

Minutes of the
Occupational Licensing Reform (OLR) Workgroup
Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
TEAMS Conference Call

Members present: Representative Cindy Schreiber - Beck, Senator Kristin Roers, Senator Judy Lee, Janna Pastir, Phil Davis

Guests: Andrea Pfennig

Staff: Sherri Frieze

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Representative Cindy Schreiber-Beck called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., welcoming members, guests, and presenters to the OLR subcommittee via the Microsoft TEAMS video conferencing platform.

COMPACTS

Hannah Maxey, Veritas Health Solutions

Courtney Medlock, Veritas Health Solutions

Compacts are a hot topic to legislative and policy strategies to support interstate mobility of the workforce and recruit workers into the state.

Presentation topics discussed included:

1. ND Participation in various Healthcare compacts as of January 1, 2024

2. Compact Categories

Automatic Multi State License

- An individual holds a compact license, is automatically able to practice in all states that have enacted the licensure compact.

Manual Privilege to Practice

- An individual that holds a compact license, has the opportunity to engage in practice in another state under their compact license. Need to reach out to the state they want to practice in.

Expedited License (medical licensure only)

- Expedited licensure the state becomes part of a unified licensure application system.
- An individual that applies through the compact, can select every state that participates in the compact and will automatically expedite the application in those states selected, but each state still owns the decision and review ability for licensure.

3. What states are not talking about

- Lack of robust evaluation on the impact of compacts from the state perspective
- Overall number of professionals practicing in the state vs licensed.
- Most states cannot report which states the health professionals are practicing in.
 - Information is not being tracked.

4. Specific Consideration for Low Cost of Living States

- Professionals may desire to live in low cost of living areas.
- Wages in low cost of living states may be generally lower than in high cost of living areas.
- With the expansion of telehealth/remote work, an individual may reside in low cost of living state but provide access to other states.

DISCUSSION ON TOPIC

Some states collect supplemental workforce data when the licensee renews license each biennium.
The data is used to identify
What each licensee is engaged to provide services in that state
Where are they providing services and settings

In the case of licenses, an individual does not hold a ND license is not held, but practicing under a compact authority, ND would no longer have the ability to know that individual is working within the state count them in their workforce capacity and accountability varies, it may be within the state, or within the state they are engaged in practice.

Consistency with entry into licensure, reasonably streamlined process in place and because of compacts we have a barrier with MN, but the compact may be necessary when serving many states but residing in ND.

NEXT STEPS

Discussion points for the next meeting:

- Janna to contact the Executive Directors of the Board, Executive Directors of Associations, medical, pharmacy, dental and those that have input with compacts.
- Janna to find data on the list of compacts ND is not participating in, and which ones to pursue 1st to last.
- Interstate vs Multi State lists – bring forth
- Accelerated Veterinarian Fast Track Program
- Next meeting to be June 4th with two speakers.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.