SENATE BILL No. 160

AM016002 has been incorporated into January 27, 2023 printing.

Synopsis: Professional counselors licensure compact.

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First Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2023)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in this style type. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in this style type or this style type reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly.



SENATE BILL No. 160

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

I	SECTION 1. IC 25-23.6-2-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.192-2017,
2	SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3	JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 8. (a) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
4	establishing standards for the following:
5	(1) The competent practice of marriage and family therapy
6	bachelor's degree social work, social work, clinical social work,
7	mental health counseling, addiction counseling, and clinical
8	addiction counseling.

- (2) The renewal of licenses issued under this article.
- (3) Standards for the administration of this article.
- (4) Continuing education requirements for an individual seeking renewal of licensure as a bachelor's degree social worker, social worker, clinical social worker, or marriage and family therapist.
- (5) The retention of patient records and reports by a counselor.
- (6) The approval of continuing education providers, programs, courses, fees, and proof of course completion.
- (b) The board shall establish fees under IC 25-1-8-2.

SB 160-LS 6465/DI 148



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1 (c) The board shall do the following:	
2 (1) Consider the qualifications of individuals who apply for	r a
3 license under this article.	
4 (2) Provide for examinations required under this article.	
5 (3) Subject to IC 25-1-8-6, renew licenses under this article.	
6 (4) Conduct proceedings under IC 25-1-9.	
7 (5) Administer the professional counselors licensure comp	nct
8 under IC 25-42.5, including appointing members to	
9 counseling compact commission and adopting any ru	les
10 necessary to administer the compact.	
11 SECTION 2. IC 25-42.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CO	
12 AS A NEW ARTICLE TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JU	LY
13 1, 2023]:	
14 ARTICLE 42.5. PROFESSIONAL COUNSELO	RS
15 LICENSURE COMPACT	
16 Chapter 1. Purpose	
17 Sec. 1. The purpose of this compact is to facilitate interst	
practice of licensed professional counselors with the goal	
improving public access to professional counseling services. T	
practice of professional counseling occurs in the state where	
client is located at the time of the counseling services. The comp	
preserves the regulatory authority of states to protect public hea	lth
and safety through the current system of state licensure.	
Sec. 2. This compact is designed to achieve the follows	ng
25 objectives:	
26 (1) Increase public access to professional counseling servi	
by providing for the mutual recognition of other members 22	er
state licenses.	141-
29 (2) Enhance the states' ability to protect the public's hea	itn
and safety.	:
31 (3) Encourage the cooperation of member states 32 regulating multistate practice for licensed profession	
33 counselors.	lai
34 (4) Support spouses of relocating active duty military	BAKT
35 personnel.	11 y
36 (5) Enhance the exchange of licensure, investigative, a	nd =
disciplinary information among member states.	iiu
38 (6) Allow for the use of telehealth technology to facilit	nte D
increased access to professional counseling services.	
40 (7) Support the uniformity of professional counsel	ng
41 licensure requirements throughout the states to prom	•
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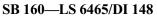
1	(8) Invest all member states with the authority to hold a	
2	licensed professional counselor accountable for meeting all	
3	state practice laws in the state in which the client is located	
4	at the time care is rendered through the mutual recognition	
5	of member state licenses.	
6	(9) Eliminate the necessity for licenses in multiple states.	
7	(10) Provide opportunities for interstate practice by licensed	
8	professional counselors who meet uniform licensure	
9	requirements.	
10	Chapter 2. Definitions	
11	Sec. 1. The definitions in this chapter apply throughout this	
12	article.	
13	Sec. 2. "Active duty military" means full-time duty status in	
14	the active uniformed service of the United States, including	
15	members of the National Guard and reserve components of the	
16	armed forces of the United States on active duty orders pursuant	
17	to 10 U.S.C. Chapters 1209 and 1211.	
18	Sec. 3. "Adverse action" means any administrative, civil,	
19	equitable, or criminal action permitted by a state's laws that is	
20	imposed by a licensing board or other authority against a licensed	
21	professional counselor, including actions against an individual's	
22	license or privilege to practice, such as revocation, suspension,	
23	probation, monitoring of the licensee, limitation on the licensee's	
24	practice, or any other encumbrance on licensure affecting a	
25	licensed professional counselor's authorization to practice,	
26	including issuance of a cease and desist action.	
27	Sec. 4. "Alternative program" means a nondisciplinary	
28	monitoring or practice remediation process approved by a	
29	professional counseling licensing board to address impaired	
30	practitioners.	
31	Sec. 5. "Continuing competence/education" means a	
32	requirement, as a condition of license renewal, to provide evidence	
33	of:	
34	(1) participation in or completion of; or	
35	(2) participation in and completion of;	
36	educational and professional activities relevant to practice or area	
37	of work.	
38	Sec. 6. "Counseling compact commission" or "commission"	
39	means the national administrative body created and established by	
40	IC 25-42.5-9-1, whose membership consists of all states that have	
41	enacted the compact.	
42	Sec. 7. "Current significant investigative information" means:	



1	(1) investigative information that a licensing board, after a	
2	preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an	
3	opportunity for the licensed professional counselor to	
4	respond, if required by state law, has reason to believe is not	
5	groundless and, if proved true, would indicate more than a	
6	minor infraction; or	
7	(2) investigative information that indicates that the licensed	
8	professional counselor represents an immediate threat to	
9	public health and safety regardless of whether the licensed	
10	professional counselor has been notified and had an	
11	opportunity to respond.	
12	Sec. 8. "Data system" means a repository of information about	
13	licensees, including, but not limited to, continuing education,	
14	examination, licensure, investigative, privilege to practice, and	
15	adverse action information.	
16	Sec. 9. "Encumbered license" means a license in which an	
17	adverse action restricts the practice of licensed professional	
18	counseling by the licensee and the adverse action has been reported	
19	to the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).	
20	Sec. 10. "Encumbrance" means a revocation or suspension of,	
21	or any limitation on, the full and unrestricted practice of licensed	
22	professional counseling by a licensing board.	
23	Sec. 11. "Executive committee" means a group of directors	
24	elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within the powers	
25	granted to them by, the commission.	
26	Sec. 12. "Home state" means the member state that is the	
27	licensee's primary state of residence.	
28	Sec. 13. "Impaired practitioner" means an individual who has	
29	one (1) or more conditions that may impair the practitioner's	
30	ability to practice as a licensed professional counselor without	
31	some type of intervention and may include, but are not limited to,	
32	alcohol and drug dependence, mental health impairment, and	
33	neurological or physical impairments.	
34	Sec. 14. "Investigative information" means information,	
35	records, and documents received or generated by a professional	
36	counseling licensing board pursuant to an investigation.	
37	Sec. 15. "Jurisprudence requirement", if required by a	
38	member state, means the assessment of an individual's knowledge	
39	of the laws and rules governing the practice of professional	
40	counseling in a state.	
41	Sec. 16. "Licensed professional counselor" means a counselor	
42	licensed by a member state, regardless of the title used by that	



1	state, to independently assess, diagnose, and treat behavioral health	
2	conditions.	
3	Sec. 17. "Licensee" means an individual who currently holds	
4	an authorization from the state to practice as a licensed	
5	professional counselor.	
6	Sec. 18. "Licensing board" means the agency of a state, or	
7	equivalent, that is responsible for the licensing and regulation of	
8	licensed professional counselors.	
9	Sec. 19. "Member state" means a state that has enacted the	
10	compact.	
11	Sec. 20. "Privilege to practice" means a legal authorization,	
12	which is equivalent to a license, permitting the practice of	
13	professional counseling in a remote state.	
14	Sec. 21. "Professional counseling" means the assessment,	
15	diagnosis, and treatment of behavioral health conditions by a	
16	licensed professional counselor.	
17	Sec. 22. "Remote state" means a member state other than the	
18	home state, where a licensee is exercising or seeking to exercise the	
19	privilege to practice.	
20	Sec. 23. "Rule" means a regulation promulgated by the	
21	commission that has the force of law.	
22	Sec. 24. "Single state license" means a licensed professional	
23	counselor license issued by a member state that authorizes practice	
24	only within the issuing state and does not include a privilege to	
25	practice in any other member state.	
26	Sec. 25. "State" means any state, commonwealth, district, or	
27	territory of the United States that regulates the practice of	
28	professional counseling.	
29	Sec. 26. "Telehealth" means the application of	
30	telecommunication technology to deliver professional counseling	
31	services remotely to assess, diagnose, and treat behavioral health	
32	conditions.	
33	Sec. 27. "Unencumbered license" means a license that	
34	authorizes a licensed professional counselor to engage in the full	
35	and unrestricted practice of professional counseling.	
36	Chapter 3. State Participation in the Compact	
37	Sec. 1. To participate in the compact, a state must currently	
38	meet the following requirements:	
39	(1) License and regulate licensed professional counselors.	
40	(2) Require licensees to pass a nationally recognized exam	
41	approved by the commission.	
42	(3) Require licensees to have a sixty (60) semester hour or	





1	ninety (90) quarter hour master's degree in counseling or
2	sixty (60) semester hours or ninety (90) quarter hours of
3	graduate course work, including the following topic areas:
4	(A) Professional counseling orientation and ethical
5	practice.
6	(B) Social and cultural diversity.
7	(C) Human growth and development.
8	(D) Career development.
9	(E) Counseling and helping relationships.
10	(F) Group counseling and group work.
11	(G) Diagnosis and treatment.
12	(H) Assessment and testing.
13	(I) Research and program evaluation.
14	(J) Other areas as determined by the commission.
15	(4) Require licensees to complete a supervised postgraduate
16	professional experience as defined by the commission.
17	(5) Have a mechanism in place for receiving and
18	investigating complaints about licensees.
19	Sec. 2. A member state shall comply with the following:
20	(1) Participate fully in the commission's data system,
21	including using the commission's unique identifier as defined
22	in rules.
23	(2) Notify the commission, in compliance with the terms of
24	the compact and rules, of any adverse action or the
25	availability of investigative information regarding a licensee.
26	(3) Implement or utilize procedures for considering the
27	criminal history records of applicants for an initial privilege
28	to practice. These procedures shall include the submission of
29	fingerprints or other biometric-based information by
30	applicants for the purpose of obtaining an applicant's
31	criminal history record information from the Federal
32	Bureau of Investigation and the agency responsible for
33	retaining that state's criminal records. The following
34	requirements must be met:
35	(A) A member state must fully implement a criminal
36	background check requirement, within a time frame
37	established by rule, by receiving the results of the
38	Federal Bureau of Investigation record search and shall
39	use the results in making licensure decisions.
40	(B) Communication between a member state, the
41	commission, and among member states regarding the
42	verification of eligibility for licensure through the



1	compact shall not include any information received from	
2	the Federal Bureau of Investigation relating to a federal	
3	criminal records check performed by a member state	
4	under federal Public Law 92-544.	
5	(4) Comply with the rules of the commission.	
6	(5) Require an applicant to obtain or retain a license in the	
7	home state and meet the home state's qualifications for	
8	licensure or renewal of licensure, as well as all other	
9	applicable state laws.	
10	(6) Grant the privilege to practice to a licensee holding a	IW
11	valid unencumbered license in another member state in	
12	accordance with the terms of the compact and rules.	
13	(7) Provide for the attendance of the state's commissioner to	
14	the counseling compact commission meetings.	
15	Sec. 3. Member states may charge a fee for granting the	
16	privilege to practice.	
17	Sec. 4. Individuals not residing in a member state shall	
18	continue to be able to apply for a member state's single state	
19	license as provided under the laws of each member state. However,	
20	the single state license granted to these individuals shall not be	
21	recognized as granting a privilege to practice professional	
22	counseling in any other member state.	
23	Sec. 5. Nothing in this compact shall affect the requirements	
24	established by a member state for the issuance of a single state	
25	license.	
26	Sec. 6. A license issued to a licensed professional counselor by	
27	a home state to a resident in that state shall be recognized by each	
28	member state as authorizing a licensed professional counselor to	
29	practice professional counseling, under a privilege to practice, in	
30	each member state.	
31	Chapter 4. Privilege to Practice	
32	Sec. 1. To exercise the privilege to practice under the terms	
33	and provisions of the compact, the licensee shall meet the following	
34	requirements:	
35	(1) Hold a license in the home state.	
36	(2) Have a valid United States Social Security number or	
37	National Practitioner Identifier (NPI).	
38	(3) Be eligible for a privilege to practice in any member state	
39	in accordance with sections 4, 7, and 8 of this chapter.	
40	(4) Have not had any encumbrance or restriction against any	
41	license or privilege to practice within the previous two (2)	
42	years.	



1	(5) Notify the commission that the licensee is seeking the	
2	privilege to practice within a remote state.	
3	(6) Pay any applicable fees, including any state fee, for the	
4	privilege to practice.	
5	(7) Meet any continuing competence/education requirements	
6	established by the home state.	
7	(8) Meet any jurisprudence requirements established by each	
8	remote state in which the licensee is seeking a privilege to	
9	practice.	
0	(9) Report to the commission any adverse action,	
.1	encumbrance, or restriction on a license taken by any	
.2	nonmember state within thirty (30) days from the date the	
.3	action is taken.	
4	Sec. 2. The privilege to practice is valid until the expiration	
.5	date of the home state license. The licensee must comply with the	
.6	requirements of section 1 of this chapter to maintain the privilege	
.7	to practice in the remote state.	
.8	Sec. 3. A licensee providing professional counseling in a remote	
9	state under the privilege to practice shall adhere to the laws and	
20	regulations of the remote state.	
21	Sec. 4. A licensee providing professional counseling services in	
22	a remote state is subject to that state's regulatory authority. A	
23	remote state may, in accordance with due process and that state's	
24	laws, take any or all of the following actions:	
25	(1) Remove a licensee's privilege to practice in the remote	
26	state for a specific period of time.	
27	(2) Impose fines.	
28	(3) Any other necessary actions to protect the health and	
29	safety of its citizens.	
30	The licensee may be ineligible for a privilege to practice in any	
31	member state until the specific time for removal has passed and all	
32	fines are paid.	
33	Sec. 5. If a home state license is encumbered, the licensee shall	
34	lose the privilege to practice in any remote state until all the	
35	following occur:	
36	(1) The home state license is no longer encumbered.	
37	(2) Have not had any encumbrance or restriction against any	
88	license or privilege to practice within the previous two (2)	
19	years.	
l0	Sec. 6. Once an encumbered license in the home state is	
11	restored to good standing, the licensee must meet the requirements	
12	of section 1 of this chapter to obtain a privilege to practice in any	



1	remote state.	
2	Sec. 7. If a licensee's privilege to practice in any remote state	
3	is removed, the individual may lose the privilege to practice in all	
4	other remote states until all the following occur:	
5	(1) The specific period of time for which the privilege to	
6	practice was removed has ended.	
7	(2) All fines have been paid.	
8	(3) Have not had any encumbrance or restriction against any	
9	license or privilege to practice within the previous two (2)	
10	years.	
11	Sec. 8. Once the requirements of section 7 of this chapter have	
12	been met, the licensee must meet the requirements of section 1 of	
13	this chapter to obtain a privilege to practice in a remote state.	
14	Chapter 5. Obtaining a New Home State License Based on a	
15	Privilege to Practice	
16	Sec. 1. A licensed professional counselor may hold a home	
17	state license, which allows for a privilege to practice in other	
18	member states, in only one (1) member state at a time.	
19	Sec. 2. If a licensed professional counselor changes primary	
20	state of residence by moving between two (2) member states, the	
21	following conditions must be met:	
22	(1) The licensed professional counselor shall file an	
23	application for obtaining a new home state license based on	
24	a privilege to practice, pay all applicable fees, and notify the	
25	current and new home state in accordance with applicable	
26	rules adopted by the commission.	
27	(2) Upon receipt of an application for obtaining a new home	
28	state license by virtue of a privilege to practice, the new	
29	home state shall verify that the licensed professional	
30	counselor meets the pertinent criteria outlined in	
31	IC 25-42.5-4 via the data system, without need for primary	
32	source verification except for:	
33	(A) a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint based	
34	criminal background check if not previously performed	
35	or updated pursuant to applicable rules adopted by the	
36	commission in accordance with federal Public Law	
37	92-544; (P) other eximinal healtground sheets as required by the	
38 39	(B) other criminal background checks as required by the new home state; and	
39 40	·	
40		
41	requirements of the new home state. (3) The former home state shall convert the former home	
+∠	(3) The fullier name state shall convert the former home	



(3) The former home state shall convert the former home

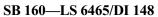
1	state ficense into a privilege to practice once the flew nome	
2	state has activated the new home state license in accordance	
3	with applicable rules adopted by the commission.	
4	(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this compact, if	
5	the licensed professional counselor cannot meet the criteria	
6	in IC 25-42.5-4, the new home state may apply its	
7	requirements for issuing a new single state license.	
8	(5) The licensed professional counselor shall pay all	
9	applicable fees to the new home state in order to be issued a	
10	new home state license.	
11	Sec. 3. If a licensed professional counselor changes primary	
12	state of residence by moving from a member state to a nonmember	
13	state, or from a nonmember state to a member state, the state	
14	criteria shall apply for issuance of a single state license in the new	
15	state.	
16	Sec. 4. Nothing in this compact shall interfere with a licensee's	
17	ability to hold a single state license in multiple states. However, for	
18	the purposes of this compact, a licensee shall have only one (1)	
19	home state license.	
20	Sec. 5. Nothing in this compact shall affect the requirements	
21	established by a member state for the issuance of a single state	
22	license.	
23	Chapter 6. Active Duty Military Personnel or Their Spouses	
24	Sec. 1. Active duty military personnel or their spouses shall	
25	designate a home state where the individual has a current license	
26	in good standing. The individual may retain the home state	
27	designation during the period the service member is on active duty.	
28	Subsequent to designating a home state, the individual shall only	
29	change their home state through application for licensure in the	
30	new state or through the process outlined in IC 25-42.5-5.	
31	Chapter 7. Compact Privilege to Practice Telehealth	
32	Sec. 1. Member states shall recognize the right of a licensed	
33	professional counselor, licensed by a home state in accordance with	
34	IC 25-42.5-3 and under rules promulgated by the commission, to	
35	practice professional counseling in any member state via telehealth	
36	under a privilege to practice as provided in the compact and rules	
37	promulgated by the commission.	
38	Sec. 2. A licensee providing professional counseling services in	
39	a remote state under the privilege to practice shall adhere to the	
40	laws and regulations of the remote state.	
41	Chapter 8. Adverse Actions	
42	Sec. 1. In addition to the other powers conferred by state law,	



1	a remote state shall have the authority, in accordance with existing	
2	state due process law, to do the following:	
3	(1) Take adverse action against a licensed professional	
4	counselor's privilege to practice within that member state.	
5	(2) Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations that	
6	require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as	
7	the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a licensing	
8	board in a member state for the attendance and testimony of	
9	witnesses or the production of evidence from another	
.0	member state shall be enforced in the latter state by any	
1	court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice	
2	and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued	
.3	in proceedings pending before it. The issuing authority shall	
4	pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees	
.5	required by the service statutes of the state in which the	
.6	witnesses or evidence are located.	
7	(3) Only the home state shall have the power to take adverse	
.8	action against a licensed professional counselor's license	
9	issued by the home state.	
20	Sec. 2. For purposes of taking adverse action, the home state	
21	shall give the same priority and effect to reported conduct received	
22	from a member state as it would if the conduct had occurred within	
23	the home state. In so doing, the home state shall apply its own state	
24	laws to determine appropriate action.	
25	Sec. 3. The home state shall complete any pending	
26	investigations of a licensed professional counselor who changes	
27	primary state of residence during the course of the investigations.	
28	The home state shall also have the authority to take all appropriate	
29	actions and shall promptly report the conclusions of the	
80	investigations to the administrator of the data system. The	
31	administrator of the coordinated licensure information system	
32	shall promptly notify the new home state of any adverse actions.	
33	Sec. 4. A member state, if otherwise permitted by state law,	
34	may recover from the affected licensed professional counselor the	
35	costs of investigations and dispositions of cases resulting from any	
86	adverse action taken against that licensed professional counselor.	
37	Sec. 5. A member state may take adverse action based on the	
88	factual findings of the remote state, provided that the member state	
39	follows its own procedures for taking the adverse action.	
10	Sec. 6. (a) In addition to the authority granted to a member	
1	state by its respective professional counseling practice act or other	
12	applicable state law, any member state may participate with other	



1	member states in joint investigations of licensees.	
2	(b) Member states shall share any investigative, litigation, or	
3	compliance materials in furtherance of any joint or individual	
4	investigation initiated under the compact.	
5	Sec. 7. If adverse action is taken by the home state against the	
6	license of a licensed professional counselor, the licensed	
7	professional counselor's privilege to practice in all other member	
8	states shall be deactivated until all encumbrances have been	
9	removed from the state license. All home state disciplinary orders	
0	that impose adverse action against the license of a licensed	
1	professional counselor shall include a statement that the licensed	
2	professional counselor's privilege to practice is deactivated in all	
3	member states during the pendency of the order.	
4	Sec. 8. If a member state takes adverse action, it shall	
5	promptly notify the administrator of the data system. The	
6	administrator of the data system shall promptly notify the home	
7	state of any adverse actions by remote states.	
8	Sec. 9. Nothing in this compact shall override a member state's	
9	decision that participation in an alternative program may be used	
0	in lieu of adverse action.	
1	Chapter 9. Establishment of Counseling Compact Commission	
2	Sec. 1. (a) The compact member states hereby create and	
.3	establish a joint public agency known as the counseling compact	
4	commission.	
5	(b) The commission is an instrumentality of the compact	
6	states.	
.7	(c) Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the	
8	commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of	
9	competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the commission	
0	is located. The commission may waive venue and jurisdictional	
1	defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in	
2	alternative dispute resolution proceedings.	
3	(d) Nothing in this compact shall be construed to be a waiver	
4	of sovereign immunity.	
5	Sec. 2. (a) Each member state shall have and be limited to one	
6	(1) delegate selected by that member state's licensing board.	
7	(b) The delegate shall be either:	
8	(1) a current member of the licensing board at the time of	
9	appointment, who is a licensed professional counselor or	
0	public member; or	
1	(2) an administrator of the licensing board.	
2	(c) Any delegate may be removed or suspended from office as	





1	provided by the law of the state from which the delegate is	
2	appointed.	
3	(d) The member state licensing board shall fill any vacancy	
4	occurring on the commission within sixty (60) days.	
5	(e) Each delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote with regard	
6	to the promulgation of rules and creation of bylaws and shall	
7	otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the business and	
8	affairs of the commission.	
9	(f) A delegate shall vote in person or by such other means as	
10	provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for delegates'	
11	participation in meetings by telephone or other means of	
12	communication.	
13	(g) The commission shall meet at least once during each	
14	calendar year. Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in the	
15	bylaws.	
16	(h) The commission shall by rule establish a term of office for	
17	delegates and may by rule establish term limits.	
18	Sec. 3. The commission shall have the following powers and	
19	duties:	
20	(1) Establish the fiscal year of the commission.	
21	(2) Establish bylaws.	
22	(3) Maintain its financial records in accordance with the	
23	bylaws.	
24	(4) Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the	
25	provisions of this compact and the bylaws.	
26	(5) Promulgate rules that shall be binding to the extent and	
27	in the manner provided for in the compact.	
28	(6) Bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the	
29	name of the commission, provided that the standing of any	
30	state licensing board to sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected.	
31 32	(7) Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.	
33	(8) Borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel,	
34	including, but not limited to, employees of a member state.	
3 4 35	(9) Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix	
36	compensation, define duties, grant such individuals	_
37	appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the	
38	compact, and establish the commission's personnel policies	
39	and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications	
40	of personnel, and other related personnel matters.	
41	(10) Accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of	
42	money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and to	



1	receive, utilize, and dispose of the same, provided that at all	
2	times, the commission shall avoid any appearance of	
3	impropriety or conflict of interest.	
4	(11) Lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations	
5	of, or otherwise own, hold, improve, or use, any property,	
6	real, personal or mixed, provided that at all times, the	
7	commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety.	
8	(12) Sell convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon,	
9	or otherwise dispose of any property real, personal, or	
10	mixed.	
11	(13) Establish a budget and make expenditures.	
12	(14) Borrow money.	
13	(15) Appoint committees, including standing committees	
14	composed of members, state regulators, state legislators or	
15	their representatives, and consumer representatives, and	
16	such other interested persons as may be designated in this	
17	compact and the bylaws.	
18	(16) Provide and receive information from, and cooperate	
19	with, law enforcement agencies.	
20	(17) Establish and elect an executive committee.	
21	(18) Perform such other functions as may be necessary or	
22	appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact	
23	consistent with the state regulation of professional counseling	
24	licensure and practice.	
25	Sec. 4. (a) The executive committee shall have the power to act	
26	on behalf of the commission according to the terms of this compact.	
27	(b) The executive committee shall be composed of up to eleven	
28	(11) members subject to the following:	
29	(1) Seven (7) voting members who are elected by the	
30	commission from the current membership of the commission.	
31	(2) Up to four (4) ex officio, nonvoting members from four	
32	(4) recognized national professional counselor organizations.	
33	(3) The ex officio members will be selected by their	
34	respective organizations.	
35	(c) The commission may remove any member of the executive	
36	committee as provided in the bylaws.	
37	(d) The executive committee shall meet at least annually.	
38	(e) The executive committee shall have the following duties and	
39	responsibilities:	
40	(1) Recommend to the entire commission changes to the rules	
41	or bylaws, changes to this compact legislation, fees paid by	
42	compact member states such as annual dues, and any	



1	commission compact fee charged to licensees for the	
2	privilege to practice.	
3	(2) Ensure compact administration services are	
4	appropriately provided, contractual or otherwise.	
5	(3) Prepare and recommend the budget.	
6	(4) Maintain financial records on behalf of the commission.	
7	(5) Monitor compact compliance of member states and	
8	provide compliance reports to the commission.	
9	(6) Establish additional committees as necessary.	
10	(7) Other duties as provided in rules or bylaws.	IW
11	Sec. 5. (a) All meetings shall be open to the public, and public	
12	notice of meetings shall be given in the same manner as required	
13	under the rulemaking provisions in IC 25-42.5-11.	
14	(b) The commission, the executive committee, or other	
15	committees of the commission may convene in a closed, nonpublic	
16	meeting if the commission, executive committee, or other	
17	committees of the commission must discuss any of the following:	
18	(1) Noncompliance of a member state with its obligations	
19	under the compact.	
20	(2) The employment, compensation, discipline or other	
21	matters, practices, or procedures related to specific	
22	employees or other matters related to the commission's	
23	internal personnel practices and procedures.	
24	(3) Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation.	
25	(4) Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or sale of	
26	goods, services, or real estate.	
27	(5) Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any	
28	person.	
29	(6) Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial	
30	information that is privileged or confidential.	
31	(7) Disclosure of information of a personal nature where	
32	disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion	
33	of personal privacy.	
34	(8) Disclosure of investigative records compiled for law	
35	enforcement purposes.	
36	(9) Disclosure of information related to any investigative	
37	reports prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the	
38	commission or other committee charged with responsibility	
39	of investigation or determination of compliance issues	
40	pursuant to the compact.	
41	(10) Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal	
42	or member state statute.	



1	(c) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to	
2	this section, the commission's legal counsel or designee shall certify	
3	that the meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant	
4	exempting provision.	
5	(d) The commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly	
6	describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full	
7	and accurate summary of actions taken, and the reasons therefore,	
8	including a description of the views expressed. All documents	
9	considered in connection with an action shall be identified in such	
10	minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall	
11	remain under seal, subject to release by a majority vote of the	
12	commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.	
13	Sec. 6. (a) The commission shall pay, or provide for the	
14	payment of, the reasonable expenses of the commission's	
15	establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.	
16	(b) The commission may accept any and all appropriate	
17	revenue sources, donations, and grants of money, equipment,	
18	supplies, materials, and services.	
19	(c) The commission may levy on and collect an annual	
20	assessment from each member state or impose fees on other parties	
21	to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the commission	
22	and its staff, which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover its	
23	annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is not	
24	provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment	
25	amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined	
26	by the commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all	
27	member states.	
28	(d) The commission shall not incur obligations of any kind	
29	prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same nor shall the	
30	commission pledge the credit of any of the member states, except	
31	by and with the authority of the member state.	
32	(e) The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts	
33	and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the	
34	commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures	
35	established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and	
36	disbursements of funds handled by the commission shall be audited	
37	yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant, and the report	
38	of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual	
39	report of the commission.	
40	Sec. 7. (a) The members, officers, executive director,	
41	employees and representatives of the commission shall be immune	



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from suit and liability, either personally or in their official

capacity, f	or any claim for damage to or loss of property	y or
personal in	jury or other civil liability caused by or arising or	ut of
any actual	or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or	that
the person	against whom the claim is made had a reasonable b	oasis
for believin	ng occurred within the scope of commission employm	ient,
duties, or re	esponsibilities. However, nothing in this section sha	ll be
construed t	to protect any such person from suit or liability for	any
damage, los	ss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or wi	illful
or wanton	misconduct of that person.	

- (b) The commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director, employee, or representative of the commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities. However, nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining his or her own counsel, and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional, willful, or wanton misconduct.
- (c) The commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, executive director, employee, or representative of the commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

Chapter 10. Data System

- Sec. 1. The commission shall provide for the development, maintenance, operation, and utilization of a coordinated data base and reporting system containing licensure, adverse action, and investigative information on all licensed individuals in member states.
- Sec. 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a member state shall submit a uniform data set to the data system on all individuals to whom this compact is applicable as required by the rules of the commission, including the following:

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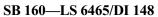






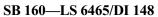


1	(1) Identifying information.	
2	(2) Licensure data.	
3	(3) Adverse actions against a license or privilege to practice.	
4	(4) Nonconfidential information related to alternative	
5	program participation.	
6	(5) Any denial of application for licensure, and the reasons	
7	for the denial.	
8	(6) Current significant investigative information.	
9	(7) Other information that may facilitate the administration	
10	of this compact, as determined by the rules of the	
11	commission.	
12	Sec. 3. Investigative information pertaining to a licensee in any	
13	member state will only be available to other member states.	
14	Sec. 4. The commission shall promptly notify all member states	
15	of any adverse action taken against a licensee or an individual	
16	applying for a license. Adverse action information pertaining to a	
17	licensee in any member state will be available to any other member	
18	state.	
19	Sec. 5. Member states contributing information to the data	
20	system may designate information that may not be shared with the	
21	public without the express permission of the contributing state.	
22	Sec. 6. Any information submitted to the data system that is	
23	subsequently required to be expunged by the laws of the member	
24	state contributing the information shall be removed from the data	
25	system.	
26	Chapter 11. Rulemaking	
27	Sec. 1. (a) The commission shall promulgate reasonable rules	
28	in order to effectively and efficiently achieve the purpose of the	
29	compact.	
30	(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), in the event the	
31	commission exercises its rulemaking authority in a manner that is	
32	beyond the scope of the purposes of the compact, or the powers	
33	granted hereunder, then the action by the commission shall be	
34	invalid and have no force or effect.	
35	Sec. 2. The commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers	
36	pursuant to the criteria set forth in this section and the rules	
37	adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall become binding	
38	as of the date specified in each rule or amendment.	
39	Sec. 3. If a majority of the legislatures of the member states	
40	rejects a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same	
41	manner used to adopt the compact within four (4) years of the date	
42	of adoption of the rule, then such rule shall have no further force	



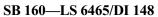


1	and effect in any member state.	
2	Sec. 4. Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a	
3	regular or special meeting of the commission.	
4	Sec. 5. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or	
5	rules by the commission, and at least thirty (30) days in advance of	
6	the meeting at which the rule will be considered and voted upon,	
7	the commission shall file a notice of proposed rulemaking:	
8	(1) on the website of the commission or other publicly	
9	accessible platform; and	
10	(2) on the website of each member state professional	
11	counseling licensing board or other publicly accessible	
12	platform or the publication in which each state would	
13	otherwise publish proposed rules.	
14	Sec. 6. The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include the	
15	following:	
16	(1) The proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in	
17	which the rule will be considered and voted upon.	
18	(2) The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the	
19	reason for the proposed rule.	
20	(3) A request for comments on the proposed rule from any	
21	interested person.	
22	(4) The manner in which interested persons may submit	
23	notice to the commission of their intention to attend the	
24	public hearing and any written comments.	
25	Sec. 7. Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the commission	
26	shall allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions, and	
27	arguments, which shall be made available to the public.	
28	Sec. 8. The commission shall grant an opportunity for a public	
29	hearing before it adopts a rule or amendment if a hearing is	
30	requested by:	
31	(1) at least twenty-five (25) persons;	
32	(2) a state or federal governmental subdivision or agency; or	
33	(3) an association having at least twenty-five (25) members.	
34	Sec. 9. (a) If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or	
35	amendment, the commission shall publish the place, time, and date	
36	of the scheduled public hearing. If the hearing is held via electronic	
37	means, the commission shall publish the mechanism for access to	
38	the electronic hearing.	
39	(b) All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify	
40	the executive director of the commission or other designated	
41	member in writing of their desire to appear and testify at the	
42	hearing not less than five (5) business days before the scheduled	





1	date of the hearing.	
2	(c) Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each	
3	person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity	
4	to comment orally or in writing.	
5	(d) All hearings will be recorded. A copy of the recording will	
6	be made available on request.	
7	(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a	
8	separate hearing on each rule. Rules may be grouped for the	
9	convenience of the commission at hearings required by this section.	
10	Sec. 10. Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close	
11	of business on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing was not	
12	held, the commission shall consider all written and oral comments	
13	received.	
14	Sec. 11. If no written notice of intent to attend the public	
15	hearing by interested parties is received, the commission may	
16	proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule without a public	
17	hearing.	
18	Sec. 12. The commission shall, by majority vote of all	
19	members, take final action on the proposed rule and shall	
20	determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the	
21	rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.	
22	Sec. 13. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the	
23	commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule without	
24	prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that	
25	the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the compact and in	
26	this section shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as	
27	reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety (90) days after	
28	the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this section, an	
29	emergency rule is a rule that must be adopted immediately in order	
30	to:	
31	(1) meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or	
32	welfare;	
33	(2) prevent a loss of commission or member state funds;	
34	(3) meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative	
35	rule that is established by federal law or rule; or	
36	(4) protect public health and safety.	
37	Sec. 14. The commission or an authorized committee of the	
38	commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted rule or	
39	amendment for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors	
40	in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public	
41	notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the	
42	commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by any	





1	person for a period of thirty (30) days after posting. The revision	
2	may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a	
3	material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made in writing and	
4	delivered to the chair of the commission prior to the end of the	
5	notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect	
6	without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision	
7	may not take effect without the approval of the commission.	
8	Chapter 12. Oversight, Dispute Resolution, and Enforcement	
9	Sec. 1. (a) The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of	
10	state government in each member state shall enforce this compact	
11	and take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the	
12	compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of this compact and	
13	the rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory	
14	law.	
15	(b) All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the	
16	rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in a member	
17	state pertaining to the subject matter of this compact, which may	
18	affect the powers, responsibilities, or actions of the commission.	
19	(c) The commission shall be entitled to receive service of	
20	process in any such proceeding and shall have standing to	
21	intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide	
22	service of process to the commission shall render a judgment or	
23	order void as to the commission, this compact, or promulgated	
24	rules.	
25	Sec. 2. If the commission determines that a member state has	
26	defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities	
27	under this compact or the promulgated rules, the commission shall:	
28	(1) provide written notice to the defaulting state and other	
29	member states of the nature of the default, the proposed	
30	means of curing the default and any other action to be taken	
31	by the commission; and	
32	(2) provide remedial training and specific technical	
33	assistance regarding the default.	
34	Sec. 3. If a state in default fails to cure the default, the	
35	defaulting state may be terminated from the compact upon an	
36	affirmative vote of a majority of the member states, and all rights,	
37	privileges and benefits conferred by this compact may be	
38	terminated on the effective date of termination. A cure of the	
39	default does not relieve the offending state of obligations or	
40	liabilities incurred during the period of default.	
41	Sec. 4. Termination of membership in the compact shall be	



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imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have

1	been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be	
2	given by the commission to the governor, the majority and	
3	minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of	
4	the member states.	
5	Sec. 5. A state that has been terminated is responsible for all	
6	assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the	
7	effective date of termination, including obligations that extend	
8	beyond the effective date of termination.	
9	Sec. 6. The commission shall not bear any costs related to a	
.0	state that is found to be in default or that has been terminated from	
1	the compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the	
2	commission and the defaulting state.	
3	Sec. 7. The defaulting state may appeal the action of the	
4	commission by petitioning the United States District Court for the	
.5	District of Columbia or the federal district where the commission	
.6	has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall be awarded	
7	all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.	
8	Sec. 8. (a) Upon request by a member state, the commission	
9	shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the compact that arise	
20	among member states and between member and nonmember	=-
21	states.	
22	(b) The commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both	
23	mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as	
24	appropriate.	
25	Sec. 9. (a) The commission, in the reasonable exercise of its	
26	discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of this compact.	
27	(b) By majority vote, the commission may initiate legal action	
28	in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or	
29	the federal district where the commission has its principal offices	
30	against a member state in default to enforce compliance with the	
31	provisions of the compact and its promulgated rules and bylaws.	
32	The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages.	
33	In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing	
34	member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including	
35	reasonable attorney's fees.	
86	(c) The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of	
37	the commission. The commission may pursue any other remedies	
88	available under federal or state law.	
39	Chapter 13. Date of Implementation of the Counseling	
10	Compact Commission and Associated Rules, Withdrawal, and	
1	Amendment	
12	Sec. 1. The compact shall come into effect on the date on which	



the compact statute is enacted into law in the tenth member state
The provisions, which become effective at that time, shall b
limited to the powers granted to the commission relating t
assembly and the promulgation of rules. Thereafter, th
commission shall meet and exercise rulemaking powers necessar
to the implementation and administration of the compact.

- Sec. 2. Any state that joins the compact subsequent to the commission's initial adoption of the rules shall be subject to the rules as they exist on the date on which the compact becomes law in that state. Any rule that has been previously adopted by the commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the compact becomes law in that state.
- Sec. 3. (a) Any member state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a statute repealing the same.
- (b) A member state's withdrawal shall not take effect until six (6) months after enactment of the repealing statute.
- (c) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing state's professional counseling licensing board to comply with the investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of this act prior to the effective date of withdrawal.
- Sec. 4. Nothing contained in this compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any professional counseling licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a member state and a nonmember state that does not conflict with the provisions of this compact.
- Sec. 5. This compact may be amended by the member states. No amendment to this compact shall become effective and binding upon any member state until it is enacted into the laws of all member states.

Chapter 14. Construction and Severability

Sec. 1. This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. The provisions of this compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision of this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any member state or of the United States or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person, or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this compact and the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person, or circumstance shall not be affected thereby. If this compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any member state, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining member states and in full force and effect as to the member state affected as to all severable

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1	matters.	
2	Chapter 15. Binding Effect of Compact and Other Laws	
3	Sec. 1. A licensee providing professional counseling services in	
4	a remote state under the privilege to practice shall adhere to the	
5	laws and regulations, including scope of practice, of the remote	
6	state.	
7	Sec. 2. Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other	
8	law of a member state that is not inconsistent with the compact.	
9	Sec. 3. Any laws in a member state in conflict with the compact	
0	are superseded to the extent of the conflict.	
1	Sec. 4. Any lawful actions of the commission, including all	
2	rules and bylaws properly promulgated by the commission, are	
3	binding upon the member states.	
4	Sec. 5. All permissible agreements between the commission	
5	and the member states are binding in accordance with their terms.	
6	Sec. 6. In the event any provision of the compact exceeds the	
7	constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any member	
8	state, the provision shall be ineffective to the extent of the conflict	
9	with the constitutional provision in question in that member state.	
0	SECTION 3. IC 34-30-2.1-391.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA	
1	CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS	
2	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 391.5. IC 25-42.5-9-7 (Concerning	_
3	officers, employees, and representatives of the counseling compact	
4	commission under the professional counselors licensure compact).	

