As Reported by the Senate Health Committee

134th General Assembly Regular Session 2021-2022

S. B. No. 7

Senator Roegner Cosponsor: Senator Huffman, S.

A BILL

To enact sections 4755.14 and 4755.141 of the	1
Revised Code to enter into the Occupational	2
Therapy Licensure Compact.	3

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 4755.14 and 4755.141 of the	4
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	5
Sec. 4755.14. The "Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact"	6
is hereby ratified, enacted into law, and entered into by the	7
state of Ohio as a party to the compact with any other state	8
that has legally joined in the compact as follows:	9
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY LICENSURE COMPACT	10
SECTION 1. PURPOSE	11
The purpose of this Compact is to facilitate interstate	12
practice of Occupational Therapy with the goal of improving	13
public access to Occupational Therapy services. The Practice of	14
Occupational Therapy occurs in the State where the	15
patient/client is located at the time of the patient/client	16
encounter. The Compact preserves the regulatory authority of	17

States to protect public health and safety through the current	18
system of State licensure.	19
This Compact is designed to achieve the following	20
objectives:	21
A. Increase public access to Occupational Therapy services	22
by providing for the mutual recognition of other Member State	23
licenses;	24
B. Enhance the States' ability to protect the public's	25
health and safety;	26
C. Encourage the cooperation of Member States in	27
regulating multi-State Occupational Therapy Practice;	28
D. Support spouses of relocating military members;	29
E. Enhance the exchange of licensure, investigative, and	30
disciplinary information between Member States;	31
F. Allow a Remote State to hold a provider of services	32
with a Compact Privilege in that State accountable to that	33
State's practice standards; and	34
G. Facilitate the use of Telehealth technology in order to	35
increase access to Occupational Therapy services.	36
SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS	37
As used in this Compact, and except as otherwise provided,	38
the following definitions shall apply:	39
A. "Active Duty Military" means full-time duty status in	40
the active uniformed service of the United States, including	41
members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders	42
pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Chapter 1209 and Section 1211.	43
B. "Adverse Action" means any administrative, civil,	44

equitable, or criminal action permitted by a State's laws which	45
is imposed by a Licensing Board or other authority against an	46
Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant,	47
including actions against an individual's license or Compact	48
Privilege such as censure, revocation, suspension, probation,	49
monitoring of the Licensee, or restriction on the Licensee's	50
practice.	51
<u>C. "Alternative Program" means a non-disciplinary</u>	52
monitoring process approved by an Occupational Therapy Licensing	53
Board.	54
D. "Compact Privilege" means the authorization, which is	55
equivalent to a license, granted by a Remote State to allow a	56
Licensee from another Member State to practice as an	57
Occupational Therapist or practice as an Occupational Therapy	58
Assistant in the Remote State under its laws and rules. The	59
Practice of Occupational Therapy occurs in the Member State	60
where the patient/client is located at the time of the	61
patient/client encounter.	62
E. "Continuing Competence/Education" means a requirement,	63
as a condition of license renewal, to provide evidence of	64
participation in, and/or completion of, educational and	65
professional activities relevant to practice or area of work.	66
F. "Current Significant Investigative Information" means	67
Investigative Information that a Licensing Board, after an	68
inquiry or investigation that includes notification and an	69
opportunity for the Occupational Therapist or Occupational	70
Therapy Assistant to respond, if required by State law, has	71
reason to believe is not groundless and, if proved true, would	72
indicate more than a minor infraction.	73

G. "Data System" means a repository of information about	74
Licensees, including but not limited to license status,	75
Investigative Information, Compact Privileges, and Adverse	76
Actions.	77
H. "Encumbered License" means a license in which an	78
Adverse Action restricts the Practice of Occupational Therapy by	79
the Licensee or said Adverse Action has been reported to the	80
National Practitioners Data Bank (NPDB).	81
I. "Executive Committee" means a group of directors	82
elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within the powers	83
granted to them by, the Commission.	84
J. "Home State" means the Member State that is the	85
Licensee's Primary State of Residence.	86
K. "Impaired Practitioner" means individuals whose	87
professional practice is adversely affected by substance abuse,	88
addiction, or other health-related conditions.	89
L. "Investigative Information" means information, records,	90
and/or documents received or generated by an Occupational	91
Therapy Licensing Board pursuant to an investigation.	92
M. "Jurisprudence Requirement" means the assessment of an	93
individual's knowledge of the laws and rules governing the	94
Practice of Occupational Therapy in a State.	95
N. "Licensee" means an individual who currently holds an	96
authorization from the State to practice as an Occupational	97
Therapist or as an Occupational Therapy Assistant.	98
O. "Member State" means a State that has enacted the	99
Compact.	100
P. "Occupational Therapist" means an individual who is	101

licensed by a State to practice Occupational Therapy.	102
Q. "Occupational Therapy Assistant" means an individual	103
who is licensed by a State to assist in the Practice of	104
Occupational Therapy.	105
R. "Occupational Therapy," "Occupational Therapy	106
Practice," and the "Practice of Occupational Therapy" mean the	107
care and services provided by an Occupational Therapist or an	108
Occupational Therapy Assistant as set forth in the Member	109
State's statutes and regulations.	110
S. "Occupational Therapy Compact Commission" or	111
"Commission" means the national administrative body whose	112
membership consists of all States that have enacted the Compact.	113
T. "Occupational Therapy Licensing Board" or "Licensing	114
Board" means the agency of a State that is authorized to license	115
and regulate Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy	116
<u>Assistants.</u>	117
U. "Primary State of Residence" means the state (also	118
known as the Home State) in which an Occupational Therapist or	119
Occupational Therapy Assistant who is not Active Duty Military	120
declares a primary residence for legal purposes as verified by:	121
driver's license, federal income tax return, lease, deed,	122
mortgage or voter registration or other verifying documentation	123
as further defined by Commission Rules.	124
V. "Remote State" means a Member State other than the Home	125
State, where a Licensee is exercising or seeking to exercise the	126
Compact Privilege.	127
W. "Rule" means a regulation promulgated by the Commission	128
that has the force of law.	129

X. "State" means any state, commonwealth, district, or	130
territory of the United States of America that regulates the	131
Practice of Occupational Therapy.	132
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Y. "Single-State License" means an Occupational Therapist	133
or Occupational Therapy Assistant license issued by a Member	134
State that authorizes practice only within the issuing State and	135
does not include a Compact Privilege in any other Member State.	136
Z. "Telehealth" means the application of telecommunication	137
technology to deliver Occupational Therapy services for	138
assessment, intervention and/or consultation.	139
SECTION 3. STATE PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPACT	140
A. To participate in the Compact, a Member State shall:	141
1. License Occupational Therapists and Occupational	142
Therapy Assistants	143
2. Participate fully in the Commission's Data System,	144
including but not limited to using the Commission's unique	145
identifier as defined in Rules of the Commission;	146
3. Have a mechanism in place for receiving and	147
investigating complaints about Licensees;	148
4. Notify the Commission, in compliance with the terms of	149
the Compact and Rules, of any Adverse Action or the availability	150
of Investigative Information regarding a Licensee;	151
5. Implement or utilize procedures for considering the	152
criminal history records of applicants for an initial Compact	153
Privilege. These procedures shall include the submission of	154
fingerprints or other biometric-based information by applicants	155
for the purpose of obtaining an applicant's criminal history	156
record information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and	157
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the agency responsible for retaining that State's criminal	158
records;	159
a. A Member State shall, within a time frame established	160
by the Commission, require a criminal background check for a	161
Licensee seeking/applying for a Compact Privilege whose Primary	162
State of Residence is that Member State, by receiving the	163
results of the Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal record	164
search, and shall use the results in making licensure decisions.	165
b. Communication between a Member State, the Commission	166
and among Member States regarding the verification of	167
eligibility for licensure through the Compact shall not include	168
any information received from the Federal Bureau of	169
Investigation relating to a federal criminal records check	170
performed by a Member State under Public Law 92-544.	171
6. Comply with the Rules of the Commission;	172
7. Utilize only a recognized national examination as a	173
requirement for licensure pursuant to the Rules of the	174
Commission; and	175
8. Have Continuing Competence/Education requirements as a	176
condition for license renewal.	177
B. A Member State shall grant the Compact Privilege to a	178
Licensee holding a valid unencumbered license in another Member	179
State in accordance with the terms of the Compact and Rules.	180
<u>C. Member States may charge a fee for granting a Compact</u>	181
Privilege.	182
D. A Member State shall provide for the State's delegate	183
to attend all Occupational Therapy Compact Commission meetings.	184
E. Individuals not residing in a Member State shall	185

continue to be able to apply for a Member State's Single-State	186
License as provided under the laws of each Member State.	187
However, the Single-State License granted to these individuals	188
shall not be recognized as granting the Compact Privilege in any	189
<u>other Member State.</u>	190
F. Nothing in this Compact shall affect the requirements	191
established by a Member State for the issuance of a Single-State	192
License.	193
SECTION 4. COMPACT PRIVILEGE	194
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<u>A. To exercise the Compact Privilege under the terms and</u>	195
provisions of the Compact, the Licensee shall:	196
1. Hold a license in the Home State;	197
2. Have a valid United States Social Security Number or	198
National Practitioner Identification number;	199
3. Have no encumbrance on any State license;	200
4. Be eligible for a Compact Privilege in any Member State	201
in accordance with Section 4D, F, G, and H;	202
5. Have paid all fines and completed all requirements	203
resulting from any Adverse Action against any license or Compact	204
Privilege, and two years have elapsed from the date of such	205
<pre>completion;</pre>	206
6. Notify the Commission that the Licensee is seeking the	207
<u>Compact Privilege within a Remote State(s);</u>	208
<u>compact rivitege within a Kenote Blace (5)</u>	200
7. Pay any applicable fees, including any State fee, for	209
the Compact Privilege;	210
8. Complete a criminal background check in accordance with	211
Section 3A(5);	212

a. The Licensee shall be responsible for the payment of	213
any fee associated with the completion of a criminal background	214
check.	215
0 Maat and Tunianus lance Demainsments established by the	01.0
9. Meet any Jurisprudence Requirements established by the	216
<u>Remote State(s) in which the Licensee is seeking a Compact</u>	217
Privilege; and	218
10. Report to the Commission Adverse Action taken by any	219
non-Member State within 30 days from the date the Adverse Action	220
<u>is taken.</u>	221
	000
B. The Compact Privilege is valid until the expiration	222
date of the Home State license. The Licensee must comply with	223
the requirements of Section 4A to maintain the Compact Privilege	224
in the Remote State.	225
C. A Licensee providing Occupational Therapy in a Remote	226
State under the Compact Privilege shall function within the laws	227
and regulations of the Remote State.	228
D. Occupational Therapy Assistants practicing in a Remote	229
State shall be supervised by an Occupational Therapist licensed	230
or holding a Compact Privilege in that Remote State.	231
E. A Licensee providing Occupational Therapy in a Remote	232
State is subject to that State's regulatory authority. A Remote	233
State may, in accordance with due process and that State's laws,	234
remove a Licensee's Compact Privilege in the Remote State for a	235
specific period of time, impose fines, and/or take any other	236
necessary actions to protect the health and safety of its	237
citizens. The Licensee may be ineligible for a Compact Privilege	238
in any State until the specific time for removal has passed and	239
all fines are paid.	235
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F. If a Home State license is encumbered, the Licensee	241

shall lose the Compact Privilege in any Remote State until the	242
following occur:	243
1. The Home State license is no longer encumbered; and	244
2. Two years have elapsed from the date on which the Home	245
State license is no longer encumbered in accordance with Section	246
<u>4(F)(1).</u>	247
G. Once an Encumbered License in the Home State is	248
restored to good standing, the Licensee must meet the	249
requirements of Section 4A to obtain a Compact Privilege in any	250
Remote State.	251
H. If a Licensee's Compact Privilege in any Remote State	252
is removed, the individual may lose the Compact Privilege in any	253
other Remote State until the following occur:	254
1. The specific period of time for which the Compact_	255
Privilege was removed has ended;	256
2 All fines have been reid and all conditions have been	057
2. All fines have been paid and all conditions have been	257
net;	258
3. Two years have elapsed from the date of completing	259
requirements for 4(H)(1) and (2); and	260
4. The Compact Privileges are reinstated by the	261
Commission, and the compact Data System is updated to reflect	262
reinstatement.	263
I. If a Licensee's Compact Privilege in any Remote State	264
is removed due to an erroneous charge, privileges shall be	265
restored through the compact Data System.	266
J. Once the requirements of Section 4H have been met, the	267
license must meet the requirements in Section 4A to obtain a	268

Compact Privilege in a Remote State.

SECTION 5: OBTAINING A NEW HOME STATE LICENSE BY VIRTUE OF	270
COMPACT PRIVILEGE	270
	- / -
A. An Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy	272
Assistant may hold a Home State license, which allows for	273
Compact Privileges in Member States, in only one Member State at	274
<u>a time.</u>	275
B. If an Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy	276
Assistant changes Primary State of Residence by moving between	277
two Member States:	278
1. The Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy	279
Assistant shall file an application for obtaining a new Home	280
State license by virtue of a Compact Privilege, pay all	281
applicable fees, and notify the current and new Home State in	282
accordance with applicable Rules adopted by the Commission.	283
2. Upon receipt of an application for obtaining a new Home	284
State license by virtue of compact privilege, the new Home State	285
shall verify that the Occupational Therapist or Occupational	286
Therapy Assistant meets the pertinent criteria outlined in	287
Section 4 via the Data System, without need for primary source	288
verification except for:	289
a. an FBI fingerprint based criminal background check if	290
not previously performed or updated pursuant to applicable Rules	291
adopted by the Commission in accordance with Public Law 92-544;	292
b. other criminal background check as required by the new	293
Home State; and	294
c. submission of any requisite Jurisprudence Requirements	295
of the new Home State.	296

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3. The former Home State shall convert the former Home	297
State license into a Compact Privilege once the new Home State	298
has activated the new Home State license in accordance with	299
applicable Rules adopted by the Commission.	300
4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Compact, if	301
the Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant	302
cannot meet the criteria in Section 4, the new Home State shall	303
apply its requirements for issuing a new Single-State License.	304
5. The Occupational Therapist or the Occupational Therapy	305
Assistant shall pay all applicable fees to the new Home State in	306
order to be issued a new Home State license.	307
C. If an Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy	308
Assistant changes Primary State of Residence by moving from a	309
Member State to a non-Member State, or from a non-Member State	310
to a Member State, the State criteria shall apply for issuance	311
of a Single-State License in the new State.	312
D. Nothing in this compact shall interfere with a	313
Licensee's ability to hold a Single-State License in multiple	314
States; however, for the purposes of this compact, a Licensee	315
shall have only one Home State license.	316
E. Nothing in this Compact shall affect the requirements	317
established by a Member State for the issuance of a Single-State	318
License.	319
SECTION 6. ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL OR THEIR SPOUSES	320
A. Active Duty Military personnel, or their spouses, shall	321
designate a Home State where the individual has a current	322
license in good standing. The individual may retain the Home	323
State designation during the period the service member is on	324
active duty. Subsequent to designating a Home State, the	325

individual shall only change their Home State through	326
application for licensure in the new State or through the	327
process described in Section 5.	328
SECTION 7. ADVERSE ACTIONS	329
A. A Home State shall have exclusive power to impose	330
Adverse Action against an Occupational Therapist's or	331
Occupational Therapy Assistant's license issued by the Home	332
<u>State.</u>	333
B. In addition to the other powers conferred by State law,	334
a Remote State shall have the authority, in accordance with	335
existing State due process law, to:	336
1. Take Adverse Action against an Occupational Therapist's	337
or Occupational Therapy Assistant's Compact Privilege within	338
that Member State.	339
2 Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations	340
2. Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations	340 341
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well	341
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing	341 342
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of	341 342 343
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member	341 342
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of	341 342 343 344 345
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure	341 342 343 344
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings	341 342 343 344 345 346
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any witness	341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage and other fees required by the	341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage and other fees required by the service statutes of the State in which the witnesses or evidence	341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350
that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage and other fees required by the service statutes of the State in which the witnesses or evidence are located.	341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351
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that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Board in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage and other fees required by the service statutes of the State in which the witnesses or evidence are located.	341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351

occurred within the Home State. In so doing, the Home State	355
shall apply its own State laws to determine appropriate action.	356
D. The Home State shall complete any pending	357
investigations of an Occupational Therapist or Occupational	358
Therapy Assistant who changes Primary State of Residence during	359
the course of the investigations. The Home State, where the	360
investigations were initiated, shall also have the authority to	361
take appropriate action(s) and shall promptly report the	362
conclusions of the investigations to the OT Compact Commission	363
Data System. The Occupational Therapy Compact Commission Data	364
System administrator shall promptly notify the new Home State of	365
any Adverse Actions.	366
E. A Member State, if otherwise permitted by State law,	367
may recover from the affected Occupational Therapist or	368
Occupational Therapy Assistant the costs of investigations and	369
disposition of cases resulting from any Adverse Action taken	370
against that Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy	371
Assistant.	372
F. A Member State may take Adverse Action based on the	373
factual findings of the Remote State, provided that the Member	374
State follows its own procedures for taking the Adverse Action.	375
<u>G. Joint Investigations</u>	376
1. In addition to the authority granted to a Member State	377
by its respective State Occupational Therapy laws and	378
regulations or other applicable State law, any Member State may	379
participate with other Member States in joint investigations of	380
Licensees.	381
2. Member States shall share any investigative,	382
litigation, or compliance materials in furtherance of any joint_	383
in the completence matched in furthermore of any joint	000

or individual investigation initiated under the Compact.	384
H. If an Adverse Action is taken by the Home State against	385
an Occupational Therapist's or Occupational Therapy Assistant's	386
license, the Occupational Therapist's or Occupational Therapy	387
Assistant's Compact Privilege in all other Member States shall	388
be deactivated until all encumbrances have been removed from the	389
State license. All Home State disciplinary orders that impose	390
Adverse Action against an Occupational Therapist's or	391
Occupational Therapy Assistant's license shall include a	392
Statement that the Occupational Therapist's or Occupational	393
Therapy Assistant's Compact Privilege is deactivated in all	394
Member States during the pendency of the order.	395
I. If a Member State takes Adverse Action, it shall	396
promptly notify the administrator of the Data System. The	397
administrator of the Data System shall promptly notify the Home	398
State of any Adverse Actions by Remote States.	399
J. Nothing in this Compact shall override a Member State's	400
decision that participation in an Alternative Program may be	401
used in lieu of Adverse Action.	402
SECTION 8. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	403
COMPACT COMMISSION.	404
A. The Compact Member States hereby create and establish a	405
joint public agency known as the Occupational Therapy Compact	406
Commission:	407
1. The Commission is an instrumentality of the Compact_	408
<u>States.</u>	409
2. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against	410
the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a	411
court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of	412

the Commission is located. The Commission may waive venue and	413
jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to	414
participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.	415
2 Nothing in this Compact shall be senstowed to be	41.0
3. Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a	416
waiver of sovereign immunity.	417
B. Membership, Voting, and Meetings	418
1. Each Member State shall have and be limited to one (1)	419
delegate selected by that Member State's Licensing Board.	420
2. The delegate shall be either:	421
a. A current member of the Licensing Board, who is an	422
Occupational Therapist, Occupational Therapy Assistant, or	423
public member; or	424
b. An administrator of the Licensing Board.	425
3. Any delegate may be removed or suspended from office as	426
provided by the law of the State from which the delegate is	427
appointed.	428
4. The Member State board shall fill any vacancy occurring	429
in the Commission within 90 days.	430
5. Each delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote with	431
regard to the promulgation of Rules and creation of bylaws and	432
shall otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the	433
business and affairs of the Commission. A delegate shall vote in	434
person or by such other means as provided in the bylaws. The	435
bylaws may provide for delegates' participation in meetings by	436
telephone or other means of communication.	437
6. The Commission shall meet at least once during each	438
calendar year. Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in	439

the bylaws.	440
7. The Commission shall establish by Rule a term of office	441
for delegates.	442
C. The Commission shall have the following powers and	443
<u>duties:</u>	444
1. Establish a Code of Ethics for the Commission;	445
2. Establish the fiscal year of the Commission;	446
3. Establish bylaws;	447
4. Maintain its financial records in accordance with the	448
bylaws;	449
5. Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the	450
provisions of this Compact and the bylaws;	451
6. Promulgate uniform Rules to facilitate and coordinate	452
implementation and administration of this Compact. The Rules	453
shall have the force and effect of law and shall be binding in	454
<u>all Member States;</u>	455
7. Bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the	456
name of the Commission, provided that the standing of any State	457
Occupational Therapy Licensing Board to sue or be sued under	458
applicable law shall not be affected;	459
8. Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;	460
9. Borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel,	461
including, but not limited to, employees of a Member State;	462
10. Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix	463
compensation, define duties, grant such individuals appropriate	464
authority to carry out the purposes of the Compact, and	465
establish the Commission's personnel policies and programs	466

relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel,	467
and other related personnel matters;	468
11. Accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of	469
money, equipment, supplies, materials and services, and receive,	470
utilize and dispose of the same; provided that at all times the	471
Commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety and/or	472
<pre>conflict of interest;</pre>	473
12. Lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations	474
of, or otherwise own, hold, improve or use, any property, real,	475
personal or mixed; provided that at all times the Commission	476
shall avoid any appearance of impropriety;	477
13. Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange,	478
abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property real, personal, or	479
<pre>mixed;</pre>	480
14. Establish a budget and make expenditures;	481
15. Borrow money;	482
16. Appoint committees, including standing committees	483
composed of members, State regulators, State legislators or	484
their representatives, and consumer representatives, and such	485
other interested persons as may be designated in this Compact	486
and the bylaws;	487
17. Provide and receive information from, and cooperate	488
with, law enforcement agencies;	489
18. Establish and elect an Executive Committee; and	490
19. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or	491
appropriate to achieve the purposes of this Compact consistent	492
with the State regulation of Occupational Therapy licensure and	493
practice.	494

D. The Executive Committee 495 The Executive Committee shall have the power to act on 496 behalf of the Commission according to the terms of this Compact. 497 1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of nine 498 members: 499 a. Seven voting members who are elected by the Commission 500 from the current membership of the Commission; 501 502 b. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from a recognized national Occupational Therapy professional association; and 503 c. One ex-officio, nonvoting member from a recognized 504 national Occupational Therapy certification organization. 505 2. The ex-officio members will be selected by their 506 respective organizations. 507 3. The Commission may remove any member of the Executive 508 Committee as provided in bylaws. 509 4. The Executive Committee shall meet at least annually. 510 5. The Executive Committee shall have the following Duties 511 and responsibilities: 512 a. Recommend to the entire Commission changes to the Rules 513 or bylaws, changes to this Compact legislation, fees paid by 514 Compact Member States such as annual dues, and any Commission 515 Compact fee charged to Licensees for the Compact Privilege; 516 b. Ensure Compact administration services are 517 appropriately provided, contractual or otherwise; 518 c. Prepare and recommend the budget; 519

d. Maintain financial records on behalf of the Commission; 520

e. Monitor Compact compliance of Member States and provide	521
compliance reports to the Commission;	522
f. Establish additional committees as necessary; and	523
g. Perform other duties as provided in Rules or bylaws.	524
E. Meetings of the Commission	525
1. All meetings shall be open to the public, and public	526
notice of meetings shall be given in the same manner as required	527
under the Rulemaking provisions in Section 10.	528
2. The Commission or the Executive Committee or other	529
committees of the Commission may convene in a closed, non-public	530
meeting if the Commission or Executive Committee or other	531
committees of the Commission must discuss:	532
a. Non-compliance of a Member State with its obligations	533
under the Compact;	534
b. The employment, compensation, discipline or other	535
matters, practices or procedures related to specific employees	536
or other matters related to the Commission's internal personnel	537
practices and procedures;	538
c. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated	539
litigation;	540
d. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or	541
sale of goods, services, or real estate;	542
e. Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring	543
any person;	544
f. Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial	545
information that is privileged or confidential;	546
g. Disclosure of information of a personal nature where	547

disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of	548
personal privacy;	549
h. Disclosure of investigative records compiled for law	550
enforcement purposes;	551
i. Disclosure of information related to any investigative	552
reports prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the Commission	553
or other committee charged with responsibility of investigation	554
or determination of compliance issues pursuant to the Compact;	555
or	556
j. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by	557
federal or Member State statute.	558
3. If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed	559
pursuant to this provision, the Commission's legal counsel or	560
designee shall certify that the meeting may be closed and shall	561
reference each relevant exempting provision.	562
4. The Commission shall keep minutes that fully and	563
clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall	564
provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, and the	565
reasons therefore, including a description of the views	566
expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action	567
shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents	568
of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release	569
by a majority vote of the Commission or order of a court of	570
competent jurisdiction.	571
F. Financing of the Commission	572
1. The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment	573
of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization,	574

and ongoing activities.

575

2. The Commission may accept any and all appropriate	576
revenue sources, donations, and grants of money, equipment,	577
supplies, materials, and services.	578
3. The Commission may levy on and collect an annual	579
assessment from each Member State or impose fees on other	580
parties to cover the cost of the operations and activities of	581
the Commission and its staff, which must be in a total amount	582
sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved by the	583
Commission each year for which revenue is not provided by other	584
sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be	585
allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the	586
Commission, which shall promulgate a Rule binding upon all	587
Member States.	588
4. The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind	589
prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall	590
the Commission pledge the credit of any of the Member States,	591
except by and with the authority of the Member State.	592
5. The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all	593
receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of	594
the Commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting	595
procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts	596
and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission shall be	597
audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant, and	598
the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of	599
the annual report of the Commission.	600
G. Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification	601
1. The members, officers, executive director, employees	602
and representatives of the Commission shall be immune from suit	603
and liability, either personally or in their official capacity,	604

for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal	605
injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any	606
actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred, or that	607
the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis	608
for believing occurred within the scope of Commission	609
employment, duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing in	610
this paragraph shall be construed to protect any such person	611
from suit and/or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or	612
liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton	613
misconduct of that person.	614
2 The Commission shall defend any member officer	615
2. The Commission shall defend any member, officer,	
executive director, employee, or representative of the	616
Commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability	617
arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission	618
that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties,	619
or responsibilities, or that the person against whom the claim	620
is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the	621
scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities;	622
provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that	623
person from retaining his or her own counsel; and provided	624
further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did	625
not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton	626
misconduct.	627
3. The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any	628
member, officer, executive director, employee, or representative	629
of the Commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment	630
obtained against that person arising out of any actual or	631
alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of	632
Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such	633
person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the	634
scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities,	635

provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did	636
not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct	637
of that person.	638
SECTION 9. DATA SYSTEM	639
A. The Commission shall provide for the development,	640
maintenance, and utilization of a coordinated database and	641
reporting system containing licensure, Adverse Action, and	642
Investigative Information on all licensed individuals in Member	643
<u>States.</u>	644
B. A Member State shall submit a uniform data set to the	645
Data System on all individuals to whom this Compact is	646
applicable (utilizing a unique identifier) as required by the	647
Rules of the Commission, including:	648
1. Identifying information;	649
2. Licensure data;	650
3. Adverse Actions against a license or Compact Privilege;	651
4. Non-confidential information related to Alternative	652
Program participation;	653
5. Any denial of application for licensure, and the	654
<pre>reason(s) for such denial;</pre>	655
6. Other information that may facilitate the	656
administration of this Compact, as determined by the Rules of	657
the Commission; and	658
7. Current Significant Investigative Information.	659
C. Current Significant Investigative Information and other	660
Investigative Information pertaining to a Licensee in any Member	661
State will only be available to other Member States.	662

D. The Commission shall promptly notify all Member States	663
of any Adverse Action taken against a Licensee or an individual	664
applying for a license. Adverse Action information pertaining to	665
<u>a Licensee in any Member State will be available to any other</u>	666
Member State.	667
E. Member States contributing information to the Data	668
System may designate information that may not be shared with the	669
public without the express permission of the contributing State.	670
F. Any information submitted to the Data System that is	671
subsequently required to be expunged by the laws of the Member	672
State contributing the information shall be removed from the	673
Data System.	674
SECTION 10. RULEMAKING	675
A. The Commission shall exercise its Rulemaking powers	676
pursuant to the criteria set forth in this Section and the Rules	677
adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall become binding as	678
of the date specified in each Rule or amendment.	679
B. The Commission shall promulgate reasonable rules in	680
order to effectively and efficiently achieve the purposes of the	681
Compact. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the	682
Commission exercises its rulemaking authority in a manner that	683
is beyond the scope of the purposes of the Compact, or the	684
powers granted hereunder, then such an action by the Commission	685
shall be invalid and have no force and effect.	686
C. If a majority of the legislatures of the Member States	687
rejects a Rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the	688
same manner used to adopt the Compact within 4 years of the date	689
of adoption of the Rule, then such Rule shall have no further	690
force and effect in any Member State.	691

D. Rules or amendments to the Rules shall be adopted at a	692
regular or special meeting of the Commission.	693
E. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final Rule or	694
Rules by the Commission, and at least thirty (30) days in	695
advance of the meeting at which the Rule will be considered and	696
voted upon, the Commission shall file a Notice of Proposed	697
Rulemaking:	698
1. On the website of the Commission or other publicly	699
accessible platform; and	700
	201
2. On the website of each Member State Occupational	701
Therapy Licensing Board or other publicly accessible platform or	702
the publication in which each State would otherwise publish	703
proposed Rules.	704
F. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking shall include:	705
1. The proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in	706
which the Rule will be considered and voted upon;	707
	700
2. The text of the proposed Rule or amendment and the	708
reason for the proposed Rule;	709
3. A request for comments on the proposed Rule from any	710
interested person; and	711
4. The manner in which interested persons may submit	712
notice to the Commission of their intention to attend the public	713
hearing and any written comments.	714
G. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule, the Commission	715
shall allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions, and	716
arguments, which shall be made available to the public.	717
H. The Commission shall grant an opportunity for a public	718

<u>hearing before it adopts a Rule or amendment if a hearing is</u>	719
requested by:	720
1. At least twenty five (25) persons;	721
2. A State or federal governmental subdivision or agency;	722
or	723
3. An association or organization having at least twenty	724
five (25) members.	725
I. If a hearing is held on the proposed Rule or amendment,	726
the Commission shall publish the place, time, and date of the	727
scheduled public hearing. If the hearing is held via electronic	728
means, the Commission shall publish the mechanism for access to	729
the electronic hearing.	730
1. All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall	731
notify the executive director of the Commission or other	732
designated member in writing of their desire to appear and	733
testify at the hearing not less than five (5) business days	734
before the scheduled date of the hearing.	735
2. Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each	736
person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity	737
to comment orally or in writing.	738
3. All hearings will be recorded. A copy of the recording	739
will be made available on request.	740
4. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring	741
a separate hearing on each Rule. Rules may be grouped for the	742
convenience of the Commission at hearings required by this	743
section.	744
J. Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close	745
of business on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing was not	746

held, the Commission shall consider all written and oral	747
comments received.	748
K. If no written notice of intent to attend the public	749
hearing by interested parties is received, the Commission may	750
proceed with promulgation of the proposed Rule without a public	751
hearing.	752
L. The Commission shall, by majority vote of all members,	753
take final action on the proposed Rule and shall determine the	754
effective date of the Rule, if any, based on the Rulemaking	755
record and the full text of the Rule.	756
M. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the	757
Commission may consider and adopt an emergency Rule without	758
prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that	759
the usual Rulemaking procedures provided in the Compact and in	760
this section shall be retroactively applied to the Rule as soon	761
as reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety (90) days	762
after the effective date of the Rule. For the purposes of this	763
provision, an emergency Rule is one that must be adopted	764
immediately in order to:	765
1. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or	766
welfare;	767
2. Prevent a loss of Commission or Member State funds;	768
3. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an	769
administrative Rule that is established by federal law or Rule;	770
or	771
4. Protect public health and safety.	772
N. The Commission or an authorized committee of the	773
Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted Rule or	774

amendment for purposes of correcting typographical errors,	775
errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors.	776
Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of	777
the Commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by	778
any person for a period of thirty (30) days after posting. The	779
revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision	780
results in a material change to a Rule. A challenge shall be	781
made in writing and delivered to the chair of the Commission	782
prior to the end of the notice period. If no challenge is made,	783
the revision will take effect without further action. If the	784
revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without	785
the approval of the Commission.	786
SECTION 11. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND ENFORCEMENT	787
<u>A. Oversight</u>	788
1. The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of	789
State government in each Member State shall enforce this Compact	790
and take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the	791
Compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of this Compact	792
and the Rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as	793
statutory law.	794
2. All courts shall take judicial notice of the Compact	795
and the Rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in a	796
Member State pertaining to the subject matter of this Compact	797
which may affect the powers, responsibilities, or actions of the	798
Commission.	799
3. The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of	800
process in any such proceeding, and shall have standing to	801
intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to	802
provide service of process to the Commission shall render a	803

judgment or order void as to the Commission, this Compact, or	804
promulgated Rules.	805
B. Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination	806
1. If the Commission determines that a Member State has	807
defaulted in the performance of its obligations or	808
responsibilities under this Compact or the promulgated Rules,	809
the Commission shall:	810
a. Provide written notice to the defaulting State and	811
other Member States of the nature of the default, the proposed	812
means of curing the default and/or any other action to be taken	813
by the Commission; and	814
b. Provide remedial training and specific technical	815
assistance regarding the default.	816
2. If a State in default fails to cure the default, the	817
defaulting State may be terminated from the Compact upon an	818
affirmative vote of a majority of the Member States, and all	819
rights, privileges and benefits conferred by this Compact may be	820
terminated on the effective date of termination. A cure of the	821
default does not relieve the offending State of obligations or	822
liabilities incurred during the period of default.	823
3. Termination of membership in the Compact shall be	824
imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have	825
been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall	826
be given by the Commission to the governor, the majority and	827
minority leaders of the defaulting State's legislature, and each	828
of the Member States.	829
4. A State that has been terminated is responsible for all	830
assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the	831
effective date of termination, including obligations that extend	832

beyond the effective date of termination.	833
5. The Commission shall not bear any costs related to a	834
State that is found to be in default or that has been terminated	835
from the Compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the	836
Commission and the defaulting State.	837
6. The defaulting State may appeal the action of the	838
Commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the	839
District of Columbia or the federal district where the	840
Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing member	841
shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including	842
reasonable attorney's fees.	843
<u>C. Dispute Resolution</u>	844
1. Upon request by a Member State, the Commission shall	845
attempt to resolve disputes related to the Compact that arise	846
among Member States and between member and non-Member States.	847
2. The Commission shall promulgate a Rule providing for	848
both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as	849
appropriate.	850
D. Enforcement	851
1. The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its	852
discretion, shall enforce the provisions and Rules of this	853
Compact.	854
2. By majority vote, the Commission may initiate legal	855
action in the United States District Court for the District of	856
Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its	857
principal offices against a Member State in default to enforce	858
compliance with the provisions of the Compact and its	859
promulgated Rules and bylaws. The relief sought may include both	860

injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement	861
is necessary, the prevailing member shall be awarded all costs	862
of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.	863
3. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies	864
of the Commission. The Commission may pursue any other remedies	865
<u>available under federal or State law.</u>	866
SECTION 12. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERSTATE	867
COMMISSION FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE AND ASSOCIATED	868
RULES, WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENT	869
A. The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which	870
the Compact statute is enacted into law in the tenth Member	871
State. The provisions, which become effective at that time,	872
shall be limited to the powers granted to the Commission	873
relating to assembly and the promulgation of Rules. Thereafter,	874
the Commission shall meet and exercise Rulemaking powers	875
necessary to the implementation and administration of the	876
Compact.	877
B. Any State that joins the Compact subsequent to the	878
Commission's initial adoption of the Rules shall be subject to	879
the Rules as they exist on the date on which the Compact becomes	880
law in that State. Any Rule that has been previously adopted by	881
the Commission shall have the full force and effect of law on	882
the day the Compact becomes law in that State.	883
C. Any Member State may withdraw from this Compact by	884
enacting a statute repealing the same.	885
1. A Member State's withdrawal shall not take effect until	886
six (6) months after enactment of the repealing statute.	887
2. Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement	888
of the withdrawing State's Occupational Therapy Licensing Board	889

to comply with the investigative and Adverse Action reporting	890
requirements of this act prior to the effective date of	891
withdrawal.	892
D. Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to	893
D. Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to	
invalidate or prevent any Occupational Therapy licensure	894
agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a Member	895
State and a non-Member State that does not conflict with the	896
provisions of this Compact.	897
E. This Compact may be amended by the Member States. No	898
amendment to this Compact shall become effective and binding	899
upon any Member State until it is enacted into the laws of all	900
Member States.	901
SECTION 13. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY	902
SECTION 15. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY	502
This Compact shall be liberally construed so as to	903
effectuate the purposes thereof. The provisions of this Compact	904
shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or	905
provision of this Compact is declared to be contrary to the	906
constitution of any Member State or of the United States or the	907
applicability thereof to any government, agency, person, or	908
circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of	909
this Compact and the applicability thereof to any government,	910
agency, person, or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.	911
If this Compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of	912
any Member State, the Compact shall remain in full force and	913
effect as to the remaining Member States and in full force and	914
effect as to the Member State affected as to all severable	915
matters.	916
SECTION 14. BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND OTHER LAWS	917
SECTION 14. DINDING EFFECT OF COMPACE AND OTHER LAWS	ו בכ
A. A Licensee providing Occupational Therapy in a Remote	918

State under the Compact Privilege shall function within the laws	919
and regulations of the Remote State.	920
B. Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other	921
law of a Member State that is not inconsistent with the Compact.	922
C. Any laws in a Member State in conflict with the Compact	923
are superseded to the extent of the conflict.	924
D. Any lawful actions of the Commission, including all	925
Rules and bylaws promulgated by the Commission, are binding upon	926
the Member States.	927
E. All agreements between the Commission and the Member	928
States are binding in accordance with their terms.	929
F. In the event any provision of the Compact exceeds the	930
constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any Member_	931
State, the provision shall be ineffective to the extent of the	932
conflict with the constitutional provision in question in that	933
Member State.	934
Sec. 4755.141. Not later than ninety days after the	935
"Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact" is entered into under	936
section 4755.14 of the Revised Code, the occupational therapy	937
section of the Ohio occupational therapy, physical therapy, and	938
athletic trainers board shall select an individual to serve as a	939
delegate to the occupational therapy compact commission created	940
under the compact. The occupational therapy section shall fill a	941
vacancy in this position not later than ninety days after the	942
vacancy occurs.	943