

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2025-2026**

**S. B. No. 149**

**Senator Roegner**

---

**A BILL**

To enact sections 4761.20 and 4761.21 of the 1  
Revised Code to enter into the Respiratory Care 2  
Interstate Compact. 3

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

**Section 1.** That sections 4761.20 and 4761.21 of the 4  
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 5

**Sec. 4761.20.** The "Respiratory Care Interstate Compact" is 6  
hereby ratified, enacted into law, and entered into by the state 7  
of Ohio as a party to the compact with any other state that has 8  
legally joined the compact as follows: 9

**RESPIRATORY CARE INTERSTATE COMPACT** 10

**SECTION 1. TITLE AND PURPOSE** 11

A. The purpose of this Compact is to facilitate the 12  
interstate Practice of Respiratory Therapy with the goal of 13  
improving public access to Respiratory Therapy services by 14  
providing Respiratory Therapists licensed in a Member State the 15  
ability to practice in other Member States. The Compact 16  
preserves the regulatory authority of states to protect public 17  
health and safety through the current system of State licensure. 18

<u>B. This Compact is designed to achieve the following</u>	19
<u>objectives:</u>	20
<u>1. Increase public access to Respiratory Therapy services</u>	21
<u>by creating a responsible, streamlined pathway for Licensees to</u>	22
<u>practice in Member States with the goal of improving outcomes</u>	23
<u>for patients;</u>	24
<u>2. Enhance States' ability to protect the public's health</u>	25
<u>and safety;</u>	26
<u>3. Promote the cooperation of Member States in regulating</u>	27
<u>the Practice of Respiratory Therapy within those Member States;</u>	28
<u>4. Ease administrative burdens on States by encouraging</u>	29
<u>the cooperation of Member States in regulating multi-state</u>	30
<u>Respiratory Therapy practice;</u>	31
<u>5. Support relocating Active Military Members and their</u>	32
<u>spouses; and</u>	33
<u>6. Promote mobility and address workforce shortages.</u>	34
<b><u>SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS</u></b>	35
<u>As used in this Compact, unless the context requires</u>	36
<u>otherwise, the following definitions shall apply:</u>	37
<b><u>A. "Active Military Member"</u></b> means any person with a full-	38
<u>time duty status in the armed forces of the United States,</u>	39
<u>including members of the National Guard and Reserve.</u>	40
<b><u>B. "Adverse Action"</u></b> means any administrative, civil,	41
<u>equitable, or criminal action permitted by a State's laws which</u>	42
<u>is imposed by any State authority with regulatory authority over</u>	43
<u>Respiratory Therapists, such as license denial, censure,</u>	44
<u>revocation, suspension, probation, monitoring of the Licensee,</u>	45

or restriction on the Licensee's practice, not including 46  
participation in an Alternative Program. 47

**C. "Alternative Program"** means a non-disciplinary 48  
monitoring or practice remediation process applicable to a 49  
Respiratory Therapist approved by any State authority with 50  
regulatory authority over Respiratory Therapists. This includes, 51  
but is not limited to, programs to which Licensees with 52  
substance abuse or addiction issues are referred in lieu of 53  
Adverse Action. 54

**D. "Charter Member States"** means those Member States who 55  
were the first seven states to enact the Compact into the laws 56  
of their State. 57

**E. "Commission" or "Respiratory Care Interstate Compact** 58  
**Commission"** means the government instrumentality and body 59  
politic whose membership consists of all Member States that have 60  
enacted the Compact. 61

**F. "Commissioner"** means the individual appointed by a 62  
Member State to serve as the member of the Commission for that 63  
Member State. 64

**G. "Compact"** means the Respiratory Care Interstate 65  
Compact. 66

**H. "Compact Privilege"** means the authorization granted by 67  
a Remote State to allow a Licensee from another Member State to 68  
practice as a Respiratory Therapist in the Remote State under 69  
the Remote State's laws and Rules. The Practice of Respiratory 70  
Therapy occurs in the Member State where the patient is located 71  
at the time of the patient encounter. 72

**I. "Criminal Background Check"** means the submission by the 73  
Member State of fingerprints or other biometric-based 74

information on license applicants at the time of initial 75  
licensing for the purpose of obtaining that applicant's criminal 76  
history record information, as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(d) or 77  
successor provision, from the Federal Bureau of Investigation 78  
and the State's criminal history record repository, as defined 79  
in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(f) or successor provision. 80

J. "Data System" means the Commission's repository of 81  
information about Licensees as further set forth in Section 8. 82

K. "Domicile" means the jurisdiction which is the 83  
Licensee's principal home for legal purposes. 84

L. "Encumbered License" means a license that a State's 85  
Respiratory Therapy Licensing Authority has limited in any way. 86

M. "Executive Committee" means a group of directors 87  
elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within the powers 88  
granted to them by the Commission. 89

N. "Home State" except as set forth in Section 5, means 90  
the Member State that is the Licensee's primary Domicile. 91

O. "Home State License" means an active license to 92  
practice Respiratory Therapy in a Home State that is not an 93  
Encumbered License. 94

P. "Jurisprudence Requirement" means an assessment of an 95  
individual's knowledge of the State laws and regulations 96  
governing the Practice of Respiratory Therapy in such State. 97

Q. "Licensee" means an individual who currently holds an 98  
authorization from the State to practice as a Respiratory 99  
Therapist. 100

R. "Member State" means a State that has enacted the 101  
Compact and been admitted to the Commission in accordance with 102

<u>the provisions herein and Commission Rules.</u>	103
<u>S. "Model Compact" means the model for the Respiratory</u>	104
<u>Care Interstate Compact on file with The Council of State</u>	105
<u>Governments or other entity as designated by the Commission.</u>	106
<u>T. "Remote State" means a Member State where a Licensee is</u>	107
<u>exercising or seeking to exercise the Compact Privilege.</u>	108
<u>U. "Respiratory Therapist" or "Respiratory Care</u>	109
<u>Practitioner" means an individual who holds a credential issued</u>	110
<u>by the National Board for Respiratory Care (or its successor)</u>	111
<u>and holds a license in a State to practice Respiratory Therapy.</u>	112
<u>For purposes of this Compact, any other title or status adopted</u>	113
<u>by a State to replace the term "Respiratory Therapist" or</u>	114
<u>"Respiratory Care Practitioner" shall be deemed synonymous with</u>	115
<u>"Respiratory Therapist" and shall confer the same rights and</u>	116
<u>responsibilities to the Licensee under the provisions of this</u>	117
<u>Compact at the time of its enactment.</u>	118
<u>V. "Respiratory Therapy," "Respiratory Therapy Practice,"</u>	119
<u>"Respiratory Care," "the Practice of Respiratory Care," and "the</u>	120
<u>Practice of Respiratory Therapy" means the care and services</u>	121
<u>provided by or under the direction and supervision of a</u>	122
<u>Respiratory Therapist or Respiratory Care Practitioner as</u>	123
<u>defined by state law and regulations.</u>	124
<u>W. "Respiratory Therapy Licensing Authority" means the</u>	125
<u>agency, board, or other body of a State that is responsible for</u>	126
<u>licensing and regulation of Respiratory Therapists.</u>	127
<u>X. "Rule" means a regulation promulgated by an entity that</u>	128
<u>has the force and effect of law.</u>	129
<u>Y. "Scope of Practice" means the procedures, actions, and</u>	130
<u>processes a Respiratory Therapist licensed in a State or</u>	131

practicing under a Compact Privilege in a State is permitted to 132  
undertake in that State and the circumstances under which the 133  
Respiratory Therapist is permitted to undertake those 134  
procedures, actions, and processes. Such procedures, actions, 135  
and processes, and the circumstances under which they may be 136  
undertaken may be established through means, including, but not 137  
limited to, statute, regulations, case law, and other processes 138  
available to the State Respiratory Therapy Licensing Authority 139  
or other government agency. 140

**Z. "Significant Investigative Information"** means 141  
information, records, and documents received or generated by a 142  
State Respiratory Therapy Licensing Authority pursuant to an 143  
investigation for which a determination has been made that there 144  
is probable cause to believe that the Licensee has violated a 145  
statute or regulation that is considered more than a minor 146  
infraction for which the State Respiratory Therapy Licensing 147  
Authority could pursue Adverse Action against the Licensee. 148

**AA. "State"** means any state, commonwealth, district, or 149  
territory of the United States. 150

**SECTION 3. STATE PARTICIPATION IN THIS COMPACT** 151

A. In order to participate in this Compact and thereafter 152  
continue as a Member State, a Member State shall: 153

1. Enact a Compact that is not materially different from 154  
the Model Compact; 155

2. License Respiratory Therapists; 156

3. Participate in the Commission's Data System; 157

4. Have a mechanism in place for receiving and 158  
investigating complaints against Licensees and Compact Privilege 159

<u>holders;</u>	160
<u>5. Notify the Commission, in compliance with the terms of</u>	161
<u>this Compact and Commission Rules, of any Adverse Action against</u>	162
<u>a Licensee, a Compact Privilege holder, or a license applicant;</u>	163
<u>6. Notify the Commission, in compliance with the terms of</u>	164
<u>this Compact and Commission Rules, of the existence of</u>	165
<u>Significant Investigative Information;</u>	166
<u>7. Comply with the Rules of the Commission;</u>	167
<u>8. Grant the Compact Privilege to a holder of an active</u>	168
<u>Home State License and otherwise meet the applicable</u>	169
<u>requirements of Section 4 in a Member State; and</u>	170
<u>9. Complete a Criminal Background Check for each new</u>	171
<u>Licensee at the time of initial licensure.</u>	172
<u>a. Where expressly authorized or permitted by federal law,</u>	173
<u>whether such federal law is in effect prior to, at, or after the</u>	174
<u>time of a Member State's enactment of this Compact, a Member</u>	175
<u>State's enactment of this Compact shall hereby authorize the</u>	176
<u>Member State's Respiratory Therapy Licensing Authority to</u>	177
<u>perform Criminal Background Checks as defined herein. The</u>	178
<u>absence of such a federal law as described in this subsection</u>	179
<u>shall not prevent or preclude such authorization where it may be</u>	180
<u>derived or granted through means other than the enactment of</u>	181
<u>this Compact.</u>	182
<u>B. Nothing in this Compact prohibits a Member State from</u>	183
<u>charging a fee for granting and renewing the Compact Privilege.</u>	184
<b><u>SECTION 4. COMPACT PRIVILEGE</u></b>	185
<u>A. To exercise the Compact Privilege under the terms and</u>	186
<u>provisions of the Compact, the Licensee shall:</u>	187

<u>1. Hold and maintain an active Home State License as a</u>	188
<u>Respiratory Therapist;</u>	189
<u>2. Hold and maintain an active credential from the</u>	190
<u>National Board for Respiratory Care (or its successor) that</u>	191
<u>would qualify them for licensure in the Remote State in which</u>	192
<u>they are seeking the privilege;</u>	193
<u>3. Have not had any Adverse Action against a license</u>	194
<u>within the previous two (2) years;</u>	195
<u>4. Notify the Commission that the Licensee is seeking the</u>	196
<u>Compact Privilege within a Remote State(s);</u>	197
<u>5. Pay any applicable fees, including any State and</u>	198
<u>Commission fees and renewal fees, for the Compact Privilege;</u>	199
<u>6. Meet any Jurisprudence Requirements established by the</u>	200
<u>Remote State in which the Licensee is seeking a Compact</u>	201
<u>Privilege;</u>	202
<u>7. Report to the Commission Adverse Action taken by any</u>	203
<u>non-Member State within thirty (30) days from the date the</u>	204
<u>Adverse Action is taken;</u>	205
<u>8. Report to the Commission, when applying for a Compact</u>	206
<u>Privilege, the address of the Licensee's Domicile and thereafter</u>	207
<u>promptly report to the Commission any change in the address of</u>	208
<u>the Licensee's Domicile within thirty (30) days of the effective</u>	209
<u>date of the change in address; and</u>	210
<u>9. Consent to accept service of process by mail at the</u>	211
<u>Licensee's Domicile on record with the Commission with respect</u>	212
<u>to any action brought against the Licensee by the Commission or</u>	213
<u>a Member State, and consent to accept service of a subpoena by</u>	214
<u>mail at the Licensee's Domicile on record with the Commission</u>	215



with respect to any action brought or investigation conducted by 216  
the Commission or a Member State. 217

B. The Compact Privilege is valid until the expiration 218  
date or revocation of the Home State License unless terminated 219  
pursuant to Adverse Action. The Licensee must comply with all of 220  
the requirements of Subsection A, above, to maintain the Compact 221  
Privilege in a Remote State. If those requirements are met, no 222  
Adverse Actions are taken, and the Licensee has paid any 223  
applicable Compact Privilege renewal fees, then the Licensee 224  
will maintain the Licensee's Compact Privilege. 225

C. A Licensee providing Respiratory Therapy in a Remote 226  
State under the Compact Privilege shall function within the 227  
Scope of Practice authorized by the Remote State for the type of 228  
Respiratory Therapist license the Licensee holds. Such 229  
procedures, actions, processes, and the circumstances under 230  
which they may be undertaken may be established through means, 231  
including, but not limited to, statute, regulations, case law, 232  
and other processes available to the State Respiratory Therapy 233  
Licensing Authority or other government agency. 234

D. If a Licensee's Compact Privilege in a Remote State is 235  
removed by the Remote State, the individual shall lose or be 236  
ineligible for the Compact privilege in that Remote State until 237  
the Compact Privilege is no longer limited or restricted by that 238  
State. 239

E. If a Home State License is encumbered, the Licensee 240  
shall lose the Compact Privilege in all Remote States until the 241  
following occur: 242

1. The Home State License is no longer encumbered; and 243
2. Two (2) years have elapsed from the date on which the 244

license is no longer encumbered due to the Adverse Action. 245

F. Once a Licensee with a restricted or limited license 246  
meets the requirements of Subsection E.1 and 2, the Licensee 247  
must also meet the requirements of Subsection A to obtain a 248  
Compact Privilege in a Remote State. 249

**SECTION 5. ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBER OR THEIR SPOUSE** 250

A. An Active Military Member, or their spouse, shall 251  
designate a Home State where the individual has a current 252  
license in good standing. The individual may retain the Home 253  
State designation during the period the service member is on 254  
active duty. 255

B. An Active Military Member and their spouse shall not be 256  
required to pay to the Commission for a Compact Privilege any 257  
fee that may otherwise be charged by the Commission. If a Remote 258  
State chooses to charge a fee for a Compact Privilege, it may 259  
choose to charge a reduced fee or no fee to an Active Military 260  
Member and their spouse for a Compact Privilege. 261

**SECTION 6. ADVERSE ACTIONS** 262

A. A Member State in which a Licensee is licensed shall 263  
have authority to impose Adverse Action against the license 264  
issued by that Member State. 265

B. A Member State may take Adverse Action based on 266  
Significant Investigative Information of a Remote State or the 267  
Home State, so long as the Member State follows its own 268  
procedures for imposing Adverse Action. 269

C. Nothing in this Compact shall override a Member State's 270  
decision that participation in an Alternative Program may be 271  
used in lieu of Adverse Action and that such participation shall 272

<u>remain non-public if required by the Member State's laws.</u>	273
<u>D. A Remote State shall have the authority to:</u>	274
<u>1. Take Adverse Actions as set forth herein against a</u>	275
<u>Licensee's Compact Privilege in that State;</u>	276
<u>2. Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations</u>	277
<u>that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses, and the</u>	278
<u>production of evidence.</u>	279
<u>a. Subpoenas may be issued by a Respiratory Therapy</u>	280
<u>Licensing Authority in a Member State for the attendance and</u>	281
<u>testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence.</u>	282
<u>b. Subpoenas issued by a Respiratory Therapy Licensing</u>	283
<u>Authority in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of</u>	284
<u>witnesses shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of</u>	285
<u>competent jurisdiction in the latter State, according to the</u>	286
<u>practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas</u>	287
<u>issued in proceedings pending before it.</u>	288
<u>c. Subpoenas issued by a Respiratory Therapy Licensing</u>	289
<u>Authority in a Member State for production of evidence from</u>	290
<u>another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State,</u>	291
<u>according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable</u>	292
<u>to subpoenas issued in the proceedings pending before it.</u>	293
<u>d. The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees,</u>	294
<u>travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service</u>	295
<u>statutes of the State where the witnesses or evidence are</u>	296
<u>located;</u>	297
<u>3. Unless otherwise prohibited by State law, recover from</u>	298
<u>the Licensee the costs of investigations and disposition of</u>	299
<u>cases resulting from any Adverse Action taken against that</u>	300

<u>Licensee;</u>	301
<u>4. Notwithstanding subsection D.2., a Member State may not issue a subpoena to gather evidence of conduct in another Member State that is lawful in such other Member State for the purpose of taking Adverse Action against a Licensee's Compact Privilege or application for a Compact Privilege in that Member State; and</u>	302 303 304 305 306
<u>5. Nothing in this Compact authorizes a Member State to impose discipline against a Respiratory Therapist's Compact Privilege in that Member State for the individual's otherwise lawful practice in another State.</u>	307 308 309 310
<u>E. Joint Investigations</u>	311
<u>1. In addition to the authority granted to a Member State by its respective Respiratory Therapy Practice act or other applicable state law, a Member State may participate with other Member States in joint investigations of Licensees, provided, however, that a Member State receiving such a request has no obligation to respond to any subpoena issued regarding an investigation of conduct or practice that was lawful in a Member State at the time it was undertaken.</u>	312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319
<u>2. Member States shall share any Significant Investigative Information, litigation, or compliance materials in furtherance of any joint or individual investigation initiated under the Compact. In sharing such information between Member State Respiratory Therapy Licensing Authorities, all information obtained shall be kept confidential, except as otherwise mutually agreed upon by the sharing and receiving Member State(s).</u>	320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327
<u>F. Nothing in this Compact may permit a Member State to take any Adverse Action against a Licensee or holder of a</u>	328 329

Compact Privilege for conduct or practice that was legal in the 330  
Member State at the time it was undertaken. 331

G. Nothing in this Compact may permit a Member State to 332  
take disciplinary action against a Licensee or holder of a 333  
Compact Privilege for conduct or practice that was legal in the 334  
Member State at the time it was undertaken. 335

**SECTION 7. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RESPIRATORY CARE** 336  
**INTERSTATE COMPACT COMMISSION** 337

A. The Compact Member States hereby create and establish a 338  
joint government agency whose membership consists of all Member 339  
States that have enacted the Compact known as the Respiratory 340  
Care Interstate Compact Commission. The Commission is an 341  
instrumentality of the Compact Member States acting jointly and 342  
not an instrumentality of any one State. The Commission shall 343  
come into existence on or after the effective date of the 344  
Compact, as set forth in Section 11. 345

B. Membership, Voting, and Meetings 346

1. Each Member State shall have and be limited to one (1) 347  
Commissioner selected by that Member State's Respiratory Therapy 348  
Licensing Authority. 349

2. The Commissioner shall be an administrator or their 350  
designated staff member of the Member State's Respiratory 351  
Therapy Licensing Authority. 352

3. The Commission shall by Rule or bylaw establish a term 353  
of office for Commissioners and may by Rule or bylaw establish 354  
term limits. 355

4. The Commission may recommend to a Member State the 356  
removal or suspension any Commissioner from office. 357

<u>5. A Member State's Respiratory Therapy Licensing</u>	358
<u>Authority shall fill any vacancy of its Commissioner occurring</u>	359
<u>on the Commission within sixty (60) days of the vacancy.</u>	360
<u>6. Each Commissioner shall be entitled to one vote on all</u>	361
<u>matters before the Commission requiring a vote by Commissioners.</u>	362
<u>7. A Commissioner shall vote in person or by such other</u>	363
<u>means as provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for</u>	364
<u>Commissioners to meet by telecommunication, video conference, or</u>	365
<u>other means of communication.</u>	366
<u>8. The Commission shall meet at least once during each</u>	367
<u>calendar year. Additional meetings may be held as set forth in</u>	368
<u>the bylaws.</u>	369
<u>C. The Commission shall have the following powers:</u>	370
<u>1. Establish and amend the fiscal year of the Commission;</u>	371
<u>2. Establish and amend bylaws and policies, including but</u>	372
<u>not limited to, a code of conduct and conflict of interest;</u>	373
<u>3. Establish and amend Rules, which shall be binding in</u>	374
<u>all Member States;</u>	375
<u>4. Maintain its financial records in accordance with the</u>	376
<u>bylaws;</u>	377
<u>5. Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the</u>	378
<u>provisions of this Compact, the Commission's Rules, and the</u>	379
<u>bylaws;</u>	380
<u>6. Initiate and conduct legal proceedings or actions in</u>	381
<u>the name of the Commission, provided that the standing of any</u>	382
<u>Respiratory Therapy Licensing Authority to sue or be sued under</u>	383
<u>applicable law shall not be affected;</u>	384

<u>7. Maintain and certify records and information provided</u>	385
<u>to a Member State as the authenticated business records of the</u>	386
<u>Commission, and designate an agent to do so on the Commission's</u>	387
<u>behalf;</u>	388
<u>8. Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;</u>	389
<u>9. Accept or contract for services of personnel,</u>	390
<u>including, but not limited to, employees of a Member State;</u>	391
<u>10. Conduct an annual financial review;</u>	392
<u>11. Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix</u>	393
<u>compensation, define duties, grant such individuals appropriate</u>	394
<u>authority to carry out the purposes of the Compact, and</u>	395
<u>establish the Commission's personnel policies and programs</u>	396
<u>relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel,</u>	397
<u>and other related personnel matters;</u>	398
<u>12. Assess and collect fees;</u>	399
<u>13. Accept any and all appropriate gifts, donations,</u>	400
<u>grants of money, other sources of revenue, equipment, supplies,</u>	401
<u>materials, and services, and receive, utilize, and dispose of</u>	402
<u>the same, provided that at all times:</u>	403
<u>a. The Commission shall avoid any appearance of</u>	404
<u>impropriety; and</u>	405
<u>b. The Commission shall avoid any appearance of conflict</u>	406
<u>of interest;</u>	407
<u>14. Lease, purchase, retain, own, hold, improve, or use</u>	408
<u>any property, real, personal, or mixed, or any undivided</u>	409
<u>interest therein;</u>	410
<u>15. Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange,</u>	411

<u>abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property real, personal, or</u>	412
<u>mixed;</u>	413
<u>16. Establish a budget and make expenditures;</u>	414
<u>17. Borrow money in a fiscally responsible manner;</u>	415
<u>18. Appoint committees, including standing committees,</u>	416
<u>composed of Commissioners State regulators, State legislators or</u>	417
<u>their representatives, and consumer representatives, and such</u>	418
<u>other interested persons as may be designated in this Compact</u>	419
<u>and the bylaws;</u>	420
<u>19. Provide and receive information from, and cooperate</u>	421
<u>with, law enforcement agencies;</u>	422
<u>20. Establish and elect an Executive Committee, including</u>	423
<u>a chair, vice-chair, secretary, treasurer, and such other</u>	424
<u>offices as the Commission shall establish by Rule or bylaw;</u>	425
<u>21. Enter into contracts or arrangements for the</u>	426
<u>management of the affairs of the Commission;</u>	427
<u>22. Determine whether a State's adopted language is</u>	428
<u>materially different from the Model Compact language such that</u>	429
<u>the State would not qualify for participation in the Compact;</u>	430
<u>and</u>	431
<u>23. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or</u>	432
<u>appropriate to achieve the purposes of this Compact.</u>	433
<u>D. The Executive Committee</u>	434
<u>1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to act on</u>	435
<u>behalf of the Commission according to the terms of this Compact.</u>	436
<u>The powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Executive</u>	437
<u>Committee shall include:</u>	438



<u>a. Overseeing the day-to-day activities of the</u>	439
<u>administration of the Compact, including enforcement and</u>	440
<u>compliance with the provisions of the Compact, its Rules and</u>	441
<u>bylaws, and other such duties as deemed necessary;</u>	442
<u>b. Recommending to the Commission changes to the Rules or</u>	443
<u>bylaws, changes to this Compact legislation, fees charged to</u>	444
<u>Compact Member States, fees charged to Licensees, and other</u>	445
<u>fees;</u>	446
<u>c. Ensuring Compact administration services are</u>	447
<u>appropriately provided, including by contract;</u>	448
<u>d. Preparing and recommending the budget;</u>	449
<u>e. Maintaining financial records on behalf of the</u>	450
<u>Commission;</u>	451
<u>f. Monitoring Compact compliance of Member States and</u>	452
<u>providing compliance reports to the Commission;</u>	453
<u>g. Establishing additional committees as necessary;</u>	454
<u>h. Exercising the powers and duties of the Commission</u>	455
<u>during the interim between Commission meetings, except for</u>	456
<u>adopting or amending Rules, adopting or amending bylaws, and</u>	457
<u>exercising any other powers and duties expressly reserved to the</u>	458
<u>Commission by Rule or bylaw; and</u>	459
<u>i. Performing other duties as provided in the Rules or</u>	460
<u>bylaws of the Commission.</u>	461
<u>2. The Executive Committee shall be composed of up to nine</u>	462
<u>(9) members, as further set forth in the bylaws of the</u>	463
<u>Commission:</u>	464
<u>a. Seven (7) voting members who are elected by the</u>	465

<u>Commission from the current membership of the Commission; and</u>	466
<u>b. Two (2) ex-officio, non-voting members.</u>	467
<u>3. The Commission may remove any member of the Executive</u>	468
<u>Committee as provided in the Commission's bylaws.</u>	469
<u>4. The Executive Committee shall meet at least annually.</u>	470
<u>a. Executive Committee meetings shall be open to the</u>	471
<u>public, except that the Executive Committee may meet in a</u>	472
<u>closed, non-public meeting as provided in subsection F.4 below;</u>	473
<u>b. The Executive Committee shall give advance notice of</u>	474
<u>its meetings, posted on its website and as determined to provide</u>	475
<u>notice to persons with an interest in the business of the</u>	476
<u>Commission; and</u>	477
<u>c. The Executive Committee may hold a special meeting in</u>	478
<u>accordance with subsection F.2 below.</u>	479
<u>E. The Commission shall adopt and provide to the Member</u>	480
<u>States an annual report.</u>	481
<u>F. Meetings of the Commission</u>	482
<u>1. All meetings of the Commission that are not closed</u>	483
<u>pursuant to subsection 7.F.4 shall be open to the public. Notice</u>	484
<u>of public meetings shall be posted on the Commission's website</u>	485
<u>at least thirty (30) days prior to the public meeting.</u>	486
<u>2. Notwithstanding subsection 7.F.1, the Commission may</u>	487
<u>convene an emergency public meeting by providing at least</u>	488
<u>twenty-four (24) hours prior notice on the Commission's website,</u>	489
<u>and any other means as provided in the Commission's Rules, for</u>	490
<u>any of the reasons it may dispense with notice of proposed</u>	491
<u>rulemaking under subsection 9.G. The Commission's legal counsel</u>	492

<u>shall certify that one of the reasons justifying an emergency</u>	493
<u>public meeting has been met.</u>	494
<u>3. Notice of all Commission meetings shall provide the</u>	495
<u>time, date, and location of the meeting, and if the meeting is</u>	496
<u>to be held or accessible via telecommunication, video</u>	497
<u>conference, or other electronic means, the notice shall include</u>	498
<u>the mechanism for access to the meeting.</u>	499
<u>4. The Commission or the Executive Committee may convene</u>	500
<u>in a closed, non-public meeting for the Commission or Executive</u>	501
<u>Committee to receive or solicit legal advice or to discuss:</u>	502
<u>a. Non-compliance of a Member State with its obligations</u>	503
<u>under the Compact;</u>	504
<u>b. The employment, compensation, discipline or other</u>	505
<u>matters, practices or procedures related to specific employees;</u>	506
<u>c. Current or threatened discipline of a Licensee or</u>	507
<u>Compact Privilege holder by the Commission or by a Member</u>	508
<u>State's Respiratory Therapy Licensing Authority;</u>	509
<u>d. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated</u>	510
<u>litigation;</u>	511
<u>e. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or</u>	512
<u>sale of goods, services, or real estate;</u>	513
<u>f. Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring</u>	514
<u>any person;</u>	515
<u>g. Trade secrets or commercial or financial information</u>	516
<u>that is privileged or confidential;</u>	517
<u>h. Information of a personal nature where disclosure would</u>	518
<u>constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;</u>	519

<u>i. Investigative records compiled for law enforcement</u>	520
<u>purposes;</u>	521
<u>j. Information related to any investigative reports</u>	522
<u>prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the Commission or</u>	523
<u>other committee charged with responsibility of investigation or</u>	524
<u>determination of compliance issues pursuant to the Compact;</u>	525
<u>k. Legal advice;</u>	526
<u>l. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by</u>	527
<u>federal or Member State law; or</u>	528
<u>m. Other matters as promulgated by the Commission by Rule.</u>	529
<u>5. If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed, the</u>	530
<u>presiding officer shall state that the meeting will be closed</u>	531
<u>and reference each relevant exempting provision, and such</u>	532
<u>reference shall be recorded in the minutes.</u>	533
<u>6. The Commission shall keep minutes in accordance with</u>	534
<u>Commission Rules and bylaws. All documents considered in</u>	535
<u>connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes.</u>	536
<u>All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under</u>	537
<u>seal, subject to release only by a majority vote of the</u>	538
<u>Commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.</u>	539
<u>G. Financing of the Commission</u>	540
<u>1. The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment</u>	541
<u>of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization,</u>	542
<u>and ongoing activities.</u>	543
<u>2. The Commission may accept any and all appropriate</u>	544
<u>revenue sources as provided herein.</u>	545
<u>3. The Commission may levy on and collect an annual</u>	546

assessment from each Member State and impose fees on Licensees 547  
of Member States to whom it grants a Compact Privilege to cover 548  
the cost of the operations and activities of the Commission and 549  
its staff. The aggregate annual assessment amount for Member 550  
States, if any, shall be allocated based upon a formula that the 551  
Commission shall promulgate by Rule. 552

4. The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind 553  
prior to securing the funds or a loan adequate to meet the same; 554  
nor shall the Commission pledge the credit of any of the Member 555  
States, except by and with the authority of the Member State. 556

5. The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all 557  
receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of 558  
the Commission shall be subject to the financial review and 559  
accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all 560  
receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission 561  
shall be subject to an annual financial review by a certified or 562  
licensed public accountant, and the report of the financial 563  
review shall be included in and become part of the annual report 564  
of the Commission. 565

H. Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification 566

1. Nothing herein shall be construed as a limitation on 567  
the liability of any Licensee for professional malpractice or 568  
misconduct, which shall be governed solely by any other 569  
applicable state laws. 570

2. The Member States, Commissioners, officers, executive 571  
directors, employees, and agents of the Commission shall be 572  
immune from suit and liability, both personally and in their 573  
official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of 574  
property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by 575

or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission 576  
that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made 577  
had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope 578  
of Commission employment, duties or responsibilities; provided 579  
that nothing in this subsection shall be construed to protect 580  
any such person from suit or liability for any damage, loss, 581  
injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or 582  
wanton misconduct of that person. The procurement of insurance 583  
of any type by the Commission shall not in any way compromise or 584  
limit the immunity granted hereunder. 585

3. The Commission shall defend any Commissioner, officer, 586  
executive director, employee, and agent of the Commission in any 587  
civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any 588  
actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within 589  
the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, 590  
or as determined by the Commission that the person against whom 591  
the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred 592  
within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or 593  
responsibilities; provided that nothing herein shall be 594  
construed to prohibit that person from retaining their own 595  
counsel at their own expense; and provided further, that the 596  
actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from 597  
that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct. 598

4. The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any 599  
Commissioner, member, officer, executive director, employee, and 600  
agent of the Commission for the amount of any settlement or 601  
judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual 602  
or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the 603  
scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or 604  
that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred 605  
within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or 606

responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, 607  
error, or omission did not result from the intentional or 608  
willful or wanton misconduct of that person. 609

5. Nothing in this Compact shall be interpreted to waive 610  
or otherwise abrogate a Member State's state action immunity or 611  
state action affirmative defense with respect to antitrust 612  
claims under the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, or any other State or 613  
federal antitrust or anticompetitive law or regulation. 614

6. Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a 615  
waiver of sovereign immunity by the Member States or by the 616  
Commission. 617

**SECTION 8. DATA SYSTEM** 618

A. The Commission shall provide for the development, 619  
maintenance, operation, and utilization of a coordinated 620  
database and reporting system containing licensure, Adverse 621  
Action, and the presence of Significant Investigative 622  
Information. 623

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the 624  
contrary, a Member State shall submit a uniform data set to the 625  
Data System as required by the Rules of the Commission, 626  
including but not limited to: 627

1. Identifying information; 628

2. Licensure data; 629

3. Adverse Actions against a Licensee, license applicant, 630  
or Compact Privilege holder and information related thereto; 631

4. Non-confidential information related to Alternative 632  
Program participation, the beginning and ending dates of such 633  
participation, and other information related to such 634

<u>participation not made confidential under Member State law;</u>	635
<u>5. Any denial of application for licensure, and the</u>	636
<u>reason(s) for such denial;</u>	637
<u>6. The presence of current Significant Investigative</u>	638
<u>Information; and</u>	639
<u>7. Other information that may facilitate the</u>	640
<u>administration of this Compact or the protection of the public,</u>	641
<u>as determined by the Rules of the Commission.</u>	642
<u>C. No Member State shall submit any information which</u>	643
<u>constitutes criminal history record information, as defined by</u>	644
<u>applicable federal law, to the Data System established</u>	645
<u>hereunder.</u>	646
<u>D. The records and information provided to a Member State</u>	647
<u>pursuant to this Compact or through the Data System, when</u>	648
<u>certified by the Commission or an agent thereof, shall</u>	649
<u>constitute the authenticated business records of the Commission,</u>	650
<u>and shall be entitled to any associated hearsay exception in any</u>	651
<u>relevant judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative proceedings</u>	652
<u>in a Member State.</u>	653
<u>E. Significant Investigative Information pertaining to a</u>	654
<u>Licensee in any Member State will only be available to other</u>	655
<u>Member States.</u>	656
<u>F. It is the responsibility of the Member States to report</u>	657
<u>any Adverse Action against a Licensee and to monitor the</u>	658
<u>database to determine whether Adverse Action has been taken</u>	659
<u>against a Licensee. Adverse Action information pertaining to a</u>	660
<u>Licensee in any Member State will be available to any other</u>	661
<u>Member State.</u>	662



G. Member States contributing information to the Data System may designate information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of the contributing State. 663  
664  
665

H. Any information submitted to the Data System that is subsequently expunged pursuant to federal law or the laws of the Member State contributing the information shall be removed from the Data System. 666  
667  
668  
669

**SECTION 9. RULEMAKING** 670

A. The Commission shall promulgate reasonable Rules in order to effectively and efficiently implement and administer the purposes and provisions of the Compact. A Rule shall be invalid and have no force or effect only if a court of competent jurisdiction holds that the Rule is invalid because the Commission exercised its rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope and purposes of the Compact, or the powers granted hereunder, or based upon another applicable standard of review. 671  
672  
673  
674  
675  
676  
677  
678  
679

B. For purposes of the Compact, the Rules of the Commission shall have the force of law in each Member State. 680  
681

C. The Commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this section and the Rules adopted thereunder. Rules shall become binding as of the date specified in each Rule. 682  
683  
684  
685

D. If a majority of the legislatures of the Member States rejects a Rule or portion of a Rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the Compact within four (4) years of the date of adoption of the Rule, then such Rule shall have no further force and effect in any Member State. 686  
687  
688  
689  
690  
691

<u>E. Rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting</u>	692
<u>of the Commission.</u>	693
<u>F. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule, the Commission</u>	694
<u>shall hold a public hearing and allow persons to provide oral</u>	695
<u>and written comments, data, facts, opinions, and arguments.</u>	696
<u>G. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule by the Commission,</u>	697
<u>and at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting at which</u>	698
<u>the Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed Rule,</u>	699
<u>the Commission shall provide a notice of proposed rulemaking:</u>	700
<u>1. On the website of the Commission or other publicly</u>	701
<u>accessible platform;</u>	702
<u>2. To persons who have requested notice of the</u>	703
<u>Commission's notices of proposed rulemaking, and</u>	704
<u>3. In such other way(s) as the Commission may by Rule</u>	705
<u>specify.</u>	706
<u>H. The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:</u>	707
<u>1. The time, date, and location of the public hearing at</u>	708
<u>which the Commission will hear public comments on the proposed</u>	709
<u>Rule and, if different, the time, date, and location of the</u>	710
<u>meeting where the Commission will consider and vote on the</u>	711
<u>proposed Rule;</u>	712
<u>2. If the hearing is held via telecommunication, video</u>	713
<u>conference, or other electronic means, the Commission shall</u>	714
<u>include the mechanism for access to the hearing in the notice of</u>	715
<u>proposed rulemaking;</u>	716
<u>3. The text of the proposed Rule and the reason therefor;</u>	717
<u>4. A request for comments on the proposed Rule from any</u>	718

<u>interested person; and</u>	719
<u>5. The manner in which interested persons may submit</u>	720
<u>written comments.</u>	721
<u>I. All hearings will be recorded. A copy of the recording</u>	722
<u>and all written comments and documents received by the</u>	723
<u>Commission in response to the proposed Rule shall be available</u>	724
<u>to the public.</u>	725
<u>J. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring</u>	726
<u>a separate hearing on each Rule. Rules may be grouped for the</u>	727
<u>convenience of the Commission at hearings required by this</u>	728
<u>section.</u>	729
<u>K. The Commission shall, by majority vote of all</u>	730
<u>Commissioners, take final action on the proposed Rule based on</u>	731
<u>the rulemaking record and the full text of the Rule.</u>	732
<u>1. The Commission may adopt changes to the proposed Rule</u>	733
<u>provided the changes are consistent with the original purpose of</u>	734
<u>the proposed Rule.</u>	735
<u>2. The Commission shall provide an explanation of the</u>	736
<u>reasons for substantive changes made to the proposed Rule as</u>	737
<u>well as reasons for substantive changes not made that were</u>	738
<u>recommended by commenters.</u>	739
<u>3. The Commission shall determine a reasonable effective</u>	740
<u>date for the Rule. Except for an emergency as provided in</u>	741
<u>Section 9.L, the effective date of the Rule shall be no sooner</u>	742
<u>than thirty (30) days after issuing the notice that it adopted</u>	743
<u>or amended the Rule.</u>	744
<u>L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the</u>	745
<u>Commission may consider and adopt an emergency Rule with twenty-</u>	746

four (24) hours' notice, and with opportunity to comment, 747  
provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the 748  
Compact and in this section shall be retroactively applied to 749  
the Rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than 750  
ninety (90) days after the effective date of the Rule. For the 751  
purposes of this provision, an emergency Rule is one that must 752  
be adopted immediately in order to: 753

1. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or 754  
welfare; 755

2. Prevent a loss of Commission or Member State funds; 756

3. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of a Rule that is 757  
established by federal law or Rule; or 758

4. Protect public health and safety. 759

M. The Commission or an authorized committee of the 760  
Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted Rule for 761  
purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, 762  
errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of 763  
any revisions shall be posted on the website of the Commission. 764  
The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a 765  
period of thirty (30) days after posting. The revision may be 766  
challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a 767  
material change to a Rule. A challenge shall be made in writing 768  
and delivered to the Commission prior to the end of the notice 769  
period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect 770  
without further action. If the revision is challenged, the 771  
revision may not take effect without the approval of the 772  
Commission. 773

N. No Member State's rulemaking process or procedural 774  
requirements shall apply to the Commission. 775

1. The Commission shall have no authority over any Member State's rulemaking process or procedural requirements that do not pertain to the Compact. 776  
777  
778

O. Nothing in this Compact, nor any Rule or regulation of the Commission, shall be construed to limit, restrict, or in any way reduce the ability of a Member State to enact and enforce laws, regulations, or other Rules related to the Practice of Respiratory Therapy in that State, where those laws, regulations, or other Rules are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Compact. 779  
780  
781  
782  
783  
784  
785

**SECTION 10. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND ENFORCEMENT** 786

A. Oversight 787

1. The executive and judicial branches of State government in each Member State shall enforce this Compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to implement the Compact. 788  
789  
790

2. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is located. The Commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings. Nothing herein shall affect or limit the selection or propriety of venue in any action against a Licensee for professional malpractice, misconduct or any such similar matter. 791  
792  
793  
794  
795  
796  
797  
798  
799

3. The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the Compact and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide the Commission service of process shall render a 800  
801  
802  
803  
804

judgment or order void as to the Commission, this Compact, or 805  
promulgated Rules. 806

B. Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination 807

1. If the Commission determines that a Member State has 808  
defaulted in the performance of its obligations or 809  
responsibilities under this Compact or the promulgated Rules, 810  
the Commission shall provide written notice to the defaulting 811  
State. The notice of default shall describe the default, the 812  
proposed means of curing the default, and any other action that 813  
the Commission may take, and shall offer training and specific 814  
technical assistance regarding the default. 815

2. The Commission shall provide a copy of the notice of 816  
default to the other Member States. 817

C. If a State in default fails to cure the default, the 818  
defaulting State may be terminated from the Compact upon an 819  
affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners of the 820  
Member States, and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred 821  
on that State by this Compact may be terminated on the effective 822  
date of termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the 823  
offending State of obligations or liabilities incurred during 824  
the period of default. 825

D. Termination of membership in the Compact shall be 826  
imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have 827  
been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall 828  
be given by the Commission to the governor, the majority and 829  
minority leaders of the defaulting State's legislature, the 830  
defaulting State's Respiratory Therapy Licensing Authority and 831  
each of the Member States' Respiratory Therapy Licensing 832  
Authorities. 833

E. A State that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including obligations that extend beyond the effective date of termination, if necessary. 834  
835  
836  
837

F. Upon the termination of a State's membership from this Compact, that State shall immediately provide notice to all Licensees and Compact Privilege holders (of which the Commission has a record) within that State of such termination. The terminated State shall continue to recognize all licenses granted pursuant to this Compact for a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of said notice of termination. 838  
839  
840  
841  
842  
843  
844

G. The Commission shall not bear any costs related to a State that is found to be in default or that has been terminated from the Compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the Commission and the defaulting State. 845  
846  
847  
848

H. The defaulting State may appeal the action of the Commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees. 849  
850  
851  
852  
853  
854

I. Dispute Resolution 855

1. Upon request by a Member State, the Commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the Compact that arise among Member States and between Member and non-Member States. 856  
857  
858

2. The Commission shall promulgate a Rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes, as appropriate. 859  
860  
861

J. Enforcement 862

1. By majority vote, as may be further provided by Rule, 863  
the Commission may initiate legal action against a Member State 864  
in default in the United States District Court for the District 865  
of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its 866  
principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of 867  
the Compact and its promulgated Rules. A Member State by 868  
enactment of this Compact consents to venue and jurisdiction in 869  
such court for the purposes set forth herein. The relief sought 870  
may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event 871  
judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be 872  
awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable 873  
attorney's fees. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive 874  
remedies of the Commission. The Commission may pursue any other 875  
remedies available under federal or the defaulting Member 876  
State's law. 877

2. A Member State may initiate legal action against the 878  
Commission in the U.S. District Court for the District of 879  
Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its 880  
principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of 881  
the Compact and its promulgated Rules. The relief sought may 882  
include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event 883  
judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be 884  
awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable 885  
attorney's fees. 886

3. No person other than a Member State shall enforce this 887  
Compact against the Commission. 888

**SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE, WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENT** 889

A. The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which 890  
the Compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh Member 891  
State ("Effective Date"). 892



1. On or after the Effective Date of the Compact, the Commission shall convene and review the enactment of each of the first seven Member States ("Charter Member States") to determine if the statute enacted by each such Charter Member State is materially different than the Model Compact. 893  
894  
895  
896  
897

a. A Charter Member State whose enactment is found to be materially different from the Model Compact shall be entitled to the default process set forth in Section 10. 898  
899  
900

b. If any Member State is later found to be in default, or is terminated or withdraws from the Compact, the Commission shall remain in existence and the Compact shall remain in effect even if the number of Member States should be less than seven. 901  
902  
903  
904

2. Member States enacting the Compact subsequent to the seven initial Charter Member States shall be subject to the process set forth herein and Commission Rule to determine if their enactments are materially different from the Model Compact and whether they qualify for participation in the Compact. 905  
906  
907  
908  
909

3. All actions taken for the benefit of the Commission or in furtherance of the purposes of the administration of the Compact prior to the effective date of the Compact or the Commission coming into existence shall be considered to be actions of the Commission unless specifically repudiated by the Commission. The Commission shall own and have all rights to any intellectual property developed on behalf or in furtherance of the Commission by individuals or entities involved in organizing or establishing the Commission, as may be further set forth in Rules of the Commission. 910  
911  
912  
913  
914  
915  
916  
917  
918  
919

4. Any State that joins the Compact subsequent to the Commission's initial adoption of the Rules and bylaws shall be 920  
921

subject to the Rules and bylaws as they exist on the date on 922  
which the Compact becomes law in that State. Any Rule that has 923  
been previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full 924  
force and effect of law on the date the Compact becomes law in 925  
that State. 926

B. Any Member State may withdraw from this Compact by 927  
enacting a statute repealing the same. 928

1. A Member State's withdrawal shall not take effect until 929  
one hundred eighty (180) days after enactment of the repealing 930  
statute. 931

2. Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement 932  
of the withdrawing State's Respiratory Therapy Licensing 933  
Authority to comply with the investigative and Adverse Action 934  
reporting requirements of this Compact prior to the effective 935  
date of withdrawal. 936

3. Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing from this 937  
Compact, a State shall immediately provide notice of such 938  
withdrawal to all Licensees and Compact Privilege holders (of 939  
which the Commission has a record) within that State. 940  
Notwithstanding any subsequent statutory enactment to the 941  
contrary, such withdrawing State shall continue to recognize all 942  
licenses granted pursuant to this Compact for a minimum of one 943  
hundred eighty (180) days after the date of such notice of 944  
withdrawal. 945

C. Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to 946  
invalidate or prevent any licensure agreement or other 947  
cooperative arrangement between a Member State and a non-Member 948  
State that does not conflict with the provisions of this 949  
Compact. 950

D. This Compact may be amended by the Member States. No 951  
amendment to this Compact shall become effective and binding 952  
upon any Member State until it is enacted into the laws of all 953  
Member States. 954

**SECTION 12. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY** 955

A. This Compact and the Commission's rulemaking authority 956  
shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes 957  
and the implementation and administration of the Compact. 958  
Provisions of the Compact expressly authorizing or requiring the 959  
promulgation of Rules shall not be construed to limit the 960  
Commission's rulemaking authority solely for those purposes. 961

B. The provisions of this Compact shall be severable, and 962  
if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this Compact is 963  
held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to the 964  
constitution of any Member State, a State seeking participation 965  
in the Compact, or of the United States, or the applicability 966  
thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance is 967  
held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent 968  
jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of this Compact and 969  
the applicability thereof to any other government, agency, 970  
person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby. 971

C. Notwithstanding subsection B of this section, the 972  
Commission may deny a State's participation in the Compact or, 973  
in accordance with the requirements of Section 10, terminate a 974  
Member State's participation in the Compact, if it determines 975  
that a constitutional requirement of a Member State is a 976  
material departure from the Compact. Otherwise, if this Compact 977  
shall be held to be contrary to the constitution of any Member 978  
State, the Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to 979  
the remaining Member States and in full force and effect as to 980

<u>the Member State affected as to all severable matters.</u>	981
<b><u>SECTION 13. CONSISTENT EFFECT AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER</u></b>	982
<b><u>STATE LAWS</u></b>	983
<u>A. Nothing herein shall prevent or inhibit the enforcement</u>	984
<u>of any other law of a Member State that is not inconsistent with</u>	985
<u>the Compact.</u>	986
<u>B. Any laws, statutes, regulations, or other legal</u>	987
<u>requirements in a Member State in conflict with the Compact are</u>	988
<u>superseded to the extent of the conflict, including any</u>	989
<u>subsequently enacted State laws.</u>	990
<u>C. All permissible agreements between the Commission and</u>	991
<u>the Member States are binding in accordance with their terms.</u>	992
<u>D. Other than as expressly set forth herein, nothing in</u>	993
<u>this Compact will impact initial licensure.</u>	994
<b><u>Sec. 4761.21.</u></b> <u>Not later than sixty days after the</u>	995
<u>"Respiratory Care Interstate Compact" is entered into under</u>	996
<u>section 4761.20 of the Revised Code, the state medical board, in</u>	997
<u>accordance with Section 7 of the compact, shall select one</u>	998
<u>individual to serve as a commissioner on the respiratory care</u>	999
<u>interstate compact commission created under the compact. The</u>	1000
<u>board shall fill a vacancy in this position not later than sixty</u>	1001
<u>days after the vacancy occurs.</u>	1002