449 (3) The Commission may remove any member of the Executive Board as provided in Bylaws.

450 (4) The Executive Board shall meet at least annually.

451 (5) The Executive Board shall have all of the following duties and responsibilities:

452 a. Recommend to the entire Commission changes to the Rules or Bylaws, changes to this Compact
453 legislation, fees paid by Compact States such as annual dues, and any other applicable fees.

454 b. Ensure Compact administration services are appropriately provided, contractual or otherwise.

455 c. Prepare and recommend the budget.

456 d. Maintain financial records on behalf of the Commission.

457 e. Monitor Compact compliance of member states and provide compliance reports to the Commission.

458 f. Establish additional committees as necessary.

459 g. Other duties as provided in Rules or Bylaws.

460 (f) Financing of the Commission.

461 (1) The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of the reasonable expenses of its establishment,
462 organization, and ongoing activities.

463 (2) The Commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources, donations and grants of money,
464 equipment, supplies, materials and services.

465 (3) The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each Compact State or impose fees
466 on other parties to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the Commission and its staff which must be in a
467 total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is not provided by other
468 sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the
469 Commission which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all Compact States.

470 (4) The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the
471 same; nor shall the Commission pledge the credit of any of the Compact States, except by and with the authority of the
472 Compact State.

473 (5) The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and
474 disbursements of the Commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its Bylaws.
475 However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or
476 licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the
477 Commission.

478 (g) Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification.

479 (1) The members, officers, Executive Director, employees and representatives of the Commission shall be
480 immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of
481 property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission
482 that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within
483 the scope of Commission employment, duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing in this paragraph shall be
484 construed to protect any such person from suit and/or liability for any damage, loss, injury or liability caused by the
485 intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

486 (2) The Commission shall defend any member, officer, Executive Director, employee or representative of the
487 Commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission
488 that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties or responsibilities, or that the person against whom
489 the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties or
490 responsibilities; provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining his or her own
491 counsel; and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error or omission did not result from that person's
492 intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.

493 (3) The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, Executive Director, employee or
494 representative of the Commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out
495 of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties or
496 responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission
497 employment, duties or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error or omission did not result from the
498 intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

499 § 3510A. Rulemaking.

500 (a) The Commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this Article and the
501 Rules adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall become binding as of the date specified in each rule or amendment.

502 (b) If a majority of the legislatures of the Compact States rejects a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in

503 the same manner used to adopt the Compact, then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any Compact State.

504 (c) Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of the Commission.

505 (d) Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or Rules by the Commission, and at least 60 days in advance
506 of the meeting at which the rule will be considered and voted upon, the Commission shall file a Notice of Proposed

507 Rulemaking:

508 (1) On the website of the Commission; and

509 (2) On the website of each Compact States' Psychology Regulatory Authority or the publication in which each
510 state would otherwise publish proposed rules.

511 (e) The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking shall include:

512 (1) The proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in which the rule will be considered and voted upon;

513 (2) The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for the proposed rule;

514 (3) A request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested person; and

515 (4) The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the Commission of their intention to attend
516 the public hearing and any written comments.

517 (f) Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the Commission shall allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions
518 and arguments, which shall be made available to the public.

519 (g) The Commission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing before it adopts a rule or amendment if a
520 hearing is requested by:

521 (1) At least 25 persons who submit comments independently of each other;

522 (2) A governmental subdivision or agency; or

523 (3) A duly appointed person in an association that has having at least 25 members.

524 (h) If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the Commission shall publish the place, time, and date
525 of the scheduled public hearing.

526 (1) All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the Executive Director of the Commission or
527 other designated member in writing of their desire to appear and testify at the hearing not less than 5 business days
528 before the scheduled date of the hearing.

529 (2) Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person who wishes to comment a fair and
530 reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in writing.

531 (3) No transcript of the hearing is required, unless a written request for a transcript is made, in which case the
532 person requesting the transcript shall bear the cost of producing the transcript. A recording may be made in lieu of a

533 transcript under the same terms and conditions as a transcript. This subsection shall not preclude the Commission from
534 making a transcript or recording of the hearing if it so chooses.

535 (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on each rule. Rules may be
536 grouped for the convenience of the Commission at hearings required by this section.

537 (i) Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing
538 was not held, the Commission shall consider all written and oral comments received.

539 (j) The Commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final action on the proposed rule and shall
540 determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

541 (k) If no written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by interested parties is received, the Commission may
542 proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule without a public hearing.

543 (l) Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule
544 without prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the
545 Compact and in this section shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than
546 90 days after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this provision, an emergency rule is one that must be adopted
547 immediately to accomplish all of the following:

548 (1) Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare.

549 (2) Prevent a loss of Commission or Compact State funds.

550 (3) Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that is established by federal law or rule.

551 (4) Protect public health and safety.

552 (m) The Commission or an authorized committee of the Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted
553 rule or amendment for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical
554 errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the Commission. The revision shall be subject to
555 challenge by any person for a period of 30 days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the
556 revision results in a material change to a rule.

557 A challenge shall be made in writing, and delivered to the Chair of the Commission prior to the end of the notice
558 period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision
559 may not take effect without the approval of the Commission.

560 § 3511A. Oversight, Dispute Resolution and Enforcement.

561 (a) Oversight.

562 (1) The Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of state government in each Compact State shall enforce

563 this Compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the Compact's purposes and intent. The
564 provisions of this Compact and the rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory law.

565 (2) All courts shall take judicial notice of the Compact and the rules in any judicial or administrative
566 proceeding in a Compact State pertaining to the subject matter of this Compact which may affect the powers,
567 responsibilities, or actions of the Commission.

568 (3) The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any such proceeding, and shall have
569 standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the Commission
570 shall render a judgment or order void as to the Commission, this Compact or promulgated rules.

571 (b) Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination.

572 (1) If the Commission determines that a Compact State has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or
573 responsibilities under this Compact or the promulgated rules, the Commission shall both:

574 a. Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other Compact States of the nature of the default, the
575 proposed means of remedying the default and/or any other action to be taken by the Commission.

576 b. Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.

577 (2) If a state in default fails to remedy the default, the defaulting state may be terminated from the Compact
578 upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the Compact States, and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred by this
579 Compact shall be terminated on the effective date of termination. A remedy of the default does not relieve the
580 offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.

581 (3) Termination of membership in the Compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing
582 compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be submitted by the Commission to the
583 Governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the Compact States.

584 (4) A Compact State which has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations and liabilities
585 incurred through the effective date of termination, including obligations which extend beyond the effective date of
586 termination.

587 (5) The Commission shall not bear any costs incurred by the state which is found to be in default or which has
588 been terminated from the Compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the Commission and the defaulting state.

589 (6) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the Commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the
590 state of Georgia or the federal district where the Compact has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall be
591 awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

592 (c) Dispute Resolution.

593 (1) Upon request by a Compact State, the Commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the Compact
594 which arise among Compact States and between Compact and Non-Compact States.

595 (2) The Commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for
596 disputes that arise before the commission.

597 (d) Enforcement.

598 (1) The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and Rules of this
599 Compact.

600 (2) By majority vote, the Commission may initiate legal action in the United States District Court for the State
601 of Georgia or the federal district where the Compact has its principal offices against a Compact State in default to
602 enforce compliance with the provisions of the Compact and its promulgated Rules and Bylaws. The relief sought may
603 include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing member shall
604 be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

605 (3) The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the Commission. The Commission may pursue
606 any other remedies available under federal or state law.

607 § 3512A. Date of Implementation of the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission and Association
608 Rules, Withdrawal, and Amendments.

609 (a) The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which the Compact is enacted into law in the seventh
610 Compact State. The provisions which become effective at that time shall be limited to the powers granted to the
611 Commission relating to assembly and the promulgation of rules. Thereafter, the Commission shall meet and exercise
612 rulemaking powers necessary to the implementation and administration of the Compact.

613 (b) Any state which joins the Compact subsequent to the Commission's initial adoption of the rules shall be
614 subject to the rules as they exist on the date on which the Compact becomes law in that state. Any rule which has been
615 previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the Compact becomes law in
616 that state.

617 (c) Any Compact State may withdraw from this Compact by enacting a statute repealing the same.

618 (1) A Compact State's withdrawal shall not take effect until six (6) months after enactment of the repealing
619 statute.

620 (2) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing State's Psychology Regulatory
621 Authority to comply with the investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of this act prior to the effective
622 date of withdrawal.

623 (d) Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any psychology licensure
624 agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a Compact State and a Non-Compact State which does not conflict
625 with the provisions of this Compact.

626 (e) This Compact may be amended by the Compact States. No amendment to this Compact shall become effective
627 and binding upon any Compact State until it is enacted into the law of all Compact States.

628 §3513A. Construction and Severability.

629 This Compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. If this Compact shall be held
630 contrary to the constitution of any state member thereto, the Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the
631 remaining Compact States.

SYNOPSIS

This Act, the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT), is an interstate compact designed to facilitate the practice of telepsychology and the temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology across state boundaries. PSYPACT has become operational as at least seven states have enacted PSYPACT legislation. Through PSYPACT, licensed psychologists are able to apply for and use Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) certificates, which include the E.Passport to practice telepsychology and the Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC) to conduct temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in PSYPACT states.