

## HB 324 Legislative Testimony (Information Only) Health and Human Services - Health Professions February 7, 2024

Dear Chair Price and Members of Committee,

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 and improve continuity of care by providing both states and PAs a more uniform and efficient pathway for multistate practice.

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 compact privilege to practice, which is equivalent to a PA license in another state.

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

The compact creates a shared interstate licensure data system which facilitates the application and granting of a compact 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). Virginia is currently a member of seven of the seventeen available licensure compacts.

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,

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National Center for Interstate Compacts

The Council of State Government