



**LD2043, HP1305 Legislative Testimony (Information Only)
Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services**

January 9, 2024

Chair Bailey, Chair Perry and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services:

The Council of State Governments (CSG) is a nonpartisan membership organization that serves the three branches of state governments. The CSG National Center for Interstate Compacts is a technical assistance provider for states on interstate compacts. CSG has provided technical assistance to states during the development of the PA Licensure Compact (PA Compact).

The PA Compact is an interstate compact, or a contract among states, allowing physician assistants (PAs) licensed in a compact member state to practice in other compact member states without the need for multiple licenses. Like other interstate licensure compacts, the PA Compact is designed to improve access to services, enhance mobility for practitioners, support relocating military spouses, improve continuity of care, and ensure cooperation among compact member states.

The PA Compact reflects how states currently license PAs. For example, to participate in the compact, PAs must hold an unrestricted license, have no felony or misdemeanor convictions, have graduated from an accredited PA program, and hold current National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants certification. PAs who meet the uniform requirements are permitted to obtain a privilege to practice, which is equivalent to a PA license in another state.

Compact member states retain control over scope and licensure requirements. For example, any collaboration, supervision or controlled substance prescription authority requirements Maine necessitates for practice would have to be met by a PA before they are able to exercise a privilege to practice.

The compact creates a shared interstate licensure data system which facilitates the application and granting of a privilege to practice. The data system also enhances public protection by ensuring that member states share investigative and disciplinary information with one another.

The PA Compact currently has three member states (Delaware, Utah, and Wisconsin). Maine is currently a member of seven of the seventeen available licensure compacts,



including the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Compact, Counseling Compact, Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, Nurse Licensure Compact, Occupational Therapy Compact, Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact and Physical Therapy Compact.

Thank you for the opportunity to deliver informational testimony for the committee. CSG is available to assist with any questions regarding the PA Compact or interstate compact policy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Sims', is positioned below the word 'Respectfully,'.

Carl Sims
Deputy Program Director
National Center for Interstate Compacts
The Council of State Governments