

**INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT COMMISSION**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**Conference Call**  
**January 24, 2023**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Call to Order**  
*Chair Spangler (WV)*

The Executive Committee of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission convened for a special meeting at 3:02 PM, Eastern Time via conference call and was called to order by Chair Spangler (WV).

**Roll Call**  
*Secretary Smith*

The roll was called, and a quorum was established.

**Members Present**

Commissioner Spangler (WV) - Commission Chair  
Commissioner Silas (AL) - Commission Vice Chair  
Commissioner Cleveland (MS) - Treasurer and Chair of the Budget Committee  
Commissioner Rodman (KY) - Chair of the Communications Committee  
Commissioner Herlihy (VT) - Chair of the Personnel Committee  
Commissioner Bohall (AZ) - Chair of the Rules and Administrative Procedures Committee  
Commissioner Manahan (MN) - Chair of the Technology Committee

**Members Absent**

Vacant - Past Chair

**Staff Present**

Keyla Blanco, Controller; David Clark, Operations Manager; Marschall Smith, Executive Director; Dale Watts, IT Manager

**Other commission members and members of the public**

Dr. Humayun Chaudhry, Federation of State Medical Boards; John Bremer, Federation of State Medical Boards; Kimmie Buley, Advanced Practice Providers; Carl Sims, Council of State Governments; CE McClurg; Angela Shuman, American Academy of Physician Associates; Joe Turek, State Medical Board of Ohio; Carson Walker, American Academy of Physician Associates; Kim Horvath, American Medical Association; Frank Meyers, Federation of State Medical Boards; Commissioner Farrelly (MD); and Commissioner Cushman (NE)

**Approval of agenda**  
*Chair Spangler (WV)*

An agenda was provided to the members prior to the meeting.

MOTION

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER CLEVELAND (MS), SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SILAS (AL), TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

MOTION PASSED

UNANIMOUS

**Discussion Topic - Physician Assistant Compact**  
*Chair Spangler (WV)*

The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss the Physician Assistant Compact (PA Compact).

A special email was sent to the executive committee prior to the meeting, providing an opportunity for members to record their opinion and comment in anticipation of the meeting. That email and replies are incorporated into these minutes by reference.

**General discussion:**

The executive director was asked to provide an overview of the types of health care models available. Information was also provided by a PowerPoint document, included as part of these minutes.

Each of the executive committee members provided comments about their board's position on the PA Compact. It was noted that several boards have not yet taken a formal position on the matter, but that all boards have been having discussions on the matter. The universal position was one of support of the concept of a compact for physician assistant. However, concern was raised regarding the model being proposed, generally the expressed position was one that favored the expedited licensure model over the privilege to practice model. It was believed that this model ensures state sovereignty over the practice of medicine and best protects patients.

Concern was raised that the collaborative agreement process will be compromised with a privilege to practice model and the board will not be able to adequately regulate the practice of medicine if they have not issued a license. There is a belief that a licensure model provides the best tracking process for the board and concern that unless similar fees are charged for a privilege to practice participant to those obtaining a licensee, it will create a disparity and inequity to the providers. The different practice models across the country will create confusion for the physician assistant and physician providing oversight, especially as it relates to the different scopes of practice and oversight requirements that vary significantly from state to state.

The members felt that consideration should be given to the engagement options available at this point in the process and a need to better understand the reasons that the privilege to practice model was selected. It was unclear if opportunities exist to have a dialogue about changing the model at this point in the process.

A question was raised about how many health care compacts use the expedited license model - the answer is that only the physician compact uses the expedited license model, all other compacts use the privilege to practice model.

Most of the boards have expressed a concern about the challenges of having different models as it relates to work flows and processes for board staff and the licensing systems. The West Virginia Physician Assistant Committee has provided advice to the Board of Medicine that it was advisable to follow suit with the licensure model used for physicians as the stronger process. Especially in light of the fact that physician assistants and physicians have similar training and orientation to the practice of medicine, creating a different path could become a dividing factor.

A question to be posed to the executive committee: Should the IMLCC engage in this matter and if yes, then what is the best way to engage in the discussion?

The general discussion was focused on attempting to understand how far in the process was the Physician Assistant Compact and potential

actions available to the IMLCC. Integral to the engagement question is determining who to engage and if a leadership group has been formed to guide the PA Compact.

Dr. Chaudry and Mr. Bremer from the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) were asked to provide background and information on this question. The FSMB's role in the process is one of a facilitator rather than an advocate. The development of the PA Compact was a multi-year process that has reached the end of the development phase.

Mr. Walker from the American Academy of Physician Associates was invited to speak. He noted that the current compact language was a final product and not a draft open for discussion. The process was initiated in 2019 and involved several opportunities for comments. The multiple meetings and discussions lead to a decision to adopt the privilege to practice model. States will be authorized to established fees, both an initial fee and a renewal fee. He stated that the current model has been defined and accepted - other options are not currently under discussion. Mr. Walker, in response to a question about the meetings and discussion since 2019, indicated that meetings were held between 2019 and 2022, with the meetings being well attended with strong and robust discussions. The feedback about the model chosen was positive from the Physician Assistant community. Most of the discussion, after the model question was resolved were about determining the composition of the PA Compact board, ensuring that scope of practice issues was clearly outlined, and ensuring that states would be allowed to collect fees.

Questions raised and discussed among the members were:

- Is it possible to petition for reconsideration?
- How can the IMLCC express interest in providing secretariate services to the PA Compact?

The chair concluded the discussion with a question to the members - What are the next steps?

A straw poll was conducted on the question of should the IMLCC offer assistance on compact governance/administration, including making an offer providing secretariate services. The members were unanimous in support of continued involvement and discussion and offering to provide secretariate services.

Concern was raised that the offer of assistance be made along with a request to remain open to reconsidering the expedited license model. The Chair reminded the members that the IMLCC can act more effectively by providing a single voice for member boards, has credibility as a successful, established compact and can assist in reducing the heavy lift that comes from starting an organization.

Next Steps:

1. The FSMB meeting of Board Executives scheduled to be held on January 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> will be an important discussion opportunity.
2. Work should commence on preparing a document requesting the opportunity to request reconsideration of the privilege to practice model, including developing a better understanding on why that model was selected.
3. The IMLCC should provide input and become involved in the discussions about the PA Compact as an organization.

Upon the conclusion of the discussion, a motion was made regarding authorizing the executive director to take action on behalf of the IMLCC.

**MOTION**

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MANAHAN (MN), SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODMAN (KY), TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ACCEPT INVITATIONS TO ATTEND MEETINGS REGARDING THE PA COMPACT IN ORDER TO REPRESENT AND SPEAK FOR THE IMLCC AT THOSE MEETINGS AND TO EXPRESS THE IMLCC'S DESIRE TO PROVIDE SECRETARIATE SERVICES AND THEN TO REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROGRESS, ACTIONS, AND A SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS HELD.

**MOTION PASSED**

UNANIMOUS

**Adjournment**  
*Executive Director Smith*

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM Eastern Time.