

**HOUSE BILL No. 2279**

By Committee on Health and Human Services

2-9

1 AN ACT concerning physical therapy; enacting the physical therapy  
2 licensure compact; providing for interstate practice authority for  
3 physical therapists in compact states; authorizing criminal history  
4 record checks; amending K.S.A. 65-2920 and 65-2923 and repealing  
5 the existing sections.

6  
7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 New Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
9 physical therapy licensure compact.

10 PHYSICAL THERAPY LICENSURE COMPACT

11 SECTION 1.

12 PURPOSE

13 (a) The purpose of this compact is to facilitate the interstate practice of  
14 physical therapy with the goal of improving public access to physical  
15 therapy services. The practice of physical therapy occurs in the state where  
16 the patient or client is located at the time of the patient or client encounter.  
17 The compact preserves the regulatory authority of states to protect public  
18 health and safety through the current system of state licensure.

19 (b) This compact is designed to achieve the following objectives:

20 (1) Increase public access to physical therapy services by providing  
21 for the mutual recognition of other member state licenses;

22 (2) enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health and safety;

23 (3) encourage the cooperation of member states in regulating multi-  
24 state physical therapy practice;

25 (4) support spouses of relocating military members;

26 (5) enhance the exchange of licensure, investigative and disciplinary  
27 information between member states; and

28 (6) allow a remote state to hold a provider of services with a compact  
29 privilege in that state accountable to that state's practice standards.

30 SECTION 2.

31 DEFINITIONS

32 As used in this compact, and except as otherwise provided, the  
33 following definitions shall apply:

34 (a) "Active duty military" means full-time duty status in the active  
35 uniformed service of the United States, including members of the national  
36 guard and reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. §§ 1209 and

1 1211.

2 (b) "Adverse action" means disciplinary action taken by a physical  
3 therapy licensing board based upon misconduct, unacceptable  
4 performance, or a combination of both.

5 (c) "Alternative program" means a non-disciplinary monitoring or  
6 practice remediation process approved by a physical therapy licensing  
7 board. This includes, but is not limited to, substance abuse issues.

8 (d) "Compact privilege" means the authorization granted by a remote  
9 state to allow a licensee from another member state to practice as a  
10 physical therapist or work as a physical therapist assistant in the remote  
11 state under its laws and rules. The practice of physical therapy occurs in  
12 the member state where the patient or client is located at the time of the  
13 patient or client encounter.

14 (e) "Continuing competence" means a requirement, as a condition of  
15 license renewal, to provide evidence of participation in, or completion of,  
16 or both, educational and professional activities relevant to practice or the  
17 area of work.

18 (f) "Data system" means a repository of information about licensees,  
19 including examination, licensure, investigative, compact privilege and  
20 adverse action.

21 (g) "Encumbered license" means a license that a physical therapy  
22 licensing board has limited in any way.

23 (h) "Executive board" means a group of directors elected or appointed  
24 to act on behalf of and, within the powers granted to them, by the  
25 commission.

26 (i) "Home state" means the member state that is the licensee's primary  
27 state of residence.

28 (j) "Investigative information" means information, records and  
29 documents received or generated by a physical therapy licensing board  
30 pursuant to an investigation.

31 (k) "Jurisprudence requirement" means the assessment of an  
32 individual's knowledge of the laws and rules governing the practice of  
33 physical therapy in a state.

34 (l) "Licensee" means an individual who currently holds an  
35 authorization from the state to practice as a physical therapist or to work as  
36 a physical therapist assistant.

37 (m) "Member state" means a state that has enacted the compact.

38 (n) "Party state" means any member state in which a licensee holds a  
39 current license or compact privilege or is applying for a license or compact  
40 privilege.

41 (o) "Physical therapist" means an individual who is licensed by a  
42 state to practice physical therapy.

43 (p) "Physical therapist assistant" means an individual who is licensed

1 or certified by a state and who assists the physical therapist in selected  
2 components of physical therapy.

3 (q) "Physical therapy," "physical therapy practice," and "the practice  
4 of physical therapy" means the care and services provided by or under the  
5 direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

6 (r) "Physical therapy compact commission" or "commission" means  
7 the national administrative body whose membership consists of all states  
8 that have enacted the compact.

9 (s) "Physical therapy licensing board" or "licensing board" means the  
10 agency of a state that is responsible for the licensing and regulation of  
11 physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

12 (t) "Remote state" means a member state other than the home state,  
13 where a licensee is exercising or seeking to exercise the compact privilege.

14 (u) "Rule" means a rule, regulation, principle or directive  
15 promulgated by the commission that has the force of law.

16 (v) "State" means any state, commonwealth, district or territory of the  
17 United States that regulates the practice of physical therapy.

### 18 SECTION 3.

#### 19 STATE PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPACT

20 (a) To participate in the compact, a state must:

21 (1) Participate fully in the commission's data system, including using  
22 the commission's unique identifier as defined in rules;

23 (2) have a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating  
24 complaints about licensees;

25 (3) notify the commission, in compliance with the terms of the  
26 compact and rules, of any adverse action or the availability of investigative  
27 information regarding a licensee;

28 (4) fully implement a criminal background check requirement, within  
29 a time frame established by rule, by receiving the results of the federal  
30 bureau of investigation record search on criminal background checks and  
31 use the results in making licensure decisions in accordance with this  
32 compact;

33 (5) comply with the rules of the commission;

34 (6) utilize a recognized national examination as a requirement for  
35 licensure pursuant to the rules of the commission; and

36 (7) have continuing competence requirements as a condition for  
37 license renewal.

38 (b) Upon adoption of this compact, the member state shall have the  
39 authority to obtain biometric-based information from each physical  
40 therapy licensure applicant and submit this information to the federal  
41 bureau of investigation for a criminal background check in accordance  
42 with 28 U.S.C. § 534 and 42 U.S.C. §14616.

43 (c) A member state shall grant the compact privilege to a licensee

1 holding a valid unencumbered license in another member state in  
2 accordance with the terms of the compact and rules.

3 (d) Member states may charge a fee for granting a compact privilege.

#### 4 SECTION 4.

#### 5 COMPACT PRIVILEGE

6 (a) To exercise the compact privilege under the terms and provisions of  
7 the compact, the licensee shall:

8 (1) Hold a license in the home state;

9 (2) have no encumbrance on any state license;

10 (3) be eligible for a compact privilege in any member state in  
11 accordance with section 4(d), (g) and (h);

12 (4) have not had any adverse action against any license or compact  
13 privilege within the previous two years;

14 (5) notify the commission that the licensee is seeking the compact  
15 privilege within a remote state;

16 (6) pay any applicable fees, including any state fee, for the compact  
17 privilege;

18 (7) meet any jurisprudence requirements established by the remote  
19 state in which the licensee is seeking a compact privilege; and

20 (8) report to the commission adverse action taken by any non-  
21 member state within 30 days from the date the adverse action is taken.

22 (b) The compact privilege is valid until the expiration date of the  
23 home license. The licensee must comply with the requirements of section  
24 4(a) to maintain the compact privilege in the remote state.

25 (c) A licensee providing physical therapy in a remote state under the  
26 compact privilege shall function within the laws and regulations of the  
27 remote state.

28 (d) A licensee providing physical therapy in a remote state is subject  
29 to that state's regulatory authority. A remote state may, in accordance with  
30 due process and that state's laws, remove a licensee's compact privilege in  
31 the remote state for a specific period of time or impose fines, or both, and  
32 may take any other necessary actions to protect the health and safety of its  
33 citizens. The licensee is not eligible for a compact privilege in any state  
34 until the specific time for removal has passed and all fines are paid.

35 (e) If a home state license is encumbered, the licensee shall lose the  
36 compact privilege in any remote state until the following occur:

37 (1) The home state license is no longer encumbered; and

38 (2) two years have elapsed from the date of the adverse action.

39 (f) Once an encumbered license in the home state is restored to good  
40 standing, the licensee must meet the requirements of section 4(a) to obtain  
41 a compact privilege in any remote state.

42 (g) If a licensee's compact privilege in any remote state is removed,  
43 the individual shall lose the compact privilege in any remote state until the

1 following occur:

2 (1) The specific period of time for which the compact privilege was  
3 removed has ended;

4 (2) all fines have been paid; and

5 (3) two years have elapsed from the date of the adverse action.

6 (h) Once the requirements of section 4(g) have been met, the licensee  
7 must meet the requirements in section 4(a) to obtain a compact privilege in  
8 a remote state.

9 SECTION 5.

10 ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL OR THEIR SPOUSES

11 A licensee who is active duty military or is the spouse of an individual  
12 who is active duty military may designate one of the following as the  
13 home state:

14 (a) Home of record;

15 (b) permanent change of station (PCS); or

16 (c) state of current residence, if it is different than the PCS state or  
17 home of record.

18 SECTION 6.

19 ADVERSE ACTIONS

20 (a) A home state shall have exclusive power to impose adverse action  
21 against a license issued by the home state.

22 (b) A home state may take adverse action based on the investigative  
23 information of a remote state, so long as the home state follows its own  
24 procedures for imposing adverse action.

25 (c) Nothing in this compact shall override a member state's decision  
26 that participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse  
27 action and that such participation shall remain non-public if required by  
28 the member state's laws. Member states must require licensees who enter  
29 any alternative programs in lieu of discipline to agree not to practice in any  
30 other member state during the term of the alternative program without  
31 prior authorization from such other member state.

32 (d) Any member state may investigate actual or alleged violations of  
33 the statutes and rules authorizing the practice of physical therapy in any  
34 other member state in which a physical therapist or physical therapist  
35 assistant holds a license or compact privilege.

36 (e) A remote state shall have the authority to:

37 (1) Take adverse actions as set forth in section 4(d) against a  
38 licensee's compact privilege in the state;

39 (2) issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations that require  
40 the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence.  
41 Subpoenas issued by a physical therapy licensing board in a party state for  
42 the attendance and testimony of witnesses, or the production of evidence,  
43 or both, from another party state shall be enforced in the latter state by any

1 court of competent jurisdiction according to the practice and procedure of  
2 that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before  
3 that court. The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees, travel  
4 expenses, mileage and other fees required by the service statutes of the  
5 state where the witnesses or evidence, or both, are located; and

6 (3) if otherwise permitted by state law, recover from the licensee the  
7 costs of investigations and disposition of cases resulting from any adverse  
8 action taken against that licensee.

9 (f) Joint investigations:

10 (1) In addition to the authority granted to a member state by its  
11 respective physical therapy practice act or other applicable state law, a  
12 member state may participate with other member states in joint  
13 investigations of licensees.

14 (2) Member states shall share any investigative, litigation or  
15 compliance materials in furtherance of any joint or individual investigation  
16 initiated under the compact.

#### 17 SECTION 7.

#### 18 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PHYSICAL THERAPY COMPACT 19 COMMISSION

20 (a) The compact member states hereby create and establish a joint  
21 public agency known as the physical therapy compact commission:

22 (1) The commission is an instrumentality of the compact states.

23 (2) Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the  
24 commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of  
25 competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the commission is  
26 located. The commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to  
27 the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute  
28 resolution proceedings.

29 (3) Nothing in this compact shall be construed to be a waiver of  
30 sovereign immunity.

31 (b) Membership, voting, and meetings:

32 (1) Each member state shall have and be limited to one delegate  
33 selected by that member state's licensing board.

34 (2) The delegate shall be a current member of the licensing board,  
35 who is a physical therapist, physical therapist assistant, public member or  
36 the board administrator.

37 (3) Any delegate may be removed or suspended from office as  
38 provided by the law of the state from which the delegate is appointed.

39 (4) The member state board shall fill any vacancy occurring in the  
40 commission.

41 (5) Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote with regard to the  
42 promulgation of rules and creation of bylaws and shall otherwise have an  
43 opportunity to participate in the business and affairs of the commission.

1 (6) A delegate shall vote in person or by such other means as  
2 provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for delegates'  
3 participation in meetings by telephone or other means of communication.

4 (7) The commission shall meet at least once during each calendar  
5 year. Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in the bylaws.

6 (c) The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

7 (1) Establish the fiscal year of the commission;

8 (2) establish bylaws;

9 (3) maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws;

10 (4) meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of  
11 this compact and the bylaws;

12 (5) promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate  
13 implementation and administration of this compact. The rules shall have  
14 the force and effect of law and shall be binding in all member states;

15 (6) bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of  
16 the commission, provided that the standing of any state physical therapy  
17 licensing board to sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be  
18 affected;

19 (7) purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

20 (8) borrow, accept or contract for services of personnel including, but  
21 not limited to, employees of a member state;

22 (9) hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define  
23 duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the  
24 purposes of the compact, and establish the commission's personnel policies  
25 and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel  
26 and other related personnel matters;

27 (10) accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money,  
28 equipment, supplies, materials and services and receive, utilize and  
29 dispose of the same, except that at all times the commission shall avoid  
30 any appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest, or both;

31 (11) lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or  
32 otherwise own, hold, improve or use, any property, real, personal or  
33 mixed, except that at all times the commission shall avoid any appearance  
34 of impropriety;

35 (12) sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon or  
36 otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal or mixed;

37 (13) establish a budget and make expenditures;

38 (14) borrow money;

39 (15) appoint committees, including standing committees comprised of  
40 members, state regulators, state legislators or their representatives, and  
41 consumer representatives and such other interested persons as may be  
42 designated in this compact and the bylaws;

43 (16) provide and receive information from, and cooperate with, law

1 enforcement agencies;

2 (17) establish and elect an executive board; and

3 (18) perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate  
4 to achieve the purposes of this compact consistent with the state regulation  
5 of physical therapy licensure and practice.

6 (d) The executive board shall have the power to act on behalf of the  
7 commission according to the terms of this compact.

8 (1) The executive board shall be comprised of nine members:

9 (A) Seven voting members, who are elected by the commission from  
10 the current membership of the commission;

11 (B) one ex-officio, non-voting member from the recognized national  
12 physical therapy professional association; and

13 (C) one ex-officio, non-voting member from the recognized  
14 membership organization of the physical therapy licensing boards.

15 (2) The ex-officio members will be selected by their respective  
16 organizations.

17 (3) The commission may remove any member of the executive board  
18 as provided in the bylaws.

19 (4) The executive board shall meet at least annually.

20 (5) The executive board shall have the following duties and  
21 responsibilities:

22 (A) Recommend to the entire commission changes to the rules or  
23 bylaws, changes to this compact legislation, fees paid by compact member  
24 states such as annual dues and any commission compact fee charged to  
25 licensees for the compact privilege;

26 (B) ensure compact administration services are appropriately  
27 provided, contractual or otherwise;

28 (C) prepare and recommend the budget;

29 (D) maintain financial records on behalf of the commission;

30 (E) monitor compact compliance of member states and provide  
31 compliance reports to the commission;

32 (F) establish additional committees as necessary; and

33 (G) other duties as provided in rules or bylaws.

34 (e) Meetings of the commission:

35 (1) All meetings shall be open to the public, and public notice of  
36 meetings shall be given in the same manner as required under the  
37 rulemaking provisions in section 9.

38 (2) The commission or the executive board or other committees of the  
39 commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting, if the  
40 commission or executive board or other committees of the commission  
41 must discuss:

42 (A) Non-compliance of a member state with its obligations under the  
43 compact;



1 (B) the employment, compensation, discipline or other matters,  
2 practices or procedures related to specific employees or other matters  
3 related to the commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;

4 (C) current, threatened or reasonably anticipated litigation;

5 (D) negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease or sale of goods,  
6 services or real estate;

7 (E) accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person;

8 (F) disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information  
9 that is privileged or confidential;

10 (G) disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure  
11 would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

12 (H) disclosure of investigative records compiled for law enforcement  
13 purposes;

14 (I) disclosure of information related to any investigative reports  
15 prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the commission or other  
16 committee charged with responsibility of investigation or determination of  
17 compliance issues pursuant to the compact; or

18 (J) matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal or  
19 member state statute.

20 (3) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this  
21 provision, the commission's legal counsel or designee shall certify that the  
22 meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant exempting  
23 provision.

24 (4) The commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe  
25 all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate  
26 summary of actions taken, and the reasons therefore, including a  
27 description of the views expressed. All documents considered in  
28 connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes  
29 and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to  
30 release by a majority vote of the commission or order of a court of  
31 competent jurisdiction.

32 (f) Financing of the commission:

33 (1) The commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the  
34 reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization and ongoing  
35 activities.

36 (2) The commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue  
37 sources, donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials  
38 and services.

39 (3) The commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment  
40 from each member state or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost  
41 of the operations and activities of the commission and its staff, which must  
42 be in a total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each  
43 year for which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate

1 annual assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be  
2 determined by the commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding  
3 upon all member states.

4 (4) The commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to  
5 securing the funds adequate to meet the same nor shall the commission  
6 pledge the credit of any of the member states, except by and with the  
7 authority of the member state.

8 (5) The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and  
9 disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall be  
10 subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its  
11 bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the  
12 commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public  
13 accountant, and the report of the audit shall be included in and become  
14 part of the annual report of the commission.

15 (g) Qualified immunity, defense, and indemnification:

16 (1) The members, officers, executive director, employees and  
17 representatives of the commission shall be immune from suit and liability,  
18 either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to  
19 or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or  
20 arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred, or  
21 that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for  
22 believing occurred, within the scope of commission employment, duties or  
23 responsibilities, except that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to  
24 protect any such person from suit or liability, or both, for any damage,  
25 loss, injury or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton  
26 misconduct of that person.

27 (2) The commission shall defend any member, officer, executive  
28 director, employee or representative of the commission in any civil action  
29 seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or  
30 omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment,  
31 duties or responsibilities, or that the person against whom the claim is  
32 made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of  
33 commission employment, duties or responsibilities, except that nothing  
34 herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining such  
35 person's own counsel and except that the actual or alleged act, error or  
36 omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton  
37 misconduct.

38 (3) The commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member,  
39 officer, executive director, employee or representative of the commission  
40 for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person  
41 arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred  
42 within the scope of commission employment, duties or responsibilities, or  
43 that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the

1 scope of commission employment, duties or responsibilities, so long as the  
2 actual or alleged act, error or omission did not result from the intentional  
3 or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

#### 4 SECTION 8.

#### 5 DATA SYSTEM

6 (a) The commission shall provide for the development, maintenance  
7 and utilization of a coordinated database and reporting system containing  
8 licensure, adverse action and investigative information on all licensed  
9 individuals in member states.

10 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a  
11 member state shall submit a uniform data set to the data system on all  
12 individuals to whom this compact is applicable as required by the rules of  
13 the commission, including:

14 (1) Identifying information;

15 (2) licensure data;

16 (3) adverse actions against a license or compact privilege;

17 (4) non-confidential information related to alternative program  
18 participation;

19 (5) any denial of application for licensure, and the reason for such  
20 denial; and

21 (6) other information that may facilitate the administration of this  
22 compact, as determined by the rules of the commission.

23 (c) Investigative information pertaining to a licensee in any member  
24 state will only be available to other party states.

25 (d) The commission shall promptly notify all member states of any  
26 adverse action taken against a licensee or an individual applying for a  
27 license. Adverse action information pertaining to a licensee in any member  
28 state will be available to any other member state.

29 (e) Member states contributing information to the data system may  
30 designate information that may not be shared with the public without the  
31 express permission of the contributing state.

32 (f) Any information submitted to the data system that is subsequently  
33 required to be expunged by the laws of the member state contributing the  
34 information shall be removed from the data system.

#### 35 SECTION 9.

#### 36 RULEMAKING

37 (a) The commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to  
38 the criteria set forth in this section and the rules adopted thereunder. Rules  
39 and amendments shall become binding as of the date specified in each rule  
40 or amendment.

41 (b) If a majority of the legislatures of the member states rejects a rule,  
42 by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt  
43 the compact within four years of the date of adoption of the rule, then such

1 rule shall have no further force and effect in any member state.

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

4 (d) Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or rules by the  
5 commission, and at least 30 days in advance of the meeting at which the  
6 rule will be considered and voted upon, the commission shall file a notice  
7 of proposed rulemaking:

8 (1) On the website of the commission or other publicly accessible  
9 platform; and

10 (2) on the website of each member state's physical therapy licensing  
11 board or other publicly accessible platform or the publication in which  
12 each state would otherwise publish proposed rules.

13 (e) The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:

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

16 (2) the text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for the  
17 proposed rule;

18 (3) a request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested  
19 person; and

20 (4) the manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the  
21 commission of their intention to attend the public hearing and any written  
22 comments.

23 (f) Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the commission shall allow  
24 persons to submit written data, facts, opinions and arguments, which shall  
25 be made available to the public.

26 (g) The commission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing  
27 before it adopts a rule or amendment if a hearing is requested by:

28 (1) At least 25 persons;

29 (2) a state or federal governmental subdivision or agency; or

30 (3) an association having at least 25 members.

31 (h) If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the  
32 commission shall publish the place, time and date of the scheduled public  
33 hearing. If the hearing is held via electronic means, the commission shall  
34 publish the mechanism for access to the electronic hearing.

35 (1) All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the  
36 executive director of the commission, or other designated member, in  
37 writing of their desire to appear and testify at the hearing not less than five  
38 business days before the scheduled date of the hearing.

39 (2) Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person  
40 who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment  
41 orally or in writing.

42 (3) All hearings will be recorded. A copy of the recording will be  
43 made available on request.

1 (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate  
2 hearing on each rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the  
3 commission at hearings required by this section.

4 (i) Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business  
5 on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing was not held, the commission  
6 shall consider all written and oral comments received.

7 (j) If no written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by  
8 interested parties is received, the commission may proceed with  
9 promulgation of the proposed rule without a public hearing.

10 (k) The commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final  
11 action on the proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the  
12 rule, if any, based on the rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

13 (l) Upon determination that an emergency exists, the commission  
14 may consider and adopt an emergency rule without prior notice,  
15 opportunity for comment, or hearing, so long as the usual rulemaking  
16 procedures provided in the compact and in this section shall be  
17 retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event  
18 later than 90 days after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of  
19 this provision, an emergency rule is one that must be adopted immediately  
20 in order to:

21 (1) Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety or welfare;

22 (2) prevent a loss of commission or member state funds;

23 (3) meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that  
24 is established by federal law or rule; or

25 (4) protect public health and safety.

26 (m) The commission or an authorized committee of the commission  
27 may direct revisions to a previously adopted rule or amendment for  
28 purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in  
29 consistency or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be  
30 posted on the website of the commission. The revision shall be subject to  
31 challenge by any person for a period of 30 days after posting. The revision  
32 may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material  
33 change to a rule. A challenge shall be made in writing, and delivered to the  
34 chair of the commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no  
35 challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If  
36 the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the  
37 approval of the commission.

#### 38 SECTION 10.

#### 39 OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND ENFORCEMENT

##### 40 (a) Oversight:

41 (1) The executive, legislative and judicial branches of state  
42 government in each member state shall enforce this compact and take all  
43 actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and

1 intent. The provisions of this compact and the rules promulgated hereunder  
2 shall have standing as statutory law.

3 (2) All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the rules in  
4 any judicial or administrative proceeding in a member state pertaining to  
5 the subject matter of this compact that may affect the powers,  
6 responsibilities or actions of the commission.

7 (3) The commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in  
8 any such proceeding and shall have standing to intervene in such a  
9 proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the  
10 commission shall render a judgment or order void as to the commission,  
11 this compact or promulgated rules.

12 (b) Default, technical assistance and termination:

13 (1) If the commission determines that a member state has defaulted in  
14 the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact or  
15 the promulgated rules, the commission shall:

16 (A) Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other member  
17 states of the nature of the default, the proposed means of curing the default  
18 and any other action to be taken by the commission; and

19 (B) provide remedial training and specific technical assistance  
20 regarding the default.

21 (2) If a state in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting state  
22 may be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a  
23 majority of the member states, and all rights, privileges and benefits  
24 conferred by this compact may be terminated on the effective date of  
25 termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending state of  
26 obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.

27 (3) Termination of membership in the compact shall be imposed only  
28 after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice  
29 of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by the commission to the  
30 governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's  
31 legislature and each of the member states.

32 (4) A state that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments,  
33 obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of  
34 termination, including obligations that extend beyond the effective date of  
35 termination.

36 (5) The commission shall not bear any costs related to a state that is  
37 found to be in default or that has been terminated from the compact, unless  
38 agreed upon in writing between the commission and the defaulting state.

39 (6) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the commission by  
40 petitioning the United States district court for the District of Columbia or  
41 the federal district where the commission has its principal offices. The  
42 prevailing member state shall be awarded all costs of such litigation,  
43 including reasonable attorney fees.

1 (c) Dispute resolution:

2 (1) Upon request by a member state, the commission shall attempt to  
 3 resolve disputes related to the compact that arise among member states and  
 4 between member and non-member states.

5 (2) The commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both  
 6 mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

7 (d) Enforcement:

8 (1) The commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall  
 9 enforce the provisions and rules of this compact.

10 (2) By majority vote, the commission may initiate legal action in the  
 11 United States district court for the District of Columbia or the federal  
 12 district where the commission has its principal offices against a member  
 13 state in default to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact  
 14 and its promulgated rules and bylaws. The relief sought may include both  
 15 injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is  
 16 necessary, the prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such  
 17 litigation, including reasonable attorney fees.

18 (3) The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the  
 19 commission. The commission may pursue any other remedies available  
 20 under federal or state law.

21 SECTION 11.

22 DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERSTATE  
 23 COMMISSION FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY PRACTICE AND  
 24 ASSOCIATED RULES, WITHDRAWAL AND AMENDMENT

25 (a) The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the  
 26 compact statute is enacted into law in the 10<sup>th</sup> member state. The  
 27 provisions that become effective at that time shall be limited to the powers  
 28 granted to the commission relating to assembly and the promulgation of  
 29 rules. Thereafter, the commission shall meet and exercise rulemaking  
 30 powers necessary to the implementation and administration of the  
 31 compact.

32 (b) Any state that joins the compact subsequent to the commission's  
 33 initial adoption of the rules shall be subject to the rules as they exist on the  
 34 date on which the compact becomes law in that state. Any rule that has  
 35 been previously adopted by the commission shall have the full force and  
 36 effect of law on the day the compact becomes law in that state.

37 (c) Any member state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a  
 38 statute repealing the same.

39 (1) A member state's withdrawal shall not take effect until six months  
 40 after enactment of the repealing statute.

41 (2) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the  
 42 withdrawing state's physical therapy licensing board to comply with the  
 43 investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of this act prior to

1 the effective date of withdrawal.

2 (d) Nothing contained in this compact shall be construed to invalidate  
3 or prevent any physical therapy licensure agreement or other cooperative  
4 arrangement between a member state and a non-member state that does not  
5 conflict with the provisions of this compact.

6 (e) This compact may be amended by the member states. No  
7 amendment to this compact shall become effective and binding upon any  
8 member state until it is enacted into the laws of all member states.

9 SECTION 12.

10 CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

11 This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the  
12 purposes thereof. The provisions of this compact shall be severable and if  
13 any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this compact is declared to be  
14 contrary to the constitution of any party state or of the United States or the  
15 applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance is  
16 held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this compact and the  
17 applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance  
18 shall not be affected thereby. If this compact shall be held contrary to the  
19 constitution of any party state, the compact shall remain in full force and  
20 effect as to the remaining party states and in full force and effect as to the  
21 party state affected as to all severable matters.

22 New Sec. 2. (a) As part of an original application for a license as a  
23 physical therapist or a certificate as a physical therapy assistant, or as part  
24 of an original application for reinstatement of a license or certificate or in  
25 connection with any investigation of any holder of a license or certificate,  
26 the state board of healing arts may require a person to be fingerprinted and  
27 submit to a state and national criminal history record check. The  
28 fingerprints shall be used to identify the person and to determine whether  
29 the person has a record of criminal history in this state or other  
30 jurisdiction. The state board of healing arts is authorized to submit the  
31 fingerprints to the Kansas bureau of investigation and the federal bureau of  
32 investigation for a state and national criminal history record check. The  
33 state board of healing arts may use the information obtained from  
34 fingerprinting and the criminal history for purposes of verifying the  
35 identification of the person and in the official determination of the  
36 qualifications and fitness of the person to be issued or to maintain a license  
37 or certificate.

38 (b) Local and state law enforcement officers and agencies shall assist  
39 the state board of healing arts in taking and processing of fingerprints of  
40 applicants for and holders of any license or certificate and shall release all  
41 records of adult convictions and nonconvictions and adult convictions or  
42 adjudications of another state or country to the state board of healing arts.

43 (c) The state board of healing arts may fix and collect a fee as may be



1 required by the board in an amount necessary to reimburse the board for  
2 the cost of fingerprinting and the criminal history record check. Any  
3 moneys collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the state  
4 treasury and credited to the healing arts fee fund.

5 (d) This section shall be a part of and supplemental to the physical  
6 therapy licensure compact.

7 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 65-2920 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-  
8 2920. Professional liability insurance coverage shall be maintained in  
9 effect by each licensed physical therapist actively practicing in this state  
10 *including each physical therapist licensed in a home state, and practicing*  
11 *in this state under the physical therapy licensure compact*, as a condition  
12 to rendering professional services as a physical therapist in this state. The  
13 board shall fix by rules and regulations the minimum level of coverage for  
14 such professional liability insurance.

15 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 65-2923 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-  
16 2923. (a) The board shall adopt rules and regulations establishing  
17 minimum education and training requirements for the practice of dry  
18 needling by a licensed physical therapist *including a physical therapist*  
19 *licensed in a home state and practicing in this state under the physical*  
20 *therapy licensure compact*.

21 (b) This section shall be a part of and supplemental to the physical  
22 therapy practice act.

23 Sec. 5. K.S.A. 65-2920 and 65-2923 are hereby repealed.

24 Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
25 publication in the statute book.