



1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Nurse Licensure Compact;
3 amending s. 456.073, F.S.; requiring the Department of
4 Health to report certain investigative information to
5 the coordinated licensure information system; amending
6 s. 456.076, F.S.; requiring an impaired practitioner
7 consultant to disclose certain information to the
8 department; requiring a nurse holding a multistate
9 license to report participation in a treatment program
10 to the department; amending s. 464.003, F.S.; revising
11 definitions, to conform; amending s. 464.004, F.S.;
12 requiring the executive director of the Board of
13 Nursing or his or her designee to serve as state
14 administrator of the Nurse Licensure Compact; amending
15 s. 464.008, F.S.; providing eligibility criteria for a
16 multistate license; requiring that multistate licenses
17 be distinguished from single-state licenses; exempting
18 certain persons from licensed practical nurse and
19 registered nurse licensure requirements; amending s.
20 464.009, F.S.; exempting certain persons from
21 requirements for licensure by endorsement; creating s.
22 464.0095, F.S.; creating the Nurse Licensure Compact;
23 providing findings and purpose; providing definitions;
24 providing for the recognition of nursing licenses in
25 party states; requiring party states to perform
26 criminal history checks of licensure applicants;



27 providing requirements for obtaining and retaining a
28 multistate license; authorizing party states to take
29 adverse action against a nurse's multistate licensure
30 privilege; requiring notification to the home
31 licensing state of an adverse action against a
32 licensee; requiring nurses practicing in party states
33 to comply with state practice laws; providing
34 limitations for licensees not residing in a party
35 state; providing the effect of the act on a current
36 licensee; providing application requirements for a
37 multistate license; providing licensure requirements
38 when a licensee moves between party states or to a
39 nonparty state; providing certain authority to state
40 licensing boards of party states; requiring
41 deactivation of a nurse's multistate licensure
42 privilege under certain circumstances; authorizing
43 participation in an alternative program in lieu of
44 adverse action against a license; requiring all party
45 states to participate in a coordinated licensure
46 information; providing for the development of the
47 system, reporting procedures, and the exchange of
48 certain information between party states; establishing
49 the Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact
50 Administrators; providing for the jurisdiction and
51 venue for court proceedings; providing membership and
52 duties; authorizing the commission to adopt rules;



53 providing rulemaking procedures; providing for state
54 enforcement of the compact; providing for the
55 termination of compact membership; providing
56 procedures for the resolution of certain disputes;
57 providing an effective date of the compact; providing
58 a procedure for membership termination; providing
59 compact amendment procedures; authorizing nonparty
60 states to participate in commission activities before
61 adoption of the compact; providing construction and
62 severability; amending s. 464.012, F.S.; authorizing a
63 multistate licensee under the compact to be certified
64 as an advanced registered nurse practitioner if
65 certain eligibility criteria are met; amending s.
66 464.015, F.S.; authorizing registered nurses and
67 licensed practical nurses holding a multistate license
68 under the compact to use certain titles and
69 abbreviations; amending s. 464.018, F.S.; revising the
70 grounds for denial of a nursing license or
71 disciplinary action against a nursing licensee;
72 authorizing certain disciplinary action under the
73 compact for certain prohibited acts; amending s.
74 464.0195, F.S.; revising the information required to
75 be included in the database on nursing supply and
76 demand; requiring the Florida Center for Nursing to
77 analyze and make future projections of the supply and
78 demand for nurses; authorizing the center to request,



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79 and requiring the Board of Nursing to provide, certain
80 information about licensed nurses; amending s. 768.28,
81 F.S.; designating the state administrator of the Nurse
82 Licensure Compact and other members or employees of
83 the commission as state agents for the purpose of
84 applying sovereign immunity and waivers of sovereign
85 immunity; requiring the commission to pay certain
86 judgments or claims; providing an effective date.
87

88 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
89

90 Section 1. Subsection (10) of section 456.073, Florida
91 Statutes, is amended to read:

92 456.073 Disciplinary proceedings.—Disciplinary proceedings
93 for each board shall be within the jurisdiction of the
94 department.

95 (10) The complaint and all information obtained pursuant
96 to the investigation by the department are confidential and
97 exempt from s. 119.07(1) until 10 days after probable cause has
98 been found to exist by the probable cause panel or by the
99 department, or until the regulated professional or subject of
100 the investigation waives his or her privilege of
101 confidentiality, whichever occurs first. The department shall
102 report any significant investigation information relating to a
103 nurse holding a multistate license to the coordinated licensure
104 information system pursuant to s. 464.0095. Upon completion of



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105 | the investigation and a recommendation by the department to find
106 | probable cause, and pursuant to a written request by the subject
107 | or the subject's attorney, the department shall provide the
108 | subject an opportunity to inspect the investigative file or, at
109 | the subject's expense, forward to the subject a copy of the
110 | investigative file. Notwithstanding s. 456.057, the subject may
111 | inspect or receive a copy of any expert witness report or
112 | patient record connected with the investigation if the subject
113 | agrees in writing to maintain the confidentiality of any
114 | information received under this subsection until 10 days after
115 | probable cause is found and to maintain the confidentiality of
116 | patient records pursuant to s. 456.057. The subject may file a
117 | written response to the information contained in the
118 | investigative file. Such response must be filed within 20 days
119 | of mailing by the department, unless an extension of time has
120 | been granted by the department. This subsection does not
121 | prohibit the department from providing such information to any
122 | law enforcement agency or to any other regulatory agency.

123 | Section 2. Subsection (9) of section 456.076, Florida
124 | Statutes, is amended to read:

125 | 456.076 Treatment programs for impaired practitioners.—

126 | (9) An impaired practitioner consultant is the official
127 | custodian of records relating to the referral of an impaired
128 | licensee or applicant to that consultant and any other
129 | interaction between the licensee or applicant and the
130 | consultant. The consultant may disclose to the impaired licensee



131 or applicant or his or her designee any information that is
132 disclosed to or obtained by the consultant or that is
133 confidential under paragraph (6) (a), but only to the extent that
134 it is necessary to do so to carry out the consultant's duties
135 under this section. The department, and any other entity that
136 enters into a contract with the consultant to receive the
137 services of the consultant, has direct administrative control
138 over the consultant to the extent necessary to receive
139 disclosures from the consultant as allowed by federal law. The
140 consultant must disclose to the department, upon the
141 department's request, whether an applicant for a multistate
142 license under s. 464.0095 is participating in a treatment
143 program and must report to the department when a nurse holding a
144 multistate license under s. 464.0095 enters a treatment program.
145 A nurse holding a multistate license pursuant to s. 464.0095
146 must report to the department within 2 business days after
147 entering a treatment program pursuant to this section. If a
148 disciplinary proceeding is pending, an impaired licensee may
149 obtain such information from the department under s. 456.073.

150 Section 3. Subsections (16) and (22) of section 464.003,
151 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

152 464.003 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

153 (16) "Licensed practical nurse" means any person licensed
154 in this state or holding an active multistate license under s.
155 464.0095 to practice practical nursing.

156 (22) "Registered nurse" means any person licensed in this



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157 | state or holding an active multistate license under s. 464.0095
158 | to practice professional nursing.

159 | Section 4. Subsection (5) is added to section 464.004,
160 | Florida Statutes, to read:

161 | 464.004 Board of Nursing; membership; appointment; terms.—

162 | (5) The executive director of the board appointed pursuant
163 | to s. 456.004(2) or his or her designee shall serve as the state
164 | administrator of the Nurse Licensure Compact as required under
165 | s. 464.0095.

166 | Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 464.008, Florida
167 | Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that
168 | section, to read:

169 | 464.008 Licensure by examination.—

170 | (2)(a) Each applicant who passes the examination and
171 | provides proof of meeting the educational requirements specified
172 | in subsection (1) shall, unless denied pursuant to s. 464.018,
173 | be entitled to licensure as a registered professional nurse or a
174 | licensed practical nurse, whichever is applicable.

175 | (b) An applicant who resides in this state, meets the
176 | licensure requirements of this section, and meets the criteria
177 | for multistate licensure under s. 464.0095 may request the
178 | issuance of a multistate license from the department.

179 | (c) A nurse who holds a single-state license in this state
180 | and applies to the department for a multistate license must meet
181 | the eligibility criteria for a multistate license under s.
182 | 464.0095 and must pay an application and licensure fee to change



183 | the licensure status.

184 | (d) The department shall conspicuously distinguish a
 185 | multistate license from a single-state license.

186 | (5) A person holding an active multistate license in
 187 | another state pursuant to s. 464.0095 is exempt from the
 188 | licensure requirements of this section.

189 | Section 6. Subsection (7) is added to section 464.009,
 190 | Florida Statutes, to read:

191 | 464.009 Licensure by endorsement.—

192 | (7) A person holding an active multistate license in
 193 | another state pursuant to s. 464.0095 is exempt from the
 194 | requirements for licensure by endorsement in this section.

195 | Section 7. Section 464.0095, Florida Statutes, is created
 196 | to read:

197 | 464.0095 Nurse Licensure Compact.—The Nurse Licensure
 198 | Compact is hereby enacted into law and entered into by this
 199 | state with all other jurisdictions legally joining therein in
 200 | the form substantially as follows:

201 | ARTICLE I

202 | FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

203 | (1) The party states find that:

204 | (a) The health and safety of the public are affected by
 205 | the degree of compliance with and the effectiveness of
 206 | enforcement activities related to state nurse licensure laws.

207 | (b) Violations of nurse licensure and other laws
 208 | regulating the practice of nursing may result in injury or harm



209 to the public.

210 (c) The expanded mobility of nurses and the use of
211 advanced communication technologies as part of the nation's
212 health care delivery system require greater coordination and
213 cooperation among states in the areas of nurse licensure and
214 regulation.

215 (d) New practice modalities and technology make compliance
216 with individual state nurse licensure laws difficult and
217 complex.

218 (e) The current system of duplicative licensure for nurses
219 practicing in multiple states is cumbersome and redundant for
220 both nurses and states.

221 (f) Uniformity of nurse licensure requirements throughout
222 the states promotes public safety and public health benefits.

223 (2) The general purposes of this compact are to:

224 (a) Facilitate the states' responsibility to protect the
225 public's health and safety.

226 (b) Ensure and encourage the cooperation of party states
227 in the areas of nurse licensure and regulation.

228 (c) Facilitate the exchange of information among party
229 states in the areas of nurse regulation, investigation, and
230 adverse actions.

231 (d) Promote compliance with the laws governing the
232 practice of nursing in each jurisdiction.

233 (e) Invest all party states with the authority to hold a
234 nurse accountable for meeting all state practice laws in the



235 state in which the patient is located at the time care is
 236 rendered through the mutual recognition of party state licenses.

237 (f) Decrease redundancies in the consideration and
 238 issuance of nurse licenses.

239 (g) Provide opportunities for interstate practice by
 240 nurses who meet uniform licensure requirements.

241 ARTICLE II

242 DEFINITIONS

243 As used in this compact, the term:

244 (1) "Adverse action" means any administrative, civil,
 245 equitable, or criminal action permitted by a state's laws which
 246 is imposed by a licensing board or other authority against a
 247 nurse, including actions against an individual's license or
 248 multistate licensure privilege, such as revocation, suspension,
 249 probation, monitoring of the licensee, limitation on the
 250 licensee's practice, or any other encumbrance on licensure
 251 affecting a nurse's authorization to practice, including
 252 issuance of a cease and desist action.

253 (2) "Alternative program" means a nondisciplinary
 254 monitoring program approved by a licensing board.

255 (3) "Commission" means the Interstate Commission of Nurse
 256 Licensure Compact Administrators established by this compact.

257 (4) "Compact" means the Nurse Licensure Compact
 258 recognized, established, and entered into by the state under
 259 this compact.

260 (5) "Coordinated licensure information system" means an



261 integrated process for collecting, storing, and sharing
262 information on nurse licensure and enforcement activities
263 related to nurse licensure laws which is administered by a
264 nonprofit organization composed of and controlled by licensing
265 boards.

266 (6) "Current significant investigative information" means:

267 (a) Investigative information that a licensing board,
268 after a preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an
269 opportunity for the nurse to respond, if required by state law,
270 has reason to believe is not groundless and, if proved true,
271 would indicate more than a minor infraction; or

272 (b) Investigative information that indicates that the
273 nurse represents an immediate threat to public health and safety
274 regardless of whether the nurse has been notified and had an
275 opportunity to respond.

276 (7) "Encumbrance" means a revocation or suspension of, or
277 any limitation on, the full and unrestricted practice of nursing
278 imposed by a licensing board.

279 (8) "Home state" means the party state that is the nurse's
280 primary state of residence.

281 (9) "Licensing board" means a party state's regulatory
282 body responsible for issuing nurse licenses.

283 (10) "Multistate license" means a license to practice as a
284 registered nurse (RN) or a licensed practical/vocational nurse
285 (LPN/VN) issued by a home state licensing board which authorizes
286 the licensed nurse to practice in all party states under a



287 multistate licensure privilege.

288 (11) "Multistate licensure privilege" means a legal
289 authorization associated with a multistate license permitting
290 the practice of nursing as either an RN or an LPN/VN in a remote
291 state.

292 (12) "Nurse" means an RN or LPN/VN, as those terms are
293 defined by each party state's practice laws.

294 (13) "Party state" means any state that has adopted this
295 compact.

296 (14) "Remote state" means a party state other than the
297 home state.

298 (15) "Single-state license" means a nurse license issued
299 by a party state which authorizes practice only within the
300 issuing state and does not include a multistate licensure
301 privilege to practice in any other party state.

302 (16) "State" means a state, territory, or possession of
303 the United States, or the District of Columbia.

304 (17) "State practice laws" means a party state's laws,
305 rules, and regulations that govern the practice of nursing,
306 define the scope of nursing practice, and create the methods and
307 grounds for imposing discipline. The term "state practice laws"
308 does not include requirements necessary to obtain and retain a
309 license, except for qualifications or requirements of the home
310 state.

311 ARTICLE III

312 GENERAL PROVISIONS AND JURISDICTION



313 (1) A multistate license to practice registered or
314 licensed practical/vocational nursing issued by a home state to
315 a resident in that state shall be recognized by each party state
316 as authorizing a nurse to practice as an RN or as an LPN/VN
317 under a multistate licensure privilege in each party state.

318 (2) Each party state must implement procedures for
319 considering the criminal history records of applicants for
320 initial multistate licensure or licensure by endorsement. Such
321 procedures shall include the submission of fingerprints or other
322 biometric-based information by applicants for the purpose of
323 obtaining an applicant's criminal history record information
324 from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the agency
325 responsible for retaining that state's criminal records.

326 (3) In order for an applicant to obtain or retain a
327 multistate license in the home state, each party state shall
328 require that the applicant fulfills the following criteria:

329 (a) Meets the home state's qualifications for licensure or
330 renewal of licensure, as well as all other applicable state
331 laws.

332 (b)1. Has graduated or is eligible to graduate from a
333 licensing board-approved RN or LPN/VN prelicensure education
334 program; or

335 2. Has graduated from a foreign RN or LPN/VN prelicensure
336 education program that has been approved by the authorized
337 accrediting body in the applicable country and has been verified
338 by a licensing board-approved independent credentials review



339 agency to be comparable to a licensing board-approved
340 prelicensure education program.

341 (c) If the applicant is a graduate of a foreign
342 prelicensure education program not taught in English, or if
343 English is not the applicant's native language, has successfully
344 passed a licensing board-approved English proficiency
345 examination that includes the components of reading, speaking,
346 writing, and listening.

347 (d) Has successfully passed an NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN
348 Examination or recognized predecessor, as applicable.

349 (e) Is eligible for or holds an active, unencumbered
350 license.

351 (f) Has submitted, in connection with an application for
352 initial licensure or licensure by endorsement, fingerprints or
353 other biometric data for the purpose of obtaining criminal
354 history record information from the Federal Bureau of
355 Investigation and the agency responsible for retaining that
356 state's criminal records.

357 (g) Has not been convicted or found guilty, or has entered
358 into an agreed disposition other than a disposition that results
359 in nolle prosequi, of a felony offense under applicable state or
360 federal criminal law.

361 (h) Has not been convicted or found guilty, or has entered
362 into an agreed disposition other than a disposition that results
363 in nolle prosequi, of a misdemeanor offense related to the
364 practice of nursing as determined on a case-by-case basis.



365 (i) Is not currently enrolled in an alternative program.

366 (j) Is subject to self-disclosure requirements regarding
367 current participation in an alternative program.

368 (k) Has a valid United States social security number.

369 (4) All party states may, in accordance with existing
370 state due process law, take adverse action against a nurse's
371 multistate licensure privilege, such as revocation, suspension,
372 probation, or any other action that affects the nurse's
373 authorization to practice under a multistate licensure
374 privilege, including cease and desist actions. If a party state
375 takes such action, it shall promptly notify the administrator of
376 the coordinated licensure information system. The administrator
377 of the coordinated licensure information system shall promptly
378 notify the home state of any such actions by remote states.

379 (5) A nurse practicing in a party state must comply with
380 the state practice laws of the state in which the patient is
381 located at the time service is provided. The practice of nursing
382 is not limited to patient care but shall include all nursing
383 practice as defined by the state practice laws of the party
384 state in which the patient is located. The practice of nursing
385 in a party state under a multistate licensure privilege subjects
386 a nurse to the jurisdiction of the licensing board, the courts,
387 and the laws of the party state in which the patient is located
388 at the time service is provided.

389 (6) A person not residing in a party state shall continue
390 to be able to apply for a party state's single-state license as



391 provided under the laws of each party state. The single-state
392 license granted to such a person does not grant the privilege to
393 practice nursing in any other party state. This compact does not
394 affect the requirements established by a party state for the
395 issuance of a single-state license.

396 (7) A nurse holding a home state multistate license, on
397 the effective date of this compact, may retain and renew the
398 multistate license issued by the nurse's then-current home
399 state, provided that:

400 (a) A nurse who changes his or her primary state of
401 residence after the effective date must meet all applicable
402 requirements under subsection (3) to obtain a multistate license
403 from a new home state.

404 (b) A nurse who fails to satisfy the multistate licensure
405 requirements under subsection (3) due to a disqualifying event
406 occurring after the effective date is ineligible to retain or
407 renew a multistate license, and the nurse's multistate license
408 shall be revoked or deactivated in accordance with applicable
409 rules adopted by the commission.

410 ARTICLE IV

411 APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE IN A PARTY STATE

412 (1) Upon application for a multistate license, the
413 licensing board in the issuing party state shall ascertain,
414 through the coordinated licensure information system, whether
415 the applicant has ever held, or is the holder of, a license
416 issued by any other state, whether there are any encumbrances on



417 any license or multistate licensure privilege held by the
418 applicant, whether any adverse action has been taken against any
419 license or multistate licensure privilege held by the applicant,
420 and whether the applicant is currently participating in an
421 alternative program.

422 (2) A nurse may hold a multistate license, issued by the
423 home state, in only one party state at a time.

424 (3) If a nurse changes his or her primary state of
425 residence by moving from one party state to another party state,
426 the nurse must apply for licensure in the new home state, and
427 the multistate license issued by the prior home state shall be
428 deactivated in accordance with applicable rules adopted by the
429 commission.

430 (a) The nurse may apply for licensure in advance of a
431 change in his or her primary state of residence.

432 (b) A multistate license may not be issued by the new home
433 state until the nurse provides satisfactory evidence of a change
434 in his or her primary state of residence to the new home state
435 and satisfies all applicable requirements to obtain a multistate
436 license from the new home state.

437 (4) If a nurse changes his or her primary state of
438 residence by moving from a party state to a nonparty state, the
439 multistate license issued by the prior home state shall convert
440 to a single-state license valid only in the former home state.

441 ARTICLE V

442 ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY VESTED IN PARTY STATE LICENSING BOARDS



443 (1) In addition to the other powers conferred by state
444 law, a licensing board or state agency may:

445 (a) Take adverse action against a nurse's multistate
446 licensure privilege to practice within that party state.

447 1. Only the home state has the power to take adverse
448 action against a nurse's license issued by the home state.

449 2. For purposes of taking adverse action, the home state
450 licensing board or state agency shall give the same priority and
451 effect to conduct reported by a remote state as it would if such
452 conduct had occurred within the home state. In so doing, the
453 home state shall apply its own state laws to determine
454 appropriate action.

455 (b) Issue cease and desist orders or impose an encumbrance
456 on a nurse's authority to practice within that party state.

457 (c) Complete any pending investigation of a nurse who
458 changes his or her primary state of residence during the course
459 of such investigation. The licensing board or state agency may
460 also take appropriate action and shall promptly report the
461 conclusions of such investigation to the administrator of the
462 coordinated licensure information system. The administrator of
463 the coordinated licensure information system shall promptly
464 notify the new home state of any such action.

465 (d) Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations
466 that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the
467 production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a licensing board or
468 state agency in a party state for the attendance and testimony



469 of witnesses or the production of evidence from another party
470 state shall be enforced in the latter state by any court of
471 competent jurisdiction according to the practice and procedure
472 of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings
473 pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any witness
474 fees, travel expenses, and mileage and other fees required by
475 the service statutes of the state in which the witnesses or
476 evidence is located.

477 (e) Obtain and submit, for each nurse licensure applicant,
478 fingerprint or other biometric-based information to the Federal
479 Bureau of Investigation for criminal background checks, receive
480 the results of the Federal Bureau of Investigation record search
481 on criminal background checks, and use the results in making
482 licensure decisions.

483 (f) If otherwise permitted by state law, recover from the
484 affected nurse the costs of investigations and disposition of
485 cases resulting from any adverse action taken against that
486 nurse.

487 (g) Take adverse action based on the factual findings of
488 the remote state, provided that the licensing board or state
489 agency follows its own procedures for taking such adverse
490 action.

491 (2) If adverse action is taken by the home state against a
492 nurse's multistate license, the nurse's multistate licensure
493 privilege to practice in all other party states shall be
494 deactivated until all encumbrances are removed from the



495 multistate license. All home state disciplinary orders that
496 impose adverse action against a nurse's multistate license shall
497 include a statement that the nurse's multistate licensure
498 privilege is deactivated in all party states during the pendency
499 of the order.

500 (3) This compact does not override a party state's
501 decision that participation in an alternative program may be
502 used in lieu of adverse action. The home state licensing board
503 shall deactivate the multistate licensure privilege under the
504 multistate license of any nurse for the duration of the nurse's
505 participation in an alternative program.

506 ARTICLE VI

507 COORDINATED LICENSURE INFORMATION SYSTEM AND EXCHANGE
508 INFORMATION

509 (1) All party states shall participate in a coordinated
510 licensure information system relating to all licensed RNs and
511 LPNs/VNs. This system shall include information on the licensure
512 and disciplinary history of each nurse, as submitted by party
513 states, to assist in the coordination of nurse licensure and
514 enforcement efforts.

515 (2) The commission, in consultation with the administrator
516 of the coordinated licensure information system, shall formulate
517 necessary and proper procedures for the identification,
518 collection, and exchange of information under this compact.

519 (3) All licensing boards shall promptly report to the
520 coordinated licensure information system any adverse action, any



521 current significant investigative information, denials of
522 applications, the reasons for application denials, and nurse
523 participation in alternative programs known to the licensing
524 board regardless of whether such participation is deemed
525 nonpublic or confidential under state law.

526 (4) Current significant investigative information and
527 participation in nonpublic or confidential alternative programs
528 shall be transmitted through the coordinated licensure
529 information system only to party state licensing boards.

530 (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all party
531 state licensing boards contributing information to the
532 coordinated licensure information system may designate
533 information that may not be shared with nonparty states or
534 disclosed to other entities or individuals without the express
535 permission of the contributing state.

536 (6) Any personal identifying information obtained from the
537 coordinated licensure information system by a party state
538 licensing board may not be shared with nonparty states or
539 disclosed to other entities or individuals except to the extent
540 permitted by the laws of the party state contributing the
541 information.

542 (7) Any information contributed to the coordinated
543 licensure information system which is subsequently required to
544 be expunged by the laws of the party state contributing that
545 information shall also be expunged from the coordinated
546 licensure information system.



547 (8) The compact administrator of each party state shall
548 furnish a uniform data set to the compact administrator of each
549 other party state, which shall include, at a minimum:

550 (a) Identifying information.

551 (b) Licensure data.

552 (c) Information related to alternative program
553 participation.

554 (d) Other information that may facilitate the
555 administration of this compact, as determined by commission
556 rules.

557 (9) The compact administrator of a party state shall
558 provide all investigative documents and information requested by
559 another party state.

560 ARTICLE VII

561 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION OF NURSE LICENSURE

562 COMPACT ADMINISTRATORS

563 (1) The party states hereby create and establish a joint
564 public entity known as the Interstate Commission of Nurse
565 Licensure Compact Administrators.

566 (a) The commission is an instrumentality of the party
567 states.

568 (b) Venue is proper, and judicial proceedings by or
569 against the commission shall be brought solely and exclusively,
570 in a court of competent jurisdiction where the commission's
571 principal office is located. The commission may waive venue and
572 jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to



573 participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

574 (c) This compact does not waive sovereign immunity except
575 to the extent sovereign immunity is waived in the party states.

576 (2) (a) Each party state shall have and be limited to one
577 administrator. The executive director of the state licensing
578 board or his or her designee shall be the administrator of this
579 compact for each party state. Any administrator may be removed
580 or suspended from office as provided by the law of the state
581 from which the administrator is appointed. Any vacancy occurring
582 on the commission shall be filled in accordance with the laws of
583 the party state in which the vacancy exists.

584 (b) Each administrator is entitled to one vote with regard
585 to the adoption of rules and the creation of bylaws and shall
586 otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the business and
587 affairs of the commission. An administrator shall vote in person
588 or by such other means as provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may
589 provide for an administrator's participation in meetings by
590 telephone or other means of communication.

591 (c) The commission shall meet at least once during each
592 calendar year. Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in
593 the commission's bylaws or rules.

594 (d) All meetings shall be open to the public, and public
595 notice of meetings shall be given in the same manner as required
596 under Article VIII of this compact.

597 (e) The commission may convene in a closed, nonpublic
598 meeting if the commission must discuss:



- 599 | 1. Failure of a party state to comply with its obligations
600 | under this compact;
- 601 | 2. The employment, compensation, discipline, or other
602 | personnel matters, practices, or procedures related to specific
603 | employees or other matters related to the commission's internal
604 | personnel practices and procedures;
- 605 | 3. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated
606 | litigation;
- 607 | 4. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase or sale of
608 | goods, services, or real estate;
- 609 | 5. Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring
610 | any person;
- 611 | 6. Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial
612 | information that is privileged or confidential;
- 613 | 7. Disclosure of information of a personal nature where
614 | disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of
615 | personal privacy;
- 616 | 8. Disclosure of investigatory records compiled for law
617 | enforcement purposes;
- 618 | 9. Disclosure of information related to any reports
619 | prepared by or on behalf of the commission for the purpose of
620 | investigation of compliance with this compact; or
- 621 | 10. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by
622 | federal or state statute.
- 623 | (f) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed
624 | pursuant to this subsection, the commission's legal counsel or



625 designee shall certify that the meeting, or portion of the
626 meeting, is closed and shall reference each relevant exempting
627 provision. The commission shall keep minutes that fully and
628 clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall
629 provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, and the
630 reasons therefor, including a description of the views
631 expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action
632 shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents
633 of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release
634 by a majority vote of the commission or order of a court of
635 competent jurisdiction.

636 (3) The commission shall, by a majority vote of the
637 administrators, prescribe bylaws or rules to govern its conduct
638 as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes and
639 exercise the powers of this compact, including, but not limited
640 to:

641 (a) Establishing the commission's fiscal year.

642 (b) Providing reasonable standards and procedures:

643 1. For the establishment and meetings of other committees.

644 2. Governing any general or specific delegation of any
645 authority or function of the commission.

646 (c) Providing reasonable procedures for calling and
647 conducting meetings of the commission, ensuring reasonable
648 advance notice of all meetings, and providing an opportunity for
649 attendance of such meetings by interested parties, with
650 enumerated exceptions designed to protect the public's interest,



651 the privacy of individuals, and proprietary information,
652 including trade secrets. The commission may meet in closed
653 session only after a majority of the administrators vote to
654 close a meeting in whole or in part. As soon as practicable, the
655 commission must make public a copy of the vote to close the
656 meeting revealing the vote of each administrator, with no proxy
657 votes allowed.

658 (d) Establishing the titles, duties and authority, and
659 reasonable procedures for the election of the commission's
660 officers.

661 (e) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the
662 establishment of the commission's personnel policies and
663 programs. Notwithstanding any civil service or other similar
664 laws of any party state, the bylaws shall exclusively govern the
665 commission's personnel policies and programs.

666 (f) Providing a mechanism for winding up the commission's
667 operations and the equitable disposition of any surplus funds
668 that may exist after the termination of this compact after the
669 payment or reserving of all of its debts and obligations.

670 (4) The commission shall publish its bylaws and rules, and
671 any amendments thereto, in a convenient form on the commission's
672 website.

673 (5) The commission shall maintain its financial records in
674 accordance with the bylaws.

675 (6) The commission shall meet and take such actions as are
676 consistent with this compact and the bylaws.



677 (7) The commission has the power to:

678 (a) Adopt uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate
679 implementation and administration of this compact. The rules
680 shall have the force and effect of law and are binding in all
681 party states.

682 (b) Bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in
683 the name of the commission, provided that the standing of any
684 licensing board to sue or be sued under applicable law are not
685 affected.

686 (c) Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.

687 (d) Borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel,
688 including employees of a party state or nonprofit organizations.

689 (e) Cooperate with other organizations that administer
690 state compacts related to the regulation of nursing, including
691 sharing administrative or staff expenses, office space, or other
692 resources.

693 (f) Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix
694 compensation, define duties, grant such individuals appropriate
695 authority to carry out the purposes of this compact, and
696 establish the commission's personnel policies and programs
697 relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel,
698 and other related personnel matters.

699 (g) Accept any and all appropriate donations, grants, and
700 gifts of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services and
701 receive, use, and dispose of the same, provided that, at all
702 times, the commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety



703 or conflict of interest.

704 (h) Lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations
705 of, or otherwise own, hold, improve, or use any property,
706 whether real, personal, or mixed, provided that, at all times,
707 the commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety.

708 (i) Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange,
709 abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property, whether real,
710 personal, or mixed.

711 (j) Establish a budget and make expenditures.

712 (k) Borrow money.

713 (l) Appoint committees, including advisory committees
714 comprised of administrators, state nursing regulators, state
715 legislators or their representatives, consumer representatives,
716 and other interested persons.

717 (m) Provide information to, receive information from, and
718 cooperate with law enforcement agencies.

719 (n) Adopt and use an official seal.

720 (o) Perform such other functions as may be necessary or
721 appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact consistent
722 with the state regulation of nurse licensure and practice.

723 (8) Relating to the financing of the commission, the
724 commission:

725 (a) Shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the
726 reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and
727 ongoing activities.

728 (b) May also levy and collect an annual assessment from



729 each party state to cover the cost of its operations,
730 activities, and staff in its annual budget as approved each
731 year. The aggregate annual assessment amount, if any, shall be
732 allocated based on a formula to be determined by the commission,
733 which shall adopt a rule that is binding on all party states.

734 (c) May not incur obligations of any kind before securing
735 the funds adequate to meet the same; and the commission may not
736 pledge the credit of any of the party states, except by and with
737 the authority of such party state.

738 (d) Shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and
739 disbursements. The commission's receipts and disbursements are
740 subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under
741 its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds
742 handled by the commission shall be audited yearly by a certified
743 or licensed public accountant, and the report of the audit shall
744 be included in, and become part of, the commission's annual
745 report.

746 (9) Relating to the sovereign immunity, defense, and
747 indemnification of the commission:

748 (a) The administrators, officers, executive director,
749 employees, and representatives of the commission are immune from
750 suit and liability, either personally or in their official
751 capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or
752 personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising
753 out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that
754 occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had



755 a reasonable basis for believing occurred, within the scope of
756 commission employment, duties, or responsibilities. This
757 paragraph does not protect any such person from suit or
758 liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by
759 the intentional, willful, or wanton misconduct of that person.

760 (b) The commission shall defend any administrator,
761 officer, executive director, employee, or representative of the
762 commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability
763 arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission
764 that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties,
765 or responsibilities or that the person against whom the claim is
766 made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the
767 scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities,
768 provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did
769 not result from that person's intentional, willful, or wanton
770 misconduct. This paragraph does not prohibit that person from
771 retaining his or her own counsel.

772 (c) The commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any
773 administrator, officer, executive director, employee, or
774 representative of the commission for the amount of any
775 settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out
776 of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred
777 within the scope of commission employment, duties, or
778 responsibilities or that such person had a reasonable basis for
779 believing occurred within the scope of commission employment,
780 duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged



781 act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional,
782 willful, or wanton misconduct of that person.

783 ARTICLE VIII

784 RULEMAKING

785 (1) The commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers
786 pursuant to the criteria set forth in this article and the rules
787 adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments become binding as of
788 the date specified in each rule or amendment and have the same
789 force and effect as provisions of this compact.

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

792 (3) Before adoption of a final rule or final rules by the
793 commission, and at least 60 days before the meeting at which the
794 rule will be considered and voted upon, the commission shall
795 file a notice of proposed rulemaking:

796 (a) On the commission's website.

797 (b) On the website of each licensing board or the
798 publication in which each state would otherwise publish proposed
799 rules.

800 (4) The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:

801 (a) The proposed time, date, and location of the meeting
802 in which the rule will be considered and voted upon.

803 (b) The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the
804 reason for the proposed rule.

805 (c) A request for comments on the proposed rule from any
806 interested person.



807 (d) The manner in which an interested person may submit
808 notice to the commission of his or her intention to attend the
809 public hearing and any written comments.

810 (5) Before adoption of a proposed rule, the commission
811 shall allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions, and
812 arguments, which shall be made available to the public.

813 (6) The commission shall grant an opportunity for a public
814 hearing before it adopts a rule or amendment.

815 (7) The commission shall publish the place, time, and date
816 of the scheduled public hearing.

817 (a) Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each
818 person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity
819 to comment orally or in writing. All hearings will be recorded,
820 and a copy will be made available upon request.

821 (b) This article does not require a separate hearing on
822 each rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the
823 commission at hearings required by this article.

824 (8) If no interested person appears at the public hearing,
825 the commission may proceed with adoption of the proposed rule.

826 (9) Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close
827 of business on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing is not
828 held, the commission shall consider all written and oral
829 comments received.

830 (10) The commission shall, by majority vote of all
831 administrators, take final action on the proposed rule and shall
832 determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the



833 rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

834 (11) Upon determination that an emergency exists, the
835 commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule without
836 prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that
837 the usual rulemaking procedures provided in this compact and in
838 this article shall be applied retroactively to the rule as soon
839 as reasonably possible within 90 days after the effective date
840 of the rule. For the purposes of this subsection, an emergency
841 rule is one that must be adopted immediately in order to:

842 (a) Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or
843 welfare;

844 (b) Prevent a loss of commission or party state funds; or

845 (c) Meet a deadline for the adoption of an administrative
846 rule that is required by federal law or rule.

847 (12) The commission may direct revisions to a previously
848 adopted rule or amendment for purposes of correcting
849 typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency,
850 or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be
851 posted on the commission's website. The revision is subject to
852 challenge by any person for 30 days after posting. The revision
853 may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a
854 material change to a rule. A challenge must be made in writing
855 and delivered to the commission before the end of the notice
856 period. If no challenge is made, the revision shall take effect
857 without further action. If the revision is challenged, the
858 revision may not take effect without the commission's approval.



ARTICLE IX

OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND ENFORCEMENT

(1) Oversight of this compact shall be accomplished by:

(a) Each party state, which shall enforce this compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate this compact's purposes and intent.

(b) The commission, which is entitled to receive service of process in any proceeding that may affect the powers, responsibilities, or actions of the commission and has standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process in such proceeding to the commission renders a judgment or order void as to the commission, this compact, or adopted rules.

(2) When the commission determines that a party state has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact or the adopted rules, the commission shall:

(a) Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other party states of the nature of the default, the proposed means of curing the default, or any other action to be taken by the commission.

(b) Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.

(3) If a state in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting state's membership in this compact may be terminated upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the administrators,



885 and all rights, privileges, and benefits conferred by this
886 compact may be terminated on the effective date of termination.
887 A cure of the default does not relieve the offending state of
888 obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of
889 default.

890 (4) Termination of membership in this compact shall be
891 imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have
892 been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall
893 be given by the commission to the governor of the defaulting
894 state, to the executive officer of the defaulting state's
895 licensing board, and each of the party states.

896 (5) A state whose membership in this compact is terminated
897 is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities
898 incurred through the effective date of termination, including
899 obligations that extend beyond the effective date of
900 termination.

901 (6) The commission shall not bear any costs related to a
902 state that is found to be in default or whose membership in this
903 compact is terminated unless agreed upon in writing between the
904 commission and the defaulting state.

905 (7) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the
906 commission by petitioning the United States District Court for
907 the District of Columbia or the federal district in which the
908 commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party shall
909 be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable
910 attorney fees.



911 (8) Dispute resolution may be used by the commission in
912 the following manner:

913 (a) Upon request by a party state, the commission shall
914 attempt to resolve disputes related to the compact that arise
915 among party states and between party and nonparty states.

916 (b) The commission shall adopt a rule providing for both
917 mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes, as
918 appropriate.

919 (c) In the event the commission cannot resolve disputes
920 among party states arising under this compact:

921 1. The party states may submit the issues in dispute to an
922 arbitration panel, which will be comprised of individuals
923 appointed by the compact administrator in each of the affected
924 party states and an individual mutually agreed upon by the
925 compact administrators of all the party states involved in the
926 dispute.

927 2. The decision of a majority of the arbitrators is final
928 and binding.

929 (9) (a) The commission shall, in the reasonable exercise of
930 its discretion, enforce the provisions and rules of this
931 compact.

932 (b) By majority vote, the commission may initiate legal
933 action in the United States District Court for the District of
934 Columbia or the federal district in which the commission has its
935 principal offices against a party state that is in default to
936 enforce compliance with this compact and its adopted rules and



937 bylaws. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and
938 damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the
939 prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation,
940 including reasonable attorney fees.

941 (c) The remedies provided in this subsection are not the
942 exclusive remedies of the commission. The commission may pursue
943 any other remedies available under federal or state law.

944 ARTICLE X

945 EFFECTIVE DATE, WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENT

946 (1) This compact becomes effective and binding on the date
947 of legislative enactment of this compact into law by no fewer
948 than 26 states or on December 31, 2018, whichever occurs first.
949 All party states to this compact which were also parties to the
950 prior Nurse Licensure Compact ("prior compact"), superseded by
951 this compact, are deemed to have withdrawn from the prior
952 compact within 6 months after the effective date of this
953 compact.

954 (2) Each party state to this compact shall continue to
955 recognize a nurse's multistate licensure privilege to practice
956 in that party state issued under the prior compact until such
957 party state is withdrawn from the prior compact.

958 (3) Any party state may withdraw from this compact by
959 enacting a statute repealing the compact. A party state's
960 withdrawal does not take effect until 6 months after enactment
961 of the repealing statute.

962 (4) A party state's withdrawal or termination does not



963 affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing or
964 terminated state's licensing board to report adverse actions and
965 significant investigations occurring before the effective date
966 of such withdrawal or termination.

967 (5) This compact does not invalidate or prevent any nurse
968 licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a
969 party state and a nonparty state that is made in accordance with
970 the other provisions of this compact.

971 (6) This compact may be amended by the party states. An
972 amendment to this compact does not become effective and binding
973 upon the party states unless and until it is enacted into the
974 laws of all party states.

975 (7) Representatives of nonparty states to this compact
976 shall be invited to participate in the activities of the
977 commission, on a nonvoting basis, before the adoption of this
978 compact by all party states.

979 ARTICLE XI

980 CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

981 This compact shall be liberally construed so as to
982 effectuate the purposes thereof. The provisions of this compact
983 are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision
984 of this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution
985 of any party state or of the United States, or if the
986 applicability thereof to any government, agency, person, or
987 circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of
988 this compact and the applicability thereof to any government,



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989 agency, person, or circumstance is not affected thereby. If this
990 compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any
991 party state, the compact shall remain in full force and effect
992 as to the remaining party states and in full force and effect as
993 to the party state affected as to all severable matters.

994 Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 464.012, Florida
995 Statutes, is amended to read:

996 464.012 Certification of advanced registered nurse
997 practitioners; fees.—

998 (1) Any nurse desiring to be certified as an advanced
999 registered nurse practitioner shall apply to the department and
1000 submit proof that he or she holds a current license to practice
1001 professional nursing or holds an active multistate license to
1002 practice professional nursing pursuant to s. 464.0095 and that
1003 he or she meets one or more of the following requirements as
1004 determined by the board:

1005 (a) Satisfactory completion of a formal postbasic
1006 educational program of at least one academic year, the primary
1007 purpose of which is to prepare nurses for advanced or
1008 specialized practice.

1009 (b) Certification by an appropriate specialty board. Such
1010 certification shall be required for initial state certification
1011 and any recertification as a registered nurse anesthetist or
1012 nurse midwife. The board may by rule provide for provisional
1013 state certification of graduate nurse anesthetists and nurse
1014 midwives for a period of time determined to be appropriate for



1015 preparing for and passing the national certification
 1016 examination.

1017 (c) Graduation from a program leading to a master's degree
 1018 in a nursing clinical specialty area with preparation in
 1019 specialized practitioner skills. For applicants graduating on or
 1020 after October 1, 1998, graduation from a master's degree program
 1021 shall be required for initial certification as a nurse
 1022 practitioner under paragraph (4) (c). For applicants graduating
 1023 on or after October 1, 2001, graduation from a master's degree
 1024 program shall be required for initial certification as a
 1025 registered nurse anesthetist under paragraph (4) (a).

1026 Section 9. Subsections (1), (2), and (9) of section
 1027 464.015, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1028 464.015 Titles and abbreviations; restrictions; penalty.—

1029 (1) Only a person ~~persons~~ who holds a license in this
 1030 state or a multistate license pursuant to s. 464.0095 ~~held~~
 1031 ~~licenses~~ to practice professional nursing ~~in this state~~ or who
 1032 performs ~~are performing~~ nursing services pursuant to the
 1033 exception set forth in s. 464.022(8) may ~~shall have the right to~~
 1034 use the title "Registered Nurse" and the abbreviation "R.N."

1035 (2) Only a person ~~persons~~ who holds a license in this
 1036 state or a multistate license pursuant to s. 464.0095 ~~held~~
 1037 ~~licenses~~ to practice as a licensed practical nurse ~~nurses in~~
 1038 ~~this state~~ or who performs ~~are performing~~ practical nursing
 1039 services pursuant to the exception set forth in s. 464.022(8)
 1040 may ~~shall have the right to~~ use the title "Licensed Practical



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1041 Nurse" and the abbreviation "L.P.N."

1042 (9) A person may not practice or advertise as, or assume
1043 the title of, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse,
1044 clinical nurse specialist, certified registered nurse
1045 anesthetist, certified nurse midwife, or advanced registered
1046 nurse practitioner or use the abbreviation "R.N.," "L.P.N.,"
1047 "C.N.S.," "C.R.N.A.," "C.N.M.," or "A.R.N.P." or take any other
1048 action that would lead the public to believe that person was
1049 authorized by law to practice ~~certified~~ as such or is performing
1050 nursing services pursuant to the exception set forth in s.
1051 464.022(8) ~~r~~ unless that person is licensed, ~~or~~ certified, or
1052 authorized pursuant to s. 464.0095 to practice as such.

1053 Section 10. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 464.018,
1054 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1055 464.018 Disciplinary actions.—

1056 (1) The following acts constitute grounds for denial of a
1057 license or disciplinary action, as specified in ss. s.
1058 456.072(2) and 464.0095:

1059 (a) Procuring, attempting to procure, or renewing a
1060 license to practice nursing or the authority to practice
1061 practical or professional nursing pursuant to s. 464.0095 by
1062 bribery, by knowing misrepresentations, or through an error of
1063 the department or the board.

1064 (b) Having a license to practice nursing revoked,
1065 suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of
1066 licensure, by the licensing authority of another state,



1067 territory, or country.

1068 (c) Being convicted or found guilty of, or entering a plea
 1069 of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a
 1070 crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the practice
 1071 of nursing or to the ability to practice nursing.

1072 (d) Being convicted or found guilty of, or entering a plea
 1073 of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, ~~of~~
 1074 any of the following offenses:

- 1075 1. A forcible felony as defined in chapter 776.
- 1076 2. A violation of chapter 812, relating to theft, robbery,
 1077 and related crimes.
- 1078 3. A violation of chapter 817, relating to fraudulent
 1079 practices.
- 1080 4. A violation of chapter 800, relating to lewdness and
 1081 indecent exposure.
- 1082 5. A violation of chapter 784, relating to assault,
 1083 battery, and culpable negligence.
- 1084 6. A violation of chapter 827, relating to child abuse.
- 1085 7. A violation of chapter 415, relating to protection from
 1086 abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- 1087 8. A violation of chapter 39, relating to child abuse,
 1088 abandonment, and neglect.
- 1089 9. For an applicant for a multistate license or for a
 1090 multistate licenseholder under s. 464.0095, a felony offense
 1091 under Florida law or federal criminal law.

1092 (e) Having been found guilty of, regardless of



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1093 adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere or guilty to,
1094 any offense prohibited under s. 435.04 or similar statute of
1095 another jurisdiction; or having committed an act which
1096 constitutes domestic violence as defined in s. 741.28.

1097 (f) Making or filing a false report or record, which the
1098 nurse ~~licensee~~ knows to be false, intentionally or negligently
1099 failing to file a report or record required by state or federal
1100 law, willfully impeding or obstructing such filing or inducing
1101 another person to do so. Such reports or records shall include
1102 only those which are signed in the nurse's capacity as a
1103 licensed nurse.

1104 (g) False, misleading, or deceptive advertising.

1105 (h) Unprofessional conduct, as defined by board rule.

1106 (i) Engaging or attempting to engage in the possession,
1107 sale, or distribution of controlled substances as set forth in
1108 chapter 893, for any other than legitimate purposes authorized
1109 by this part.

1110 (j) Being unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill
1111 and safety to patients by reason of illness or use of alcohol,
1112 drugs, narcotics, or chemicals or any other type of material or
1113 as a result of any mental or physical condition. In enforcing
1114 this paragraph, the department shall have, upon a finding of the
1115 State Surgeon General or the State Surgeon General's designee
1116 that probable cause exists to believe that the nurse ~~licensee~~ is
1117 unable to practice nursing because of the reasons stated in this
1118 paragraph, the authority to issue an order to compel a nurse



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1119 | ~~licensee~~ to submit to a mental or physical examination by
1120 | physicians designated by the department. If the nurse licensee
1121 | refuses to comply with such order, the department's order
1122 | directing such examination may be enforced by filing a petition
1123 | for enforcement in the circuit court where the nurse licensee
1124 | resides or does business. The nurse licensee against whom the
1125 | petition is filed shall not be named or identified by initials
1126 | in any public court records or documents, and the proceedings
1127 | shall be closed to the public. The department shall be entitled
1128 | to the summary procedure provided in s. 51.011. A nurse affected
1129 | ~~by the provisions of~~ this paragraph shall at reasonable
1130 | intervals be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that she or
1131 | he can resume the competent practice of nursing with reasonable
1132 | skill and safety to patients.

1133 | (k) Failing to report to the department any person who the
1134 | nurse licensee knows is in violation of this part or of the
1135 | rules of the department or the board; however, if the nurse
1136 | ~~licensee~~ verifies that such person is actively participating in
1137 | a board-approved program for the treatment of a physical or
1138 | mental condition, the nurse licensee is required to report such
1139 | person only to an impaired professionals consultant.

1140 | (l) Knowingly violating any provision of this part, a rule
1141 | of the board or the department, or a lawful order of the board
1142 | or department previously entered in a disciplinary proceeding or
1143 | failing to comply with a lawfully issued subpoena of the
1144 | department.



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1145 (m) Failing to report to the department any licensee under
1146 chapter 458 or under chapter 459 who the nurse knows has
1147 violated the grounds for disciplinary action set out in the law
1148 under which that person is licensed and who provides health care
1149 services in a facility licensed under chapter 395, or a health
1150 maintenance organization certificated under part I of chapter
1151 641, in which the nurse also provides services.

1152 (n) Failing to meet minimal standards of acceptable and
1153 prevailing nursing practice, including engaging in acts for
1154 which the nurse licensee is not qualified by training or
1155 experience.

1156 (o) Violating any provision of this chapter or chapter
1157 456, or any rules adopted pursuant thereto.

1158 (2) (a) The board may enter an order denying licensure or
1159 imposing any of the penalties in s. 456.072(2) against any
1160 applicant for licensure or nurse licensee who is found guilty of
1161 violating ~~any provision of subsection (1) of this section or who~~
1162 ~~is found guilty of violating any provision of s. 456.072(1).~~

1163 (b) The board may take adverse action against a nurse's
1164 multistate licensure privilege and impose any of the penalties
1165 in s. 456.072(2) when the nurse is found guilty of violating
1166 subsection (1) or s. 456.072(1).

1167 Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
1168 464.0195, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is
1169 added to that section, to read:

1170 464.0195 Florida Center for Nursing; goals.—



1171 (2) The primary goals for the center shall be to:
 1172 (a) Develop a strategic statewide plan for nursing
 1173 manpower in this state by:
 1174 1. Establishing and maintaining a database on nursing
 1175 supply and demand in the state, to include current supply and
 1176 demand, ~~and future projections; and~~
 1177 2. Analyzing the current supply and demand in the state
 1178 and making future projections of such, including assessing the
 1179 impact of this state's participation in the Nurse Licensure
 1180 Compact under s. 464.0095; and
 1181 ~~3.2.~~ Selecting from the plan priorities to be addressed.
 1182 (4) The center may request from the board, and the board
 1183 must provide to the center upon its request, any information
 1184 held by the board regarding nurses licensed in this state or
 1185 holding a multistate license pursuant to s. 464.0095 or
 1186 information reported to the board by employers of such nurses,
 1187 other than personal identifying information.
 1188 Section 12. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (10) of
 1189 section 768.28, Florida Statutes, to read:
 1190 768.28 Waiver of sovereign immunity in tort actions;
 1191 recovery limits; limitation on attorney fees; statute of
 1192 limitations; exclusions; indemnification; risk management
 1193 programs.—
 1194 (10)
 1195 (g) For the purposes of this section, the executive
 1196 director of the Board of Nursing, when serving as the state



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1197 administrator of the Nurse Licensure Compact pursuant to s.
1198 464.0095, and any administrator, officer, executive director,
1199 employee, or representative of the Interstate Commission of
1200 Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators, when acting within the
1201 scope of their employment, duties, or responsibilities in this
1202 state, are considered agents of the state. The commission shall
1203 pay any claims or judgments pursuant to this section and may
1204 maintain insurance coverage to pay any such claims or judgments.

1205 Section 13. This act shall take effect December 31, 2018,
1206 or upon enactment of the Nurse Licensure Compact into law by 26
1207 states, whichever occurs first.