GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2017

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HOUSE BILL 933

Second Edition Engrossed 5/17/18 Senate Health Care Committee Substitute Adopted 6/12/18 Fourth Edition Engrossed 6/14/18

Short Title:	Reciprocity/School Psychologist Licensure.	(Public)
Sponsors:		
Referred to:		

May 16, 2018

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT DIRECTING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO GRANT A LICENSE TO PRACTICE AS A SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST TO ANY INDIVIDUALS WHO HOLD THE NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST CREDENTIAL, ESTABLISHING A PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT (PSYPACT), ALLOWING INSURERS TO PROVIDE STOP LOSS INSURANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES, ALLOWING CERTAIN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO SPONSOR SELF-FUNDED HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS, AND EXPANDING THE MASSAGE AND BODYWORK THERAPY BOARD.

Whereas, school psychologists perform essential services for the social, emotional, and mental health of students throughout North Carolina; and

Whereas, the number of school psychologists in the State has been steadily declining since the 2013-2014 academic year; and

Whereas, one reason the State faces a shortage of school psychologists is the lack of reciprocity granted to individuals who are licensed as school psychologists in other states and may wish to practice in North Carolina; and

Whereas, the standards to receive a Nationally Certified School Psychologist credential from the National Association of School Psychologists are at least as stringent as the standards the State currently requires for licensure as a school psychologist; Now, therefore, The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) G.S. 115C-270.20(b) is repealed.

SECTION 1.(b) The catch line of G.S. 115C-270.20 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-270.20. Licensure Teacher licensure requirements."

SECTION 2. Article 17E of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 115C-270.21. Administrator and student services personnel licensure requirements.

- (a) Administrators. The State Board shall establish classification and levels of preparation necessary for issuance of licenses for administrators, as provided in this Chapter.
- (b) Student Services Personnel. The State Board shall establish classification and levels of preparation necessary for issuance of licenses for student services personnel, as provided in this Article.

The State Board of Education shall issue a school psychologist license to an individual who does any of the following: (i) meets the criteria for licensure as a school psychologist established by the State Board or (ii) holds the Nationally Certified School Psychologist credential issued by



1 the National Association of School Psychologists. For any individual that holds the Nationally 2 Certified School Psychologist credential, a school psychologist license shall be issued to the 3 individual within 60 days of submission of a completed application that includes documentation 4 verifying that credential." 5 **SECTION 3.** Article 18A of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, G.S. 90-270.1 through G.S. 90-270.22, is recodified as Article 18G of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, 6 7 G.S. 90-270.135 through G.S. 90-270.159. 8 **SECTION 4.** Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article 9 to read: 10 "Article 18H. 11 "Psychology Interjurisdictional Licensure Compact. 12 "§ 90-270.160. Purpose. 13 This Compact is designed to achieve the following purposes and objectives: Increase public access to professional psychological services by allowing for 14 (1) telepsychological practice across state lines as well as temporary in-person, 15 16 face-to-face services into a state which the psychologist is not licensed to 17 practice psychology. Enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health and safety, especially 18 <u>(2)</u> 19 client/patient safety. 20 (3) Encourage the cooperation of Compact States in the areas of psychology 21 licensure and regulation. Facilitate the exchange of information between Compact States regarding 22 <u>(4)</u> 23 psychologist licensure, adverse actions, and disciplinary history. 24 <u>(5)</u> Promote compliance with the laws governing psychological practice in each 25 Compact State. 26 Invest all Compact States with the authority to hold licensed psychologists (6) accountable through the mutual recognition of Compact State licenses. 27 "§ 90-270.161. Definitions. 28 29 Adverse action. – Any action taken by a State Psychology Regulatory (1) 30 Authority which finds a violation of a statute or regulation that is identified 31 by the State Psychology Regulatory Authority as discipline and is a matter of 32 public record. 33 **(2)** Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). – The 34 recognized membership organization composed of State and Provincial 35 Psychology Regulatory Authorities responsible for the licensure and 36 registration of psychologists throughout the United States and Canada. 37 Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology. – A licensed (3) 38 psychologist's authority to practice telepsychology, within the limits 39 authorized under this Compact, in another Compact State. 40 Bylaws. – Those Bylaws established by the Psychology Interjurisdictional <u>(4)</u> Compact Commission pursuant to G.S. 90-270.169 for its governance, or for 41 42 directing and controlling its actions and conduct. Client/patient. – The recipient of psychological services, whether 43 (5) 44 psychological services are delivered in the context of health care, corporate, 45 supervision, and/or consulting services. Commissioner. - The voting representative appointed by each State 46 (6) 47 Psychology Regulatory Authority pursuant to G.S. 90-270.169. 48 Compact State. – A state, the District of Columbia, or United States territory <u>(7)</u>

G.S. 90-270.171(b).

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that has enacted this Compact legislation and which has not withdrawn

pursuant to G.S. 90-270.172(c) or been terminated pursuant to

- (8) Confidentiality. The principle that data or information is not made available or disclosed to unauthorized persons and/or processes.
- (9) Coordinated Licensure Information System or Coordinated Database. An integrated process for collecting, storing, and sharing information on psychologists' licensure and enforcement activities related to psychology licensure laws, which is administered by the recognized membership organization composed of State and Provincial Psychology Regulatory Authorities.
- (10) Day. Any part of a day in which psychological work is performed.
- (11) Distant State. The Compact State where a psychologist is physically present (not through the use of telecommunications technologies), to provide temporary in-person, face-to-face psychological services.
- (12) E.Passport. A certificate issued by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) that promotes the standardization in the criteria of interjurisdictional telepsychology practice and facilitates the process for licensed psychologists to provide telepsychological services across state lines.
- (13) Executive Board. A group of directors elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within the powers granted to them by, the Commission.
- (14) Home State. A Compact State where a psychologist is licensed to practice psychology. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact State and is practicing under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology, the Home State is the Compact State where the psychologist is physically present when the telepsychological services are delivered. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact State and is practicing under the Temporary Authorization to Practice, the Home State is any Compact State where the psychologist is licensed.
- (15) <u>Identity History Summary. A summary of information retained by the FBI, or other designee with similar authority, in connection with arrests and, in some instances, federal employment, naturalization, or military service.</u>
- (16) In-person, face-to-face. Interactions in which the psychologist and the client/patient are in the same physical space and which does not include interactions that may occur through the use of telecommunication technologies.
- (17) Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC). A certificate issued by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) that grants temporary authority to practice based on notification to the State Psychology Regulatory Authority of intention to practice temporarily and verification of one's qualifications for such practice.
- (18) <u>License. Authorization by a State Psychology Regulatory Authority to engage in the independent practice of psychology, which would be unlawful without the authorization.</u>
- (19) Non-Compact State. Any State which is not at the time a Compact State.
- (20) Psychologist. An individual licensed for the independent practice of psychology.
- (21) <u>Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission (Commission). The national administration of which all Compact States are members.</u>
- (22) Receiving State. A Compact State where the client/patient is physically located when the telepsychological services are delivered.
- (23) Rule. A written statement by the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission promulgated pursuant to G.S. 90-270.170 of the Compact that is of general applicability, implements, interprets, or prescribes a policy or

1 provision of the Compact, or an organizational, procedural, or practice 2 requirement of the Commission and has the force and effect of statutory law 3 in a Compact State, and includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an 4 existing rule. 5 (24)Significant investigatory information. – Investigative information that a State Psychology Regulatory 6 7 Authority, after a preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an 8 opportunity to respond if required by state law, has reason to believe, 9 if proven true, would indicate more than a violation of state statute or 10 ethics code that would be considered more substantial than minor 11 infraction; or Investigative information that indicates that the psychologist 12 <u>b.</u> 13 represents an immediate threat to public health and safety regardless 14 of whether the psychologist has been notified and/or had an 15 opportunity to respond. 16 State. – A state, commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States (25)17 or the District of Columbia. 18 <u>(26)</u> State Psychology Regulatory Authority. – The Board, office, or other agency 19 with the legislative mandate to license and regulate the practice of psychology. 20 **(27)** Telepsychology. – The provision of psychological services using 21 telecommunication technologies. 22 (28)Temporary Authorization to Practice. – A licensed psychologist's authority to 23 conduct temporary in-person, face-to-face practice, within the limits 24 authorized under this Compact, in another Compact State. 25 Temporary in-person, face-to-face practice. – Where a psychologist is (29)26 physically present (not through the use of telecommunications technologies) 27 in the Distant State to provide for the practice of psychology for 30 days within 28 a calendar year and based on notification to the Distant State. 29 "§ 90-270.162. Home State licensure. 30 (a) The Home State shall be a Compact State where a psychologist is licensed to practice 31 psychology. 32 A psychologist may hold one or more Compact State licenses at a time. If the 33 psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact State, the Home State is the Compact State 34 where the psychologist is physically present when the services are delivered as authorized by the 35 Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology under the terms of this Compact. 36 Any Compact State may require a psychologist not previously licensed in a Compact (c) 37 State to obtain and retain a license to be authorized to practice in the Compact State under 38 circumstances not authorized by the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology 39 under the terms of this Compact. 40 Any Compact State may require a psychologist to obtain and retain a license to be 41 authorized to practice in a Compact State under circumstances not authorized by Temporary 42 Authorization to Practice under the terms of this Compact. 43 A Home State's license authorizes a psychologist to practice in a Receiving State 44 under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology only if the Compact State: 45 Currently requires the psychologist to hold an active E.Passport; (1)

Has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about

Notifies the Commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any adverse

action or significant investigatory information regarding a licensed individual;

Requires an Identity History Summary of all applicants at initial licensure,

including the use of the results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks

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licensed individuals;

1		compl	ant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI),
2		or othe	er designee with similar authority, no later than 10 years after activation
3		of the	Compact; and
4	<u>(5)</u>		ies with the Bylaws and Rules of the Commission.
5	<u>(f)</u> <u>A Ho</u>	me State	's license grants Temporary Authorization to Practice to a psychologist
6	in a Distant State		the Compact State:
7	<u>(1)</u>	Currer	tly requires the psychologist to hold an active IPC;
8	<u>(2)</u>	Has a	mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about
9			ed individuals;
10	<u>(3)</u>	<u>Notifie</u>	es the Commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any adverse
11		action	or significant investigatory information regarding a licensed individual;
12	<u>(4)</u>		es an Identity History Summary of all applicants at initial licensure,
13		includ	ing the use of the results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks
14		compl	ant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI),
15		or othe	er designee with similar authority, no later than 10 years after activation
16		of the	Compact; and
17	<u>(5)</u>	Comp.	ies with the Bylaws and Rules of the Commission.
18	" <u>§ 90-270.163. (</u>	Compac	t privilege to practice telepsychology.
19	(a) Comp	oact State	es shall recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a Compact
20	State in conform	ance wit	h G.S. 90-270.162, to practice telepsychology in other Compact States
21	(Receiving State	s) in wh	ich the psychologist is not licensed, under the Authority to Practice
22	Interjurisdictiona	ıl Teleps	ychology as provided in the Compact.
23	<u>(b)</u> <u>To ex</u>	kercise tl	ne Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology under the
24	terms and provis	sions of	this Compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a Compact State
25	must:		
26	<u>(1)</u>		graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education
27		that wa	as, at the time the degree was awarded:
28		<u>a.</u>	Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S.
29			Department of Education to grant graduate degrees, or authorized by
30			Provincial Statute or Royal Charter to grant doctoral degrees; or
31		<u>b.</u>	A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to
32			sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision by a foreign credential
33			evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of
34			Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign
35			credential evaluation service; and
36	<u>(2)</u>	Hold a	graduate degree in psychology that meets the following criteria:
37		<u>a.</u>	The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, must be
38			clearly identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a
39			program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and
40			brochures its intent to educate and train professional psychologists;
41		<u>b.</u>	The psychology program must stand as a recognizable, coherent,
42			organizational entity within the institution;
43		<u>c.</u>	There must be a clear authority and primary responsibility for the core
44			and specialty areas whether or not the program cuts across
45			administrative lines;
46		<u>d.</u>	The program must consist of an integrated, organized sequence of
47			study;
48		<u>e.</u>	There must be an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and
49			breadth to carry out its responsibilities;
50		f	The designated director of the program must be a psychologist and a

member of the core faculty;

1 The program must have an identifiable body of students who are g. 2 matriculated in that program for a degree; 3 The program must include supervised practicum, internship, or field <u>h.</u> 4 training appropriate to the practice of psychology; 5 The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years <u>i.</u> 6 of full-time graduate study for doctoral degree and a minimum of one 7 academic year of full-time graduate study for master's degree; 8 The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the Rules <u>j.</u> 9 of the Commission. Possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a 10 (3) 11 Home State that is a Compact State; Have no history of adverse action that violate the Rules of the Commission; 12 (4) 13 Have no criminal record history reported on an Identity History Summary that (5) 14 violates the Rules of the Commission; 15 Possess a current, active E.Passport; <u>(6)</u> 16 Provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice, conformity with (7) 17 standards of practice, competence in telepsychology technology, criminal background, and knowledge and adherence to legal requirements in the home 18 19 and receiving states, and provide a release of information to allow for primary 20 source verification in a manner specified by the Commission; and 21 (8) Meet other criteria as defined by the Rules of the Commission. 22 The Home State maintains authority over the license of any psychologist practicing 23 into a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology. 24 A psychologist practicing in a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice 25 Interjurisdictional Telepsychology will be subject to the Receiving State's scope of practice. A 26 Receiving State may, in accordance with that state's due process law, limit or revoke a 27 psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology in the Receiving State 28 and may take any other necessary actions under the Receiving State's applicable law to protect 29 the health and safety of the Receiving State's citizens. If a Receiving State takes action, the state 30 shall promptly notify the Home State and the Commission. 31 If a psychologist's license in any Home State, another Compact State, or any Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology in any Receiving State is restricted, suspended, or 32 33 otherwise limited, the E.Passport shall be revoked and, therefore, the psychologist shall not be 34 eligible to practice telepsychology in a Compact State under the Authority to Practice 35 Interjurisdictional Telepsychology. 36 "§ 90-270.164. Compact Temporary Authorization to Practice. 37 Compact States shall also recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a Compact 38 State in conformance with G.S. 90-270.162, to practice temporarily in other Compact States 39 (Distant States) in which the psychologist is not licensed, as provided in the Compact. 40 To exercise the Temporary Authorization to Practice under the terms and provisions 41 of this Compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a Compact State must: 42 Hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education (1) 43 that was, at the time the degree was awarded: 44 Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. a. 45 Department of Education to grant graduate degrees, or authorized by Provincial Statute or Royal Charter to grant doctoral degrees; or 46 47 A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to <u>b.</u> 48 sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision by a foreign credential 49 evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of 50 Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign

credential evaluation service; and

1 Hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets the following criteria: (2) 2 The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, must be <u>a.</u> 3 clearly identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a 4 program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and 5 brochures its intent to educate and train professional psychologists; 6 The psychology program must stand as a recognizable, coherent, <u>b.</u> 7 organizational entity within the institution; 8 There must be a clear authority and primary responsibility for the core <u>c.</u> 9 and specialty areas whether or not the program cuts across 10 administrative lines; 11 The program must consist of an integrated, organized sequence of <u>d.</u> 12 study; 13 There must be an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and <u>e.</u> 14 breadth to carry out its responsibilities; 15 The designated director of the program must be a psychologist and a <u>f.</u> 16 member of the core faculty; 17 The program must have an identifiable body of students who are g. matriculated in that program for a degree; 18 19 The program must include supervised practicum, internship, or field <u>h.</u> 20 training appropriate to the practice of psychology; 21 The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years <u>i.</u> of full-time graduate study for doctoral degrees and a minimum of one 22 23 academic year of full-time graduate study for master's degrees; 24 į. The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the Rules 25 of the Commission. 26 <u>(3)</u> Possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a 27 Home State that is a Compact State: 28 <u>(4)</u> No history of adverse action that violates the Rules of the Commission; 29 No criminal record history that violates the Rules of the Commission; (5) 30 (6) Possess a current, active IPC; 31 (7) Provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice and work experience and provide a release of information to allow for primary source 32 33 verification in a manner specified by the Commission; and 34 Meet other criteria as defined by the Rules of the Commission. (8) 35 A psychologist practicing into a Distant State under the Temporary Authorization to 36 Practice shall practice within the scope of practice authorized by the Distant State. 37 A psychologist practicing into a Distant State under the Temporary Authorization to 38 Practice will be subject to the Distant State's authority and law. A Distant State may, in 39 accordance with that state's due process law, limit or revoke a psychologist's Temporary 40 Authorization to Practice in the Distant State and may take any other necessary actions under the 41 Distant State's applicable law to protect the health and safety of the Distant State's citizens. If a 42 Distant State takes action, the state shall promptly notify the Home State and the Commission. 43 If a psychologist's license in any Home State, another Compact State, or any 44 Temporary Authorization to Practice in any Distant State is restricted, suspended, or otherwise 45 limited, the IPC shall be revoked and therefore the psychologist shall not be eligible to practice

"§ 90-270.165. Conditions of telepsychology practice in a Receiving State.

in a Compact State under the Temporary Authorization to Practice.

A psychologist may practice in a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology only in the performance of the scope of practice for psychology as assigned by an appropriate State Psychology Regulatory Authority, as defined in the Rules of the Commission, and under the following circumstances:

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- (1) The psychologist initiates a client/patient contact in a Home State via telecommunications technologies with a client/patient in a Receiving State.
- (2) Other conditions regarding telepsychology as determined by Rules promulgated by the Commission.

"§ 90-270.166. Adverse actions.

- (a) A Home State shall have the power to impose adverse action against a psychologist's license issued by the Home State. A Distant State shall have the power to take adverse action on a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice within that Distant State.
- (b) A Receiving State may take adverse action on a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology within that Receiving State. A Home State may take adverse action against a psychologist based on an adverse action taken by a Distant State regarding temporary in-person, face-to-face practice.
- (c) <u>If a Home State takes adverse action against a psychologist's license, that psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology is terminated and the E.Passport is revoked. Furthermore, that psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice is terminated and the IPC is revoked.</u>
 - (1) All Home State disciplinary orders which impose adverse action shall be reported to the Commission in accordance with the Rules promulgated by the Commission. A Compact State shall report adverse actions in accordance with the Rules of the Commission.
 - (2) <u>In the event discipline is reported on a psychologist, the psychologist will not be eligible for telepsychology or temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in accordance with the Rules of the Commission.</u>
 - (3) Other actions may be imposed as determined by the Rules promulgated by the Commission.
- (d) A Home State's Psychology Regulatory Authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a licensee which occurred in a Receiving State as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the Home State. In such cases, the Home State's law shall control in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's license.
- (e) A Distant State's Psychology Regulatory Authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a psychologist practicing under Temporary Authorization Practice which occurred in that Distant State as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the Home State. In such cases, Distant State's law shall control in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice.
- (f) Nothing in this Compact shall override a Compact State's decision that a psychologist's participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse action and that such participation shall remain nonpublic if required by the Compact State's law. Compact States must require psychologists who enter any alternative programs to not provide telepsychology services under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology or provide temporary psychological services under the Temporary Authorization to Practice in any other Compact State during the term of the alternative program.
- (g) No other judicial or administrative remedies shall be available to a psychologist in the event a Compact State imposes an adverse action pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

"§ 90-270.167. Additional authorities invested in a Compact State's Psychology Regulatory Authority.

In addition to any other powers granted under state law, a Compact State's Psychology Regulatory Authority shall have the authority under this Compact to:

(1) <u>Issue subpoenas, for both hearings and investigations, which require the</u> attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence.

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Subpoenas issued by a Compact State's Psychology Regulatory Authority for the attendance and testimony of witnesses and/or the production of evidence from another Compact State shall be enforced in the latter state by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to that court's practice and procedure in considering subpoenas issued in its own proceedings. The issuing State Psychology Regulatory Authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes of the state where the witnesses and/or evidence are located.

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Issue cease and desist and/or injunctive relief orders to revoke a psychologist's (2) Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology and/or Temporary Authorization to Practice.

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<u>(3)</u> During the course of any investigation, a psychologist may not change his/her Home State licensure. A Home State Psychology Regulatory Authority is authorized to complete any pending investigations of a psychologist and to take any actions appropriate under its law. The Home State Psychology Regulatory Authority shall promptly report the conclusions of such investigations to the Commission. Once an investigation has been completed, and pending the outcome of said investigation, the psychologist may change his/her Home State licensure. The Commission shall promptly notify the new Home State of any such decisions as provided in the Rules of the Commission. All information provided to the Commission or distributed by Compact States pursuant to the psychologist shall be confidential, filed under seal, and used for investigatory or disciplinary matters. The Commission may create additional rules for mandated or discretionary sharing of information by

"§ 90-270.168. Coordinated Licensure Information System.

Compact States.

- The Commission shall provide for the development and maintenance of a Coordinated Licensure Information System (Coordinated Database) and reporting system containing licensure and disciplinary action information on all psychologists to whom this Compact is applicable in all Compact States as defined by the Rules of the Commission.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a Compact State shall submit a uniform data set to the Coordinated Database on all licensees as required by the Rules of the Commission, including:
 - (1) Identifying information;
 - (2) Licensure data:
 - (3) Significant investigatory information;
 - (4) Adverse actions against a psychologist's license;
 - An indicator that a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional **(5)** Telepsychology and/or Temporary Authorization to Practice is revoked:
 - Nonconfidential information related to alternative program participation (6) information:
 - Any denial of application for licensure and the reasons for such denial; and (7)
 - (8) Other information which may facilitate the administration of this Compact, as determined by the Rules of the Commission.
- The Coordinated Database administrator shall promptly notify all Compact States of any adverse action taken against, or significant investigative information on, any licensee in a Compact State.
- (d) Compact States reporting information to the Coordinated Database may designate information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of the Compact State reporting the information.

Commission;

- whole or in part. As soon as practicable, the Commission must make public a copy of the vote to close the meeting revealing the vote of each Commissioner with no proxy votes allowed;
- Establishing the titles, duties, and authority and reasonable procedures for the (4) election of the officers of the Commission;
- Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the establishment of the (5) personnel policies and programs of the Commission. Notwithstanding any civil service or other similar law of any Compact State, the Bylaws shall exclusively govern the personnel policies and programs of the Commission;

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- (9) To establish a budget and make expenditures;
- (10) To borrow money;
- (11) To appoint committees, including advisory committees comprised of members, state regulators, state legislators or their representatives, and consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as may be designated in this Compact and the Bylaws;
- (12) To provide and receive information from, and to cooperate with, law enforcement agencies;
- (13) To adopt and use an official seal; and
- (14) To perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this Compact consistent with the state regulation of

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1			psychology licensure, temporary in-person, face-to-face practice, and
2			telepsychology practice.
3	<u>(e)</u> <u>T</u>	he Ex	secutive Board. – The elected officers shall serve as the Executive Board, which
4			ver to act on behalf of the Commission according to the terms of this Compact.
5		1)	The Executive Board shall be comprised of six members:
6	<u>\</u>	<u>1)</u>	
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8			the Commission by the Commission.
			b. One ex officio, nonvoting member from the recognized membership
9			organization composed of State and Provincial Psychology Regulatory
10	//	2)	Authorities.
11	<u>(</u>	<u>2)</u>	The ex officio member must have served as staff or member on a State
12			Psychology Regulatory Authority and will be selected by its respective
13	,	•	organization.
14	<u>(:</u>	<u>3)</u>	The Commission may remove any member of the Executive Board as
15			provided in Bylaws.
16	<u>(</u> 4	<u>4)</u>	The Executive Board shall meet at least annually.
17	<u>(.</u>	<u>5)</u>	The Executive Board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
18			<u>a.</u> Recommend to the entire Commission changes to the Rules or Bylaws,
19			changes to this Compact legislation, or fees paid by Compact States
20			such as annual dues and any other applicable fees;
21			b. Ensure Compact administration services are appropriately provided,
22			contractual or otherwise;
23			<u>c.</u> <u>Prepare and recommend the budget;</u>
24			d. Maintain financial records on behalf of the Commission;
25			e. Monitor Compact compliance of member states and provide
26			compliance reports to the Commission;
27			f. Establish additional committees as necessary; and
28			g. Other duties as provided in Rules or Bylaws.
29	<u>(f)</u> <u>F</u>	inanc	ing of the Commission. –
30		1)	The Commission shall pay or provide for the payment of the reasonable
31	<u> </u>	- /	expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.
32	C	2)	The Commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources,
33	12	<u></u>	donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services.
34	C	<u>3)</u>	The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each
35	7-	<u> </u>	Compact State or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost of the
36			operations and activities of the Commission and its staff which must be in a
37			total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year for
38			which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual
39			assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined
40			by the Commission which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all Compact
41	,	45	States.
42	<u>(</u> 2	<u>4)</u>	The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the
43			funds adequate to meet the same, nor shall the Commission pledge the credit
44			of any of the Compact States, except by and with the authority of the Compact
45			State.
46	<u>(</u>	<u>5)</u>	The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and
47			disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall be
48			subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its Bylaws.
49			However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission
50			shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the

report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the Commission.

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Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification. – (g)

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The members, officers, Executive Director, employees, and representatives of (1) the Commission shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to protect any such person from suit and/or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

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The Commission shall defend any member, officer, Executive Director, <u>(2)</u> employee, or representative of the Commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining his or her own counsel, and provided further that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.

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<u>(3)</u> The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, Executive Director, employee, or representative of the Commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

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"§ 90-270.170. Rule making.

The Commission shall exercise its rule-making powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this section and the Rules adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall become binding as of the date specified in each rule or amendment.

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If a majority of the legislatures of the Compact States rejects a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the Compact, then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any Compact State.

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Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of (c) the Commission.

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Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or Rules by the Commission, and at least 60 days in advance of the meeting at which the rule will be considered and voted upon, the Commission shall file a Notice of Proposed Rule Making:

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On the Web site of the Commission; and (1)

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On the Web site of each Compact States' Psychology Regulatory Authority or (2) the publication in which each state would otherwise publish proposed rules.

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The Notice of Proposed Rule Making shall include: (e)

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The proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in which the rule will be (1) considered and voted upon;

- **General Assembly Of North Carolina** Session 2017 1 (2) The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for the proposed 2 rule; 3 (3) A request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested person; and 4 (4) The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the Commission 5 of their intention to attend the public hearing and any written comments. 6 Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the Commission shall allow persons to submit (f) 7 written data, facts, opinions and arguments, which shall be made available to the public. 8 The Commission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing before it adopts a rule 9 or amendment if a hearing is requested by: 10 At least 25 persons who submit comments independently of each other; (1) 11 (2) A governmental subdivision or agency; or A duly appointed person in an association that has at least 25 members. 12 (3) If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the Commission shall publish 13 (h) 14 the place, time, and date of the scheduled public hearing. 15 All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the Executive (1) 16 Director of the Commission or other designated member in writing of their 17 desire to appear and testify at the hearing not less than five business days 18 before the scheduled date of the hearing. 19 Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person who wishes **(2)** 20 to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in writing. 21 (3) No transcript of the hearing is required, unless a written request for a transcript 22 is made, in which case the person requesting the transcript shall bear the cost 23 of producing the transcript. A recording may be made in lieu of a transcript 24 under the same terms and conditions as a transcript. This subsection shall not 25 preclude the Commission from making a transcript or recording of the hearing 26 if it so chooses. 27 Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on (4) 28 each rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the Commission at 29 hearings required by this section. 30 Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business on the scheduled 31 hearing date if the hearing was not held, the Commission shall consider all written and oral 32 comments received. 33 The Commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final action on the (i) 34 proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the rule-making 35 record and the full text of the rule. 36 If no written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by interested parties is (k) 37 received, the Commission may proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule without a public 38 hearing. 39 Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and (l)40 adopt an emergency rule without prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that 41 the usual rule-making procedures provided in the Compact and in this section shall be 42 retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than 90 days 43 after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this provision, an emergency rule is one 44 that must be adopted immediately in order to: 45 Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare; (1) 46 (2) Prevent a loss of Commission or Compact State funds;
 - (4) Protect public health and safety.

established by federal law or rule; or

The Commission or an authorized committee of the Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted rule or amendment for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors

Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that is

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in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the Web site of the Commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of 30 days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made in writing and delivered to the Chair of the Commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the approval of the Commission.

"§ 90-270.171. Oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement.

(a) Oversight. –

- (1) The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government in each Compact State shall enforce this Compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the Compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of this Compact and the rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory law.
- (2) All courts shall take judicial notice of the Compact and the rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in a Compact State pertaining to the subject matter of this Compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities, or actions of the Commission.
- (3) The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any such proceeding and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the Commission shall render a judgment or order void as to the Commission, this Compact, or promulgated rules.

(b) Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination. –

- (1) If the Commission determines that a Compact State has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this Compact or the promulgated rules, the Commission shall:
 - a. Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other Compact States of the nature of the default, the proposed means of remedying the default, and/or any other action to be taken by the Commission; and
 - b. Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.
- (2) If a state in default fails to remedy the default, the defaulting state may be terminated from the Compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the Compact States and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred by this Compact shall be terminated on the effective date of termination. A remedy of the default does not relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.
- (3) Termination of membership in the Compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be submitted by the Commission to the Governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the Compact States.
- (4) A Compact State which has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including obligations which extend beyond the effective date of termination.
- (5) The Commission shall not bear any costs incurred by the state which is found to be in default or which has been terminated from the Compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the Commission and the defaulting state.
- (6) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the Commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the state of Georgia or the federal district where the

1 Compact has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall be awarded all 2 costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorneys' fees. 3 <u>Dispute</u> Resolution. – (c) 4 Upon request by a Compact State, the Commission shall attempt to resolve (1) 5 disputes related to the Compact which arise among Compact States and 6 between Compact and Non-Compact States. The Commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and 7 (2) 8 binding dispute resolution for disputes that arise before the Commission. 9 Enforcement. – (d) 10 The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the <u>(1)</u> 11 provisions and Rules of this Compact. By majority vote, the Commission may initiate legal action in the United 12 **(2)** 13 States District Court for the State of Georgia or the federal district where the 14 Compact has its principal offices against a Compact State in default to enforce 15 compliance with the provisions of the Compact and its promulgated Rules and 16 Bylaws. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In 17 the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorneys' fees. 18 19 The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the Commission. **(3)** 20 The Commission may pursue any other remedies available under federal or 21 state law. 22 "§ 90-270.172. Date of implementation of the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact 23 Commission and associated rules, withdrawal, and amendments. 24 (a) The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which the Compact is enacted into 25 law in the seventh Compact State. The provisions which become effective at that time shall be 26 limited to the powers granted to the Commission relating to assembly and the promulgation of 27 rules. Thereafter, the Commission shall meet and exercise rule-making powers necessary to the 28 implementation and administration of the Compact. 29 Any state which joins the Compact subsequent to the Commission's initial adoption 30 of the rules shall be subject to the rules as they exist on the date on which the Compact becomes 31

- law in that state. Any rule which has been previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the Compact becomes law in that state.

 (c) Any Compact State may withdraw from this Compact by enacting a statute repealing
- the same.
 - (1) A Compact State's withdrawal shall not take effect until six months after enactment of the repealing statute.
 - (2) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing State's Psychology Regulatory Authority to comply with the investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of this act prior to the effective date of withdrawal.
- (d) Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any psychology licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a Compact State and a Non-Compact State which does not conflict with the provisions of this Compact.
- (e) This Compact may be amended by the Compact States. No amendment to this Compact shall become effective and binding upon any Compact State until it is enacted into the law of all Compact States.

"§ 90-270.173. Construction and severability.

This Compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. If this Compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state member thereto, the Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining Compact States."

SECTION 5. G.S. 58-50-130 reads as rewritten:

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"§ 58-50-130. Required health care plan provisions.

(a) Health benefit plans covering small employers are subject to the following provisions:

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- (5) No small employer carrier, insurer, subsidiary of an insurer, or controlled individual of an insurance holding company shall provide stop loss, catastrophic, or reinsurance coverage to small employers who employ fewer than 26–16 eligible employees that does not comply with the underwriting, rating, and other applicable standards in this Act. An insurer shall not issue a stop loss health insurance policy to any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or association defined as a small employer that does any of the following:
 - a. Provides direct coverage of health expenses payable to an individual.
 - b. Has an annual attachment point for claims incurred per individual that is lower than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for plan years beginning in 2013. For subsequent policy years, the amount shall be indexed using the Consumer Price Index for Medical Services for All Urban Consumers for the South Region and shall be rounded to the nearest whole thousand dollars. The index factor shall be the index as of July of the year preceding the change divided by the index as of July 2012.
 - c. Has an annual aggregate attachment point lower than the greater of one of the following:
 - 1. One hundred twenty percent (120%) of expected claims.
 - 2. Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for plan years beginning in 2013. For subsequent policy years, the amount shall be indexed using the Consumer Price Index for Medical Services for All Urban Consumers for the South Region and shall be rounded to the nearest whole thousand dollars. The index factor shall be the index as of July of the year preceding the change divided by the index as of July 2012.

Nothing in this subsection prohibits an insurer from providing additional incentives to small employers with benefits promoting a medical home or benefits that provide health care screenings, are focused on outcomes and key performance indicators, or are reimbursed on an outcomes basis rather than a fee-for-service basis.

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SECTION 6. Article 3 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 58-3-8. Certain nonprofit health benefit plans not subject to this Chapter.

- (a) A self-funded health benefit plan sponsored by a nonprofit organization that satisfies the conditions of subsection (b) of this section shall be deemed not to be insurance and not subject to this Chapter.
- (b) A nonprofit organization that sponsors a self-funded health benefit plan under this section must satisfy all of the following conditions:
 - (1) Be incorporated in the State.
 - (2) Have been in existence for 10 continuous years.
 - (3) Have been determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.
 - (4) Provide membership opportunities for eligible individuals or business entities in all 100 counties of the State.

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- Provide its members with representation on its governing board and <u>(5)</u> committees.
- (b1) The sponsoring organization may not discriminate among its members with respect to participation in its health benefit plans.
- Two or more nonprofit organizations that individually satisfy the conditions of this section may jointly sponsor a health benefit plan for their members.
- A nonprofit organization that sponsors a health benefit plan under this section shall (d) file an annual certification with the Secretary of State demonstrating that the organization satisfies the conditions set forth in subsection (b) of this section. A copy of this certification shall be submitted to the Commissioner.
- Nothing in this section shall prohibit a person participating in a self-funded health plan under this section from pursuing the remedies set forth in Article 1 of Chapter 75 of the General Statutes."

SECTION 6.5. G.S. 90-625 reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-625. North Carolina Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy.

- The North Carolina Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy is created. The Board shall consist of seven-nine members who are residents of this State and are as follows:
 - Five members shall be massage and bodywork therapists who have been licensed under this Article and have been in the practice of massage and bodywork therapy for at least five of the last seven years prior to their serving on the Board. Consideration shall be given to geographical distribution, practice setting, clinical specialty, involvement in massage and bodywork therapy education, and other factors that will promote diversity of the profession on the Board. Two of the five members shall be appointed by the General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two shall be appointed by the General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and one shall be appointed by the Governor.
 - Two members shall be persons holding a license to operate a massage and (1a) bodywork therapy establishment under this Article. One of the two members shall be appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and one shall be appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
 - One member shall be a physician licensed pursuant to Article 1 of Chapter 90 (2) of the General Statutes or a person once licensed as a physician whose license lapsed while the person was in good standing with the profession and eligible for licensure. The appointment shall be made by the Governor and may be made from a list provided by the North Carolina Medical Society.
 - One member shall be a member of the general public who shall not be licensed (3) under Chapter 90 of the General Statutes or the spouse of a person who is so licensed, or have any financial interest, directly or indirectly, in the profession regulated under this Article. The appointment shall be made by the Governor.
- Legislative appointments shall be made in accordance with G.S. 120-121. A vacancy (b) in a legislative appointment shall be filled in accordance with G.S. 120-122.
- Each member of the Board shall serve for a term of three years, ending on June 30 of the last year of the term. A member shall not be appointed to serve more than two consecutive terms.

SECTION 7. Sections 1 and 2 of this act are effective when this act becomes law and apply to applications for licensure submitted on or after that date. Sections 3 and 4 of this act

- 1 become effective when at least seven states have enacted the Psychology Interjurisdictional
- 2 Compact (PSYPACT) set forth in Section 2 of this act. The North Carolina Psychology Board
- 3 shall report to the Revisor of Statutes when the PSYPACT set forth in Section 4 of this act has
- 4 been enacted by seven member states. Sections 5 and 6 of this act became effective January 1,
- 5 2020. Section 6.5 becomes effective July 1, 2018.