FIRST REGULAR SESSION HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE SUBSTITUTE NO. 2 FOR SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 88

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

0884H.11C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 337.615, 337.644, and 337.665, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof twentynine new sections relating to professional licensing, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 337.615, 337.644, and 337.665, RSMo, are repealed and twentynine new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 324.004, 324.950, 324.953, 324.956, 324.959, 324.962, 324.965, 324.968, 324.971, 324.974, 337.615, 337.644, 337.665, 337.1000, 337.1005, 337.1010, 337.1015, 337.1020, 337.1025, 337.1030, 337.1035, 337.1040, 337.1045, 337.1050, 337.1055, 337.1060, 337.1065, 337.1070, and 337.1075, to read as follows:

324.004. 1. Any person who has at least three years of work experience in an 2 occupation or profession in another state, the District of Columbia, or any combination 3 of such jurisdictions, and whose work experience involved the practice of an occupation 4 or profession for which a license is not required in the jurisdiction or jurisdictions in 5 which the person worked but is required in this state may submit an application for a 6 one-time nonrenewable two-year temporary license in this state in the occupation or profession, along with proof of at least three years of work experience in the occupation 7 8 or profession and a fee as set by regulation of the oversight body, to the relevant 9 oversight body in this state. The oversight body shall make a determination of 10 qualification within forty-five days of receiving a completed application. As used in this section, "oversight body" shall mean any board, department, agency, or office of a 11 12 jurisdiction that issues licenses.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

2. The oversight body shall require an applicant under this section to take and pass the profession-specific examination required for licensure by those applying pursuant to the provisions of the oversight body's statutory and regulatory authority. An oversight body that administers an examination on the laws of this state as part of its licensing application requirements may require an applicant under this section to take and pass an examination specific to the laws of this state.

19 3. The oversight body shall not issue a one-time nonrenewable temporary license 20 to any applicant described in subsection 1 of this section who has had any license in the 21 relevant occupation or profession revoked by an oversight body outside of this state, 22 who is currently under investigation, who has a complaint pending, or who is currently 23 under disciplinary action.

4. Applicants for the one-time nonrenewable temporary license shall be citizens
of the United States and shall submit legal proof of citizenship as part of the application.

5. The provisions of this section shall apply only to those professions or occupations for which a license is issued by an oversight body as of January 1, 2023, and shall not apply to the following:

(1) Any occupation whose oversight body has entered into a licensing compact with another state for the regulation of practice under the oversight body's jurisdiction. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to alter the authority granted by, or any requirements promulgated pursuant to, any interjurisdictional or interstate compacts adopted by this state or any reciprocity agreements with other states, and whenever possible the provisions of this section shall be interpreted so as to imply no conflict between it and any compact or any reciprocity agreement with other states;

36 (2) Any occupation set forth in subsection 6 of section 290.257 or any electrical
 37 contractor licensed under sections 324.900 to 324.945;

38 (3) Any occupation whose regulators or licensees are required to comply with 39 specific federal statutory, regulatory, and administrative requirements in order to 40 practice in Missouri; or

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(4) Assistant physicians licensed under chapter 334.

42 6. The one-time nonrenewable temporary license shall expire after two years. 43 Upon expiration, the individual shall be required to apply for a permanent license in 44 accordance with the license requirements for the occupation for which he or she held the 45 temporary license.

7. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a license issued
under this section shall be valid only in this state and shall not make a licensee eligible to
be part of an interstate compact. An applicant who is licensed in another state pursuant

49 to an interstate compact shall not be eligible for licensure by an oversight body under the provisions of this section. 50

51 8. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a license issued 52 under this section shall be valid only in this state and shall not make a licensee eligible to 53 obtain a license by reciprocity in another state.

54 9. The division of professional registration may promulgate rules to implement 55 the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in 56 section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall 57 become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable 58 59 and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently 60 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or 61 adopted after August 28, 2023, shall be invalid and void. 62

324.950. 1. Sections 324.950 to 324.974 shall be known and may be cited as the 2 "Missouri Statewide Mechanical Contractor Licensing Act" and shall not be affected by the provisions of section 324.009. The provisions of sections 324.950 to 324.974 shall not 3 4 be construed to affect the provisions of chapter 341.

5 2. As used in sections 324.950 to 324.974, unless the context clearly indicates 6 otherwise, the following terms shall mean:

7 (1) "Apprentice", a person who holds a valid statewide mechanical apprentice 8 license to perform mechanical work for, and under the direct supervision of, a 9 journeyman;

10 (2) "Contractor", a person who holds a valid statewide mechanical contractor license and who is employed by a corporation, firm, institution, organization, or 11 12 company to perform mechanical work and directly supervise the performance of 13 mechanical work by journeymen;

14 (3) "Division", the division of professional registration within the department of 15 commerce and insurance;

16 "Journeyman", a person who holds a valid statewide mechanical (4) journeyman license to perform mechanical work for, and under the supervision of 17 and inspection of, a contractor, and to supervise and inspect the mechanical work of an 18 19 apprentice;

20 (5) "Local license", a license issued by a political subdivision and valid only in 21 that political subdivision that is required to bid, accept, or perform mechanical work;

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(6) "Mechanical work", work per the International Code Council, International
Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, 30 CSR 20, or the National Fire
Protection Association (NFPA) 99.

(a) Such work shall include the design, installation, maintenance, construction,
 alteration, repair, and inspection of any:

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a. HVAC system and associated appurtenances;

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29 c. Exhaust systems and associated appurtenances;

30 d. Combustion air or make up air and associated appurtenances;

b. HVAC duct system and associated appurtenances;

e. Chimneys and vents and associated appurtenances, excluding those regulated
by local ordinances as such existed on April 18, 2023;

f. Hydronic piping systems and associated appurtenances that are part of an
 HVAC system;

35 g. Boilers, water heaters that are one hundred twenty gallons and above, or two 36 hundred thousand British thermal units (BTUs) and above, and pressure vessels and 37 associated appurtenances, excluding those covered by a nationally-standardized 38 plumbing code, those regulated by local ordinances as such existed on April 18, 2023, 39 or those used for potable water systems;

40 h. Process piping systems and associated appurtenances;

41 i. Fuel gas distribution piping and associated appurtenances, excluding those 42 regulated by local ordinances as such existed on April 18, 2023;

j. Fuel oil-fired and solid fuel appliances and associated appurtenances,
excluding those covered by a nationally-standardized plumbing code or local ordinances
promulgated by a political subdivision of this state as such ordinances existed on April
18, 2023;

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k. Fuel oil piping and storage vessels and associated appurtenances;

48 **I.** Fuel oil-fired and solid fuel appliance venting systems and associated 49 appurtenances;

50 m. Equipment and appliances intended to utilize solar energy for space heating 51 or cooling together with associated appurtenances;

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n. Process heating and associated appurtenances;

53 o. Refrigeration systems, including all equipment and components thereof and 54 associated appurtenances;

55 p. Nonmedical air, nonmedical oxygen, and nonmedical vacuum piping for 56 mechanical equipment and associated appurtenances, excluding work covered by a 57 nationally-standardized plumbing code; q. Liquified petroleum gas distribution piping and associated appurtenances,
excluding work covered by a nationally-standardized plumbing code or local ordinances
as such ordinances existed on April 18, 2023;

r. Biogas, biodiesel, hydrogen processing systems, and ethanol distribution and
 associated appurtenances;

63 s. Chillers, cooling towers, and associated support steel and appurtenances for 64 cooling towers;

65 t. Petroleum piping and venting together with associated equipment and 66 associated appurtenances, pumps, and tanks governed by NPFA 30 and 30a;

u. All fuel and petroleum pipelines, piping, and associated pumping stations with
 associated equipment and appurtenances; and

v. All associated equipment and facilities related to subparagraphs a. to u. of thisparagraph.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision to the contrary,
"mechanical work" shall not include, and the provisions of sections 324.950 to
324.974 shall not apply to, the design, installation, maintenance, construction, alteration,
repair, or inspection of any:

a. Solid-fuel or gas-fueled hearth appliance, including, but not limited to, wood
 stoves and fireplaces, manufacturer-specified venting systems, fireplace chimneys,
 outdoor cooking appliances with manufacturer-specified venting systems, outdoor
 fireplaces, or outdoor fire pits;

79 b. Propane-related equipment for which certification is required by any 80 regulation adopted under subdivision (3) of subsection 13 of section 323.035; or

c. Fire sprinkler or suppression systems.

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83 Additional certification may be required by the division for a particular scope of 84 mechanical work;

85 (7) "Residential work", service-related and replacement-related mechanical 86 work in an existing domicile for or on behalf of the individual owners or renters 87 occupying:

88 (a) Single-family houses;

(b) An individual dwelling unit in a duplex, triplex, or fourplex; or

90 (c) An individual dwelling unit in an apartment building containing five or more
 91 apartments.

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93 "Residential work" shall not include new construction or work required for a building94 or structure as a whole that services more than one dwelling unit;

95 (8) "Statewide mechanical apprentice license", a valid license issued by the 96 division to an apprentice to physically perform mechanical work under the direct 97 supervision and inspection of a journeyman;

98 (9) "Statewide mechanical contractor license", a valid license issued by the 99 division to a contractor to bid and accept mechanical work in any political subdivision regardless of local requirements to bid and accept mechanical work, to physically 100 101 perform mechanical work, and to directly supervise and inspect the mechanical work of 102 a journeyman;

103 (10) "Statewide mechanical journeyman license", a valid license issued by the division to a journeyman to physically perform mechanical work under the supervision 104 105 and inspection of a contractor and to directly supervise and inspect the mechanical 106 work of an apprentice.

324.953. 1. The division shall adopt, implement, rescind, amend, and administer such rules as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 324.950 to 324.974, 2 3 including but not limited to, the following:

4 (1) Training, education, and experience requirements for licensure under 5 sections 324.950 to 324.974;

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(2) Application forms and fees;

7 (3) Professional education units for license renewal and approval of professional 8 education programs;

9 (4) Renewal dates, notifications of renewal, and renewal applications and fees;

10 (5) Inactive licenses and reinstatement procedures; and

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(6) Professional conduct and ethical standards of business practice for licensees.

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13 Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created 14 under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies 15 with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 16 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested 17 with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant 18 19 of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2023, shall 20 be invalid and void. 21

2. For the purpose of sections 324.950 to 324.974, the division shall:

22 (1) Employ, within the limits of the appropriations for such purpose, employees 23 as are necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 324.950 to 324.974;

24 (2) Exercise all administrative functions; 25 (3) Establish all applicable fees, set at an amount that shall not substantially 26 exceed the cost of administering sections 324.950 to 324.974;

(4) Deposit all fees collected by transmitting such funds to the department of
revenue for deposit to the state treasury to the credit of the Missouri mechanical
contractor licensing fund established under section 324.956;

30 (5) Enter into agreements with the boiler and pressure vessel safety unit within 31 the division of fire safety of the department of public safety to investigate complaints 32 against a licensee from persons who receive services from the licensee and for the 33 submission of a report to the division of such investigation; provided that the division 34 shall retain the authority to institute any enforcement action against a licensee as a 35 result of an investigation under this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prevent the boiler and pressure vessel safety unit from reporting a violation 36 37 of sections 324.950 to 324.974 found during a routine inspection to the division; and

(6) Institute actions to enforce compliance with the provisions of sections 324.950
 to 324.974.

3. No new licensing activity assigned to the division under sections 324.950 to
324.974 shall become effective until the initial rules filed under this section have become
effective.

324.956. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Missouri Mechanical 2 Contractor Licensing Fund", which shall consist of moneys collected under sections 3 324.950 to 324.974. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund and may approve 4 disbursements from the fund in accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180. Upon 5 appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of sections 6 324.950 to 324.974. The provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary notwithstanding, moneys in this fund shall not be transferred and placed to the credit of general revenue 7 until the amount in the fund at the end of the biennium exceeds three times the amount 8 9 of the appropriation from the fund for the preceding fiscal year. The amount, if any, in 10 the fund which shall lapse is that amount in the fund which exceeds the appropriate multiple of the appropriations from the fund for the preceding fiscal year. The state 11 treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are 12 invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the 13 14 fund.

324.959. The provisions of sections 324.950 to 324.974 shall not apply to 2 mechanical work, including residential work, performed in any county with more than 3 two hundred sixty thousand but fewer than three hundred thousand inhabitants, any 4 county with more than fifty thousand but fewer than sixty thousand inhabitants and 5 with a county seat with more than ten thousand but fewer than twelve thousand six

6 hundred inhabitants, or any county with more than one hundred twenty thousand but

fewer than one hundred fifty thousand inhabitants, or any political subdivision 7 8 contained within such counties.

324.962. 1. The applicant for a statewide mechanical contractor license shall 2 have:

3 (1) Completed the application form provided by the division and pay any 4 applicable application fees;

5 (2) Provided proof of liability insurance in the amount of one million dollars and posted bond with each political subdivision in which he or she will perform work, as 6 7 required by that political subdivision; and

8 (3) Completed the educational, training, and experience requirements equal to 9 or greater than that of a contractor's license, as such existed on April 18, 2023, in the mechanical code or ordinance of any county with more than one million inhabitants. 10

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2. The applicant for a statewide mechanical journeyman license shall have:

12 (1) Completed the application form provided by the division and pay any applicable application fees; and 13

14 (2) Completed the educational, training, and experience requirements equal to 15 or greater than that of a journeyman license, as such existed on April 18, 2023, in the mechanical code or ordinance of any county with more than one million inhabitants. 16

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3. The applicant for a statewide mechanical apprentice license shall have:

18 (1) Completed the application form provided by the division and pay any 19 applicable application fees; and

20 (2) Completed the educational, training, and experience requirements equal to 21 or greater than that of an apprentice license, as such existed on April 18, 2023, in the 22 mechanical code or ordinance of any county with more than one million inhabitants.

324.965. 1. Any corporation, firm, institution, organization, company, or representative thereof engaging in mechanical work in a political subdivision that 2 3 requires a local license in order to perform such work shall:

4 (1) Have in its employ, at a supervisory level, at least one statewide mechanical contractor licensee, or an equivalent local licensee. A statewide mechanical contractor 5 6 licensee shall represent only one firm, company, corporation, institution, or organization 7 at one time;

8 (2) For purposes of performing residential work, have either a statewide 9 mechanical contractor licensee or a statewide mechanical journeyman licensee to perform, direct, inspect, or supervise the work, or the equivalent local licensee; and 10

11 (3) For all other mechanical work, have at least one statewide mechanical 12 journeyman licensee on site for every statewide mechanical apprentice licensee 13 performing the work, or the equivalent local licensee.

Any person performing mechanical work in a political subdivision that does
 not require the person to hold a local license, or any person who possesses such local
 license, shall not be required to obtain or possess a statewide license under sections
 324.950 to 324.974 to perform mechanical work in such political subdivision.

3. (1) Political subdivisions shall not be prohibited from establishing their own mechanical contractor, journeyman, or apprentice licenses, but shall recognize a statewide license in lieu of the equivalent local license for the purpose of performing mechanical work in such political subdivision. A statewide licensee under sections 324.950 to 324.974 shall be deemed eligible to perform mechanical work and to obtain permits to perform said work from any political subdivision in this state commensurate with the corresponding local license.

(2) Nothing in sections 324.950 to 324.974 shall be construed to prohibit a
political subdivision from enforcing any of the political subdivision's codes, ordinances,
or laws; inspecting the work of licensees; or reporting suspected violations of sections
324.950 to 324.974 to the division for investigation of the licensee.

- 4. (1) If a political subdivision does not recognize a statewide license in lieu of an equivalent local license for the purposes of performing mechanical work or obtaining permits to perform mechanical work within the political subdivision, then a statewide licensee may file a complaint with the division.
- 33 (2) The division shall perform an investigation into the complaint, and if the 34 division finds that the political subdivision failed to recognize a statewide license in 35 accordance with the provisions of this section, then the division shall notify the political 36 subdivision that the political subdivision has violated the provisions of this section and 37 has thirty days to comply with the law.
- 38 (3) If, after thirty days of notification by the division, the political subdivision 39 continues to refuse or fail to recognize a statewide license, then the division shall notify 40 the director of the department of revenue, who shall withhold any moneys that the 41 noncompliant political subdivision would otherwise be entitled to from local sales tax, as 42 defined in section 32.085, until the director has received notice from the division that the 43 political subdivision is in compliance with this section.
- 44 (4) When the political subdivision becomes compliant with the provisions of this
 45 section, the division shall notify the director of the department of revenue who shall
 46 disburse all funds held under this subsection. Moneys held by the director of the

department of revenue under this subsection shall not be deemed to be state funds andshall not be commingled with any funds of the state.

324.968. Licenses issued under sections 324.950 to 324.974 shall expire on a renewal date established in rule by the division. The term of licensure shall be three years. The division shall mail a renewal notice prior to the renewal date. Professional education units needed for license renewal, as well as procedures involving inactive licenses and reinstatement of licenses shall be equal to those in the mechanical code or ordinance, as such existed on April 18, 2023, of any county with more than one million inhabitants.

324.971. 1. The division may refuse to issue or renew or may suspend any license under sections 324.950 to 324.974 for one or any combination of causes stated in subsection 3 of this section. The division shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal and shall advise the applicant of his or her right to file a complaint with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621.

6 2. The division shall publish via electronic media and update on a weekly basis a 7 list of valid statewide mechanical contractor licensees under sections 324.950 to 324.974, 8 a list of current enforcement actions against such licensees, and the procedures for filing 9 grievances against any statewide mechanical contractor, mechanical journeyman, and 10 mechanical apprentice licensees.

3. The division may cause a complaint to be filed with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621 against any licensee under sections 324.950 to 324.974 or any person who has failed to renew or has surrendered his or her license for any one or any combination of the following causes:

15 (1) The final adjudication and finding of guilty, or the entering of a plea of guilty 16 or nolo contendere, in a criminal prosecution under the laws of any state, of the United 17 States, or of any country, for any offense reasonably related to the qualifications, duties, 18 and responsibilities of a licensee under sections 324.950 to 324.974 for any offense an 19 essential element of which is fraud, dishonesty, or an act of violence;

20 (2) Use of fraud, deception, misrepresentation, or bribery in securing any license 21 issued under sections 324.950 to 324.974 or in obtaining permission to take any 22 examination given or required under sections 324.950 to 324.974;

(3) Obtaining or attempting to obtain any fee, charge, tuition, or other
 compensation by fraud, deception, or misrepresentation;

(4) Incompetence, misconduct, gross negligence, fraud, misrepresentation, or
 dishonesty in the performance of the functions and duties of any profession licensed or
 regulated under sections 324.950 to 324.974;

(5) Violation of, or assisting or enabling any person to violate, any provision of
 sections 324.950 to 324.974 or any lawful rule adopted under sections 324.950 to
 324.974;

(6) Impersonation of any person holding a license or allowing any person to usehis or her license;

(7) Final adjudication of a person as incompetent by a court of competentjurisdiction;

35 (8) Assisting or enabling any person to practice, or offer to practice, any 36 profession licensed or regulated under sections 324.950 to 324.974 who is not licensed 37 and currently eligible to practice under sections 324.950 to 324.974 or who does not 38 possess an active equivalent local license if required by a political subdivision; or

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(9) Issuance of a license based upon a material mistake of fact.

40 **4.** After the filing of such complaint, the proceedings shall be conducted in 41 accordance with the provisions of chapter 621. Upon a finding by the administrative 42 hearing commission that the grounds provided in subsection 3 of this section for 43 disciplinary action are met, the division may, singly or in combination, censure or place 44 the person named in the complaint on probation with such terms and conditions as the 45 division deems appropriate for a period not to exceed five years, or may suspend, for a 46 period not to exceed three years, or revoke the license.

5. An individual whose license has been revoked shall wait at least one year from the date of revocation to apply for relicensure. Relicensure shall be at the discretion of the division after compliance with all requirements of sections 324.950 to 324.974 relative to the previous licensing of the applicant.

324.974. 1. Any person who knowingly violates any provision of sections 324.950 2 to 324.974 is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

2. Any officer or agent of a corporation or member or agent of a partnership or 4 association who knowingly and personally participates in or is an accessory to any 5 violation of sections 324.950 to 324.974 is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

6 3. The division may cause a complaint to be filed for any violation of sections 7 324.950 to 324.974 in any court of competent jurisdiction and perform such other acts as 8 may be necessary to enforce the provisions of sections 324.950 to 324.974.

337.615. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

2 (1) "License", a license, certificate, registration, permit, accreditation, or 3 military occupational specialty that enables a person to legally practice an occupation or 4 profession in a particular jurisdiction;

5 (2) "Military", the Armed Forces of the United States, including the Air Force, 6 Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, Space Force, National Guard, and any other

7 military branch that is designated by Congress as part of the Armed Forces of the
8 United States, and all reserve components and auxiliaries. The term "military" also
9 includes the military reserves and militia of any United States territory or state;

(3) "Nonresident military spouse", a nonresident spouse of an active-duty
member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has been transferred or is
scheduled to be transferred to the state of Missouri, or who has been transferred or is
scheduled to be transferred to an adjacent state and is or will be domiciled in the state of
Missouri, or has moved to the state of Missouri on a permanent change-of-station basis;
(4) "Oversight body", any board, department, agency, or office of a jurisdiction
that issues licenses;

17 (5) "Resident military spouse", a spouse of an active-duty member of the Armed 18 Forces of the United States who has been transferred or is scheduled to be transferred to 19 the state of Missouri or an adjacent state and who is a permanent resident of the state of 20 Missouri, who is domiciled in the state of Missouri, or who has Missouri as his or her 21 home of record.

22 **2.** Each applicant for licensure as a clinical social worker shall furnish evidence to the 23 committee that:

(1) The applicant has a master's degree from a college or university program of social
work accredited by the council of social work education or a doctorate degree from a school
of social work acceptable to the committee;

27 (2) The applicant has completed at least three thousand hours of supervised clinical 28 experience with a qualified clinical supervisor, as defined in section 337.600, in no less than 29 twenty-four months and no more than forty-eight consecutive calendar months. For any 30 applicant who has successfully completed at least four thousand hours of supervised clinical 31 experience with a qualified clinical supervisor, as defined in section 337.600, within the same time frame prescribed in this subsection, the applicant shall be eligible for application of 32 33 licensure at three thousand hours and shall be furnished a certificate by the state committee 34 for social workers acknowledging the completion of said additional hours;

35 (3) The applicant has achieved a passing score, as defined by the committee, on an 36 examination approved by the committee. The eligibility requirements for such examination 37 shall be promulgated by rule of the committee; **and**

38 (4) The applicant is at least eighteen years of age, is a United States citizen or has 39 status as a legal resident alien, and has not been finally adjudicated and found guilty, or 40 entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, in a criminal prosecution under the laws of any 41 state, of the United States, or of any country, for any offense directly related to the duties and 42 responsibilities of the occupation, as set forth in section 324.012, regardless of whether or not 43 sentence has been imposed.

44 12. Any person holding a current license, certificate of registration, or permit from another state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia to practice clinical 45 social work who does not meet the requirements of section 324.009 and who has had no 46 disciplinary action taken against the license, certificate of registration, or permit for the 47 48 preceding five years may be granted a license to practice clinical social work in this state if the person has received a masters or doctoral degree from a college or university program of 49 50 social work accredited by the council of social work education and has been licensed to practice clinical social work for the preceding five years.] 51

52 3. (1) Any person who holds a valid current clinical social work license issued by 53 another state, a branch or unit of the military, a territory of the United States, or the 54 District of Columbia, and who has been licensed for at least one year in such other 55 jurisdiction, may submit to the committee an application for a clinical social work 56 license in Missouri along with proof of current licensure and proof of licensure for at 57 least one year in the other jurisdiction.

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(2) The committee shall:

59 (a) Within six months of receiving an application described in subdivision (1) of 60 this subsection, waive any examination, educational, or experience requirements for 61 licensure in this state for the applicant if it determines that there were minimum education requirements and, if applicable, work experience and clinical supervision 62 63 requirements in effect and the other jurisdiction verifies that the person met those 64 requirements in order to be licensed or certified in that jurisdiction. The committee 65 may require an applicant to take and pass an examination specific to the laws of this 66 state: or

67 (b) Within thirty days of receiving an application described in subdivision (1) of 68 this subsection from a nonresident military spouse or a resident military spouse, waive 69 any examination, educational, or experience requirements for licensure in this state for 70 the applicant and issue such applicant a license under this subsection if such applicant 71 otherwise meets the requirements of this subsection.

72 The committee shall not waive any examination, educational, or (3) **(a)** 73 experience requirements for any applicant who has had his or her license revoked by an oversight body outside the state; who is currently under investigation, who has a 74 75 complaint pending, or who is currently under disciplinary action, except as provided in 76 paragraph (b) of this subdivision, with an oversight body outside the state; who does not 77 hold a license in good standing with an oversight body outside the state; who has a 78 criminal record that would disqualify him or her for licensure in Missouri; or who does 79 not hold a valid current license in the other jurisdiction on the date the committee receives his or her application under this subsection. 80

(b) If another jurisdiction has taken disciplinary action against an applicant, the committee shall determine if the cause for the action was corrected and the matter resolved. If the matter has not been resolved by that jurisdiction, the committee may deny a license until the matter is resolved.

85 (4) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the committee from denying a 86 license to an applicant under this subsection for any reason described in section 337.630.

87 (5) Any person who is licensed under the provisions of this subsection shall be 88 subject to the committee's jurisdiction and all rules and regulations pertaining to the 89 practice as a licensed clinical social worker in this state.

90 (6) This subsection shall not be construed to waive any requirement for an 91 applicant to pay any fees.

4. The committee shall issue a license to each person who files an application and fee as required by the provisions of sections 337.600 to 337.689 and who furnishes evidence satisfactory to the committee that the applicant has complied with the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4) of subsection [4] 2 of this section [or with the provisions of subsection 2 of this section].

337.644. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

2 (1) "License", a license, certificate, registration, permit, accreditation, or
3 military occupational specialty that enables a person to legally practice an occupation or
4 profession in a particular jurisdiction;

5 (2) "Military", the Armed Forces of the United States, including the Air Force, 6 Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, Space Force, National Guard, and any other 7 military branch that is designated by Congress as part of the Armed Forces of the 8 United States, and all reserve components and auxiliaries. The term "military" also 9 includes the military reserves and militia of any United States territory or state;

10 (3) "Nonresident military spouse", a nonresident spouse of an active-duty 11 member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has been transferred or is 12 scheduled to be transferred to the state of Missouri, or who has been transferred or is 13 scheduled to be transferred to an adjacent state and is or will be domiciled in the state of 14 Missouri, or has moved to the state of Missouri on a permanent change-of-station basis; 15 (4) "Oversight body", any board, department, agency, or office of a jurisdiction

16 that issues licenses;

17 (5) "Resident military spouse", a spouse of an active-duty member of the Armed 18 Forces of the United States who has been transferred or is scheduled to be transferred to 19 the state of Missouri or an adjacent state and who is a permanent resident of the state of 20 Missouri, who is domiciled in the state of Missouri, or who has Missouri as his or her 21 home of record.

22 **2.** Each applicant for licensure as a master social worker shall furnish evidence to the 23 committee that:

(1) The applicant has a master's or doctorate degree in social work from an accreditedsocial work degree program approved by the council of social work education;

(2) The applicant has achieved a passing score, as defined by the committee, on an
examination approved by the committee. The eligibility requirements for such examination
shall be determined by the state committee for social workers;

(3) The applicant is at least eighteen years of age, is a United States citizen or has status as a legal resident alien, and has not been finally adjudicated and found guilty, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, in a criminal prosecution under the laws of any state, of the United States, or of any country, for any offense directly related to the duties and responsibilities of the occupation, as set forth in section 324.012, regardless [or] of whether or not sentence is imposed;

35 (4) The applicant has submitted a written application on forms prescribed by the state36 board; and

(5) The applicant has submitted the required licensing fee, as determined by thecommittee.

39 [2.] 3. Any applicant who answers in the affirmative to any question on the
40 application that relates to possible grounds for denial of licensure under section 337.630 shall
41 submit a sworn affidavit setting forth in detail the facts which explain such answer and copies
42 of appropriate documents related to such answer.

43 [3.] 4. The committee shall issue a license to each person who files an application and 44 fee as required by the provisions of sections 337.600 to 337.689 and who furnishes evidence 45 satisfactory to the committee that the applicant has complied with the provisions of 46 subsection [4] 2 of this section. The license shall refer to the individual as a licensed master 47 social worker and shall recognize that individual's right to practice licensed master social 48 work as defined in section 337.600.

5. (1) Any person who holds a valid current master social work license issued by another state, a branch or unit of the military, a territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia, and who has been licensed for at least one year in such other jurisdiction, may submit to the committee an application for a master social work license in Missouri along with proof of current licensure and proof of licensure for at least one year in the other jurisdiction.

55

(2) The committee shall:

(a) Within six months of receiving an application described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, waive any examination, educational, or experience requirements for licensure in this state for the applicant if it determines that there were minimum 60 education requirements and, if applicable, work experience and clinical supervision 60 requirements in effect and the other jurisdiction verifies that the person met those 61 requirements in order to be licensed or certified in that jurisdiction. The committee 62 may require an applicant to take and pass an examination specific to the laws of this 63 state; or

64 (b) Within thirty days of receiving an application described in subdivision (1) of 65 this subsection from a nonresident military spouse or a resident military spouse, waive 66 any examination, educational, or experience requirements for licensure in this state for 67 the applicant and issue such applicant a license under this subsection if such applicant 68 otherwise meets the requirements of this subsection.

69 The committee shall not waive any examination, educational, or (3) (a) 70 experience requirements for any applicant who has had his or her license revoked by an 71 oversight body outside the state; who is currently under investigation, who has a 72 complaint pending, or who is currently under disciplinary action, except as provided in 73 paragraph (b) of this subdivision, with an oversight body outside the state; who does not 74 hold a license in good standing with an oversight body outside the state; who has a 75 criminal record that would disqualify him or her for licensure in Missouri; or who does 76 not hold a valid current license in the other jurisdiction on the date the committee 77 receives his or her application under this subsection.

(b) If another jurisdiction has taken disciplinary action against an applicant, the
committee shall determine if the cause for the action was corrected and the matter
resolved. If the matter has not been resolved by that jurisdiction, the committee may
deny a license until the matter is resolved.

82 (4) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the committee from denying a 83 license to an applicant under this subsection for any reason described in section 337.630.

(5) Any person who is licensed under the provisions of this subsection shall be
 subject to the committee's jurisdiction and all rules and regulations pertaining to the
 practice as a licensed master social worker in this state.

87 (6) This subsection shall not be construed to waive any requirement for an 88 applicant to pay any fees.

337.665. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

2 (1) "License", a license, certificate, registration, permit, accreditation, or
3 military occupational specialty that enables a person to legally practice an occupation or
4 profession in a particular jurisdiction;

5 (2) "Military", the Armed Forces of the United States, including the Air Force, 6 Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, Space Force, National Guard, and any other 7 military branch that is designated by Congress as part of the Armed Forces of the

8 United States, and all reserve components and auxiliaries. The term "military" also
9 includes the military reserves and militia of any United States territory or state;

10 (3) "Nonresident military spouse", a nonresident spouse of an active-duty 11 member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has been transferred or is 12 scheduled to be transferred to the state of Missouri, or who has been transferred or is 13 scheduled to be transferred to an adjacent state and is or will be domiciled in the state of 14 Missouri, or has moved to the state of Missouri on a permanent change-of-station basis; 15 (4) "Oversight body", any board, department, agency, or office of a jurisdiction

16 that issues licenses;

17 (5) "Resident military spouse", a spouse of an active-duty member of the Armed 18 Forces of the United States who has been transferred or is scheduled to be transferred to 19 the state of Missouri or an adjacent state and who is a permanent resident of the state of 20 Missouri, who is domiciled in the state of Missouri, or who has Missouri as his or her 21 home of record.

22 2. Each applicant for licensure as a baccalaureate social worker shall furnish evidence23 to the committee that:

(1) The applicant has a baccalaureate degree in social work from an accredited socialwork degree program approved by the council of social work education;

(2) The applicant has achieved a passing score, as defined by the committee, on an
examination approved by the committee. The eligibility requirements for such examination
shall be determined by the state committee for social work;

(3) The applicant is at least eighteen years of age, is a United States citizen or has status as a legal resident alien, and has not been finally adjudicated and found guilty, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, in a criminal prosecution under the laws of any state, of the United States, or of any country, for any offense directly related to the duties and responsibilities of the occupation, as set forth in section 324.012, regardless of whether or not sentence is imposed;

35 (4) The applicant has submitted a written application on forms prescribed by the state36 board; and

37 (5) The applicant has submitted the required licensing fee, as determined by the 38 committee.

39 [2.] **3.** Any applicant who answers in the affirmative to any question on the 40 application that relates to possible grounds for denial of licensure pursuant to section 337.630 41 shall submit a sworn affidavit setting forth in detail the facts which explain such answer and 42 copies of appropriate documents related to such answer.

43 [3.] 4. The committee shall issue a license to each person who files an application and 44 fee as required by the provisions of sections 337.600 to 337.689 and who furnishes evidence 45 satisfactory to the committee that the applicant has complied with the provisions of 46 subsection [4] 2 of this section.

47 [4.] 5. The committee shall issue a certificate to practice independently under 48 subsection 3 of section 337.653 to any licensed baccalaureate social worker who has 49 satisfactorily completed three thousand hours of supervised experience with a qualified 50 baccalaureate supervisor in no less than twenty-four months and no more than forty-eight 51 consecutive calendar months.

52 6. (1) Any person who holds a valid current baccalaureate social work license 53 issued by another state, a branch or unit of the military, a territory of the United States, 54 or the District of Columbia, and who has been licensed for at least one year in such other 55 jurisdiction, may submit to the committee an application for a baccalaureate social 56 work license in Missouri along with proof of current licensure and proof of licensure for 57 at least one year in the other jurisdiction.

58

(2) The committee shall:

59 (a) Within six months of receiving an application described in subdivision (1) of 60 this subsection, waive any examination, educational, or experience requirements for licensure in this state for the applicant if it determines that there were minimum 61 62 education requirements and, if applicable, work experience and clinical supervision requirements in effect and the other jurisdiction verifies that the person met those 63 64 requirements in order to be licensed or certified in that jurisdiction. The committee 65 may require an applicant to take and pass an examination specific to the laws of this 66 state: or

67 (b) Within thirty days of receiving an application described in subdivision (1) of 68 this subsection from a nonresident military spouse or a resident military spouse, waive 69 any examination, educational, or experience requirements for licensure in this state for 70 the applicant and issue such applicant a license under this subsection if such applicant 71 otherwise meets the requirements of this subsection.

72 The committee shall not waive any examination, educational, or (3) (a) 73 experience requirements for any applicant who has had his or her license revoked by an oversight body outside the state; who is currently under investigation, who has a 74 complaint pending, or who is currently under disciplinary action, except as provided in 75 paragraph (b) of this subdivision, with an oversight body outside the state; who does not 76 hold a license in good standing with an oversight body outside the state; who has a 77 78 criminal record that would disqualify him or her for licensure in Missouri; or who does 79 not hold a valid current license in the other jurisdiction on the date the committee receives his or her application under this subsection. 80

(b) If another jurisdiction has taken disciplinary action against an applicant, the committee shall determine if the cause for the action was corrected and the matter resolved. If the matter has not been resolved by that jurisdiction, the committee may deny a license until the matter is resolved.

85 (4) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the committee from denying a 86 license to an applicant under this subsection for any reason described in section 337.630.

87 (5) Any person who is licensed under the provisions of this subsection shall be 88 subject to the committee's jurisdiction and all rules and regulations pertaining to the 89 practice as a licensed baccalaureate social worker in this state.

90 (6) This subsection shall not be construed to waive any requirement for an 91 applicant to pay any fees.

337.1000. 1. Sections 337.1000 to 337.1075 shall be known and may be cited as 2 the "Social Work Licensure Compact".

2. The purpose of this Compact is to facilitate interstate practice of Regulated
Social Workers by improving public access to competent Social Work Services. The
Compact preserves the regulatory authority of States to protect public health and safety
through the current system of State licensure.

3. This Compact is designed to achieve the following objectives:

(1) Increase public access to Social Work Services;

9 (2) Reduce overly burdensome and duplicative requirements associated with 10 holding multiple licenses;

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(3) Enhance the Member States' ability to protect the public's health and safety;

12 (4) Encourage the cooperation of Member States in regulating multistate 13 practice;

14 (5) Promote mobility and address workforce shortages by eliminating the 15 necessity for licenses in multiple States by providing for the mutual recognition of other 16 Member State licenses;

17

(6) Support military families;

18 (7) Facilitate the exchange of licensure and disciplinary information among
 19 Member States;

(8) Authorize all Member States to hold a Regulated Social Worker accountable
for abiding by a Member State's laws, regulations, and applicable professional
standards in the Member State in which the client is located at the time care is rendered;
and

(9) Allow for the use of telehealth to facilitate increased access to regulatedSocial Work Services.

337.1005. As used in this Compact, and except as otherwise provided, the following definitions shall apply: 2

3 (1) "Active Military Member" means any individual with full-time duty status in 4 the active armed forces of the United States including members of the National Guard 5 and Reserve.

(2) "Adverse Action" means any administrative, civil, equitable or criminal 6 7 action permitted by a State's laws which is imposed by a Licensing Authority or other authority against a Regulated Social Worker, including actions against an individual's 8 9 license or Multistate Authorization to Practice such as revocation, suspension, probation, monitoring of the Licensee, limitation on the Licensee's practice, or any 10 other Encumbrance on licensure affecting a Regulated Social Worker's authorization to 11 practice, including issuance of a cease and desist action. 12

13 (3) "Alternative Program" means a non-disciplinary monitoring or practice remediation process approved by a Licensing Authority to address practitioners with an 14 15 Impairment.

16 (4) "Charter Member States" means Member States who have enacted 17 legislation to adopt this Compact where such legislation predates the effective date of 18 this Compact as described in section 337.1065.

19 (5) "Compact Commission" or "Commission" means the government agency 20 whose membership consists of all States that have enacted this Compact, which is 21 known as the Social Work Licensure Compact Commission, as described in section 22 337.1045, and which shall operate as an instrumentality of the Member States.

23

(6) "Current Significant Investigative Information" means:

24 (a) Investigative information that a Licensing Authority, after a preliminary 25 inquiry that includes notification and an opportunity for the Regulated Social Worker 26 to respond has reason to believe is not groundless and, if proved true, would indicate 27 more than a minor infraction as may be defined by the Commission; or

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(b) Investigative information that indicates that the Regulated Social Worker 29 represents an immediate threat to public health and safety, as may be defined by the Commission, regardless of whether the Regulated Social Worker has been notified and 30 31 has had an opportunity to respond.

32 (7) "Data System" means a repository of information about Licensees, including, continuing education, examination, licensure, Current Significant Investigative 33 Information, Disqualifying Event, Multistate License(s) and Adverse Action 34 35 information or other information as required by the Commission.

36 (8) "Domicile" means the jurisdiction in which the Licensee resides and intends to remain indefinitely. 37

(9) "Disqualifying Event" means any Adverse Action or incident which results
 in an Encumbrance that disqualifies or makes the Licensee ineligible to either obtain,
 retain or renew a Multistate License.

(10) "Encumbrance" means a revocation or suspension of, or any limitation on,
the full and unrestricted practice of Social Work licensed and regulated by a Licensing
Authority.

44 (11) "Executive Committee" means a group of delegates elected or appointed to 45 act on behalf of, and within the powers granted to them by, the compact and 46 Commission.

47 (12) "Home State" means the Member State that is the Licensee's primary 48 Domicile.

49 (13) "Impairment" means a condition(s) that may impair a practitioner's ability 50 to engage in full and unrestricted practice as a Regulated Social Worker without some 51 type of intervention and may include alcohol and drug dependence, mental health 52 impairment, and neurological or physical impairments.

53 (14) "Licensee(s)" means an individual who currently holds a license from a
54 State to practice as a Regulated Social Worker.

(15) "Licensing Authority" means the board or agency of a Member State, or
 equivalent, that is responsible for the licensing and regulation of Regulated Social
 Workers.

(16) "Member State" means a state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the
United States of America that has enacted this Compact.

60 (17) "Multistate Authorization to Practice" means a legally authorized privilege 61 to practice, which is equivalent to a license, associated with a Multistate License 62 permitting the practice of Social Work in a Remote State.

(18) "Multistate License" means a license to practice as a Regulated Social
Worker issued by a Home State Licensing Authority that authorizes the Regulated
Social Worker to practice in all Member States under Multistate Authorization to
Practice.

67 (19) "Qualifying National Exam" means a national licensing examination 68 approved by the Commission.

(20) "Regulated Social Worker" means any clinical, master's or bachelor's
Social Worker licensed by a Member State regardless of the title used by that Member
State.

(21) "Remote State" means a Member State other than the Licensee's HomeState.

(22) "Rule(s)" or "Rule(s) of the Commission" means a regulation or regulations
duly promulgated by the Commission, as authorized by the Compact, that has the force
of law.

(23) "Single State License" means a Social Work license issued by any State that
 authorizes practice only within the issuing State and does not include Multistate
 Authorization to Practice in any Member State.

80 (24) "Social Work" or "Social Work Services" means the application of social 81 work theory, knowledge, methods, ethics, and the professional use of self to restore or 82 enhance social, psychosocial, or biopsychosocial functioning of individuals, couples, 83 families, groups, organizations, and communities through the care and services 84 provided by a Regulated Social Worker as set forth in the Member State's statutes 85 and regulations in the State where the services are being provided.

86 (25) "State" means any state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the United
87 States of America that regulates the practice of Social Work.

88 (26) "Unencumbered License" means a license that authorizes a Regulated 89 Social Worker to engage in the full and unrestricted practice of Social Work.

337.1010. 1. To be eligible to participate in the compact, a potential Member 2 State must currently meet all of the following criteria:

3 (1) License and regulate the practice of Social Work at either the clinical, 4 master's, or bachelor's category.

(2) Require applicants for licensure to graduate from a program that is:

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(a) Operated by a college or university recognized by the Licensing Authority;

- 7 (b) Accredited, or in candidacy by an institution that subsequently becomes 8 accredited, by an accrediting agency recognized by either:
- 9

a. the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, or its successor; or

10 11

(c) Corresponds to the licensure sought as outlined in section 337.1015.

b. the United States Department of Education; and

12 (3) Require applicants for clinical licensure to complete a period of supervised13 practice.

14 (4) Have a mechanism in place for receiving, investigating, and adjudicating 15 complaints about Licensees.

16

2. To maintain membership in the Compact a Member State shall:

17 (1) Require that applicants for a Multistate License pass a Qualifying National
18 Exam for the corresponding category of Multistate License sought as outlined in section
19 337.1015;

20 (2) Participate fully in the Commission's Data System, including using the 21 Commission's unique identifier as defined in Rules; 22 (3) Notify the Commission, in compliance with the terms of the Compact and 23 Rules, of any Adverse Action or the availability of Current Significant Investigative 24 Information regarding a Licensee;

25 Implement procedures for considering the criminal history records of (4) 26 applicants for a Multistate License. Such procedures shall include the submission of 27 fingerprints or other biometric-based information by applicants for the purpose of 28 obtaining an applicant's criminal history record information from the Federal Bureau 29 of Investigation and the agency responsible for retaining that State's criminal records;

30

(5) Comply with the Rules of the Commission;

31 (6) Require an applicant to obtain or retain a license in the Home State and meet 32 the Home State's qualifications for licensure or renewal of licensure, as well as all other 33 applicable Home State laws;

34 (7) Authorize a Licensee holding a Multistate License in any Member State to 35 practice in accordance with the terms of the Compact and Rules of the Commission; and 36

(8) Designate a delegate to participate in the Commission meetings.

37 3. A Member State meeting the requirements of subsections 1 and 2 of this 38 section shall designate the categories of Social Work licensure that are eligible for 39 issuance of a Multistate License for applicants in such Member State. To the extent that 40 any Member State does not meet the requirements for participation in the Compact at 41 any particular category of Social Work licensure, such Member State may choose, but is 42 not obligated to, issue a Multistate License to applicants that otherwise meet the 43 requirements of section 337.1015 for issuance of a Multistate License in such category or 44 categories of licensure.

45

4. The Home State may charge a fee for granting the Multistate License.

337.1015. 1. To be eligible for a Multistate License under the terms and provisions of the Compact, an applicant, regardless of category must: 2

3

(1) Hold or be eligible for an active, Unencumbered License in the Home State;

4

(2) Pay any applicable fees, including any State fee, for the Multistate License;

5 Submit, in connection with an application for a Multistate License, (3) fingerprints or other biometric data for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record 6 7 information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the agency responsible for retaining that State's criminal records; 8

9 (4) Notify the Home State of any Adverse Action, Encumbrance, or restriction on any professional license taken by any Member State or non-Member State within 30 10 days from the date the action is taken; 11

12 (5) Meet any continuing competence requirements established by the Home 13 State;

HCS SS #2 SCS SB 88 24 14 (6) Abide by the laws, regulations, and applicable standards in the Member State where the client is located at the time care is rendered. 15 16 2. An applicant for a clinical-category Multistate License must meet all of the 17 following requirements: 18 (1) Fulfill a competency requirement, which shall be satisfied by either: 19 (a) Passage of a clinical-category Qualifying National Exam; or 20 (b) Licensure of the applicant in their Home State at the clinical category, 21 beginning prior to such time as a Qualifying National Exam was required by the Home 22 State and accompanied by a period of continuous Social Work licensure thereafter, all of 23 which may be further governed by the Rules of the Commission; or 24 (c) The substantial equivalency of the foregoing competency requirements which 25 the Commission may determine by Rule. 26 (2) Attain at least a master's degree in Social Work from a program that is: 27 (a) Operated by a college or university recognized by the Licensing Authority; 28 and 29 (b) Accredited, or in candidacy that subsequently becomes accredited, by an 30 accrediting agency recognized by either: 31 a. the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor; or 32 b. the United States Department of Education. 33 (3) Fulfill a practice requirement, which shall be satisfied by demonstrating 34 completion of either: 35 (a) A period of postgraduate supervised clinical practice equal to a minimum of three thousand hours; or 36 37 (b) A minimum of two years of full-time postgraduate supervised clinical practice; or 38 39 (c) The substantial equivalency of the foregoing practice requirements which the 40 Commission may determine by Rule. 41 3. An applicant for a master's-category Multistate License must meet all of the 42 following requirements: (1) Fulfill a competency requirement, which shall be satisfied by either: 43 44 (a) Passage of a masters-category Qualifying National Exam; 45 (b) Licensure of the applicant in their Home State at the master's category, 46 beginning prior to such time as a Qualifying National Exam was required by the Home State at the master's category and accompanied by a continuous period of Social Work 47 48 licensure thereafter, all of which may be further governed by the Rules of the 49 Commission; or

50 (c) The substantial equivalency of the foregoing competency requirements which the Commission may determine by Rule. 51 52 (2) Attain at least a master's degree in Social Work from a program that is: 53 (a) Operated by a college or university recognized by the Licensing Authority; 54 and 55 (b) Accredited, or in candidacy that subsequently becomes accredited, by an 56 accrediting agency recognized by either: 57 a. the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor; or 58 b. the United States Department of Education. 59 4. An applicant for a bachelor's-category Multistate License must meet all of the 60 following requirements: 61 (1) Fulfill a competency requirement, which shall be satisfied by either: 62 (a) Passage of a bachelor's-category Qualifying National Exam; (b) Licensure of the applicant in their Home State at the bachelor's category, 63 beginning prior to such time as a Qualifying National Exam was required by the Home 64 65 State and accompanied by a period of continuous Social Work licensure thereafter, all of 66 which may be further governed by the Rules of the Commission; or 67 (c) The substantial equivalency of the foregoing competency requirements which the Commission may determine by Rule. 68 69 (2) Attain at least a bachelor's degree in Social Work from a program that is: 70 (a) Operated by a college or university recognized by the Licensing Authority; 71 and 72 (b) Accredited, or in candidacy that subsequently becomes accredited, by an 73 accrediting agency recognized by either: 74 a. the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor; or 75 b. the United States Department of Education. 76 5. The Multistate License for a Regulated Social Worker is subject to the 77 renewal requirements of the Home State. The Regulated Social Worker must maintain 78 compliance with the requirements of subsection 1 of this section to be eligible to renew a 79 Multistate License. 80 6. The Regulated Social Worker's services in a Remote State are subject to that Member State's regulatory authority. A Remote State may, in accordance with due 81 82 process and that Member State's laws, remove a Regulated Social Worker's Multistate Authorization to Practice in the Remote State for a specific period of time, impose fines, 83

84 and take any other necessary actions to protect the health and safety of its citizens.

7. If a Multistate License is encumbered, the Regulated Social Worker's
Multistate Authorization to Practice shall be deactivated in all Remote States until the
Multistate License is no longer encumbered.

88 8. If a Multistate Authorization to Practice is encumbered in a Remote State, the 89 regulated Social Worker's Multistate Authorization to Practice may be deactivated in 90 that State until the Multistate Authorization to Practice is no longer encumbered.

337.1020. 1. Upon receipt of an application for a Multistate License, the Home
State Licensing Authority shall determine the applicant's eligibility for a Multistate
License in accordance with section 337.1015 of this Compact.

4 2. If such applicant is eligible pursuant to section 337.1015 of this Compact, the 5 Home State Licensing Authority shall issue a Multistate License that authorizes the 6 applicant or Regulated Social Worker to practice in all Member States under a 7 Multistate Authorization to Practice.

8 3. Upon issuance of a Multistate License, the Home State Licensing Authority 9 shall designate whether the Regulated Social Worker holds a Multistate License in the 10 Bachelors, Masters, or Clinical category of Social Work.

4. A Multistate License issued by a Home State to a resident in that State shall be
 recognized by all Compact Member States as authorizing Social Work Practice under a
 Multistate Authorization to Practice corresponding to each category of licensure
 regulated in each Member State.

337.1025. 1. Nothing in this Compact, nor any Rule of the Commission, shall be construed to limit, restrict, or in any way reduce the ability of a Member State to enact and enforce laws, regulations, or other rules related to the practice of Social Work in that State, where those laws, regulations, or other rules are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Compact.

6 2. Nothing in this Compact shall affect the requirements established by a 7 Member State for the issuance of a Single State License.

- 8 3. Nothing in this Compact, nor any Rule of the Commission, shall be construed 9 to limit, restrict, or in any way reduce the ability of a Member State to take Adverse 10 Action against a Licensee's Single State License to practice Social Work in that State.
- 4. Nothing in this Compact, nor any Rule of the Commission, shall be construed
 to limit, restrict, or in any way reduce the ability of a Remote State to take Adverse
 Action against a Licensee's Multistate Authorization to Practice in that State.
- 5. Nothing in this Compact, nor any Rule of the Commission, shall be construed to limit, restrict, or in any way reduce the ability of a Licensee's Home State to take Adverse Action against a Licensee's Multistate License based upon information provided by a Remote State.

337.1030. 1. A Licensee can hold a Multistate License, issued by their Home 2 State, in only one Member State at any given time.

3 2. If a Licensee changes their Home State by moving between two Member4 States:

5 (1) The Licensee shall immediately apply for the reissuance of their Multistate 6 License in their new Home State. The Licensee shall pay all applicable fees and notify 7 the prior Home State in accordance with the Rules of the Commission.

8 (2) Upon receipt of an application to reissue a Multistate License, the new Home 9 State shall verify that the Multistate License is active, unencumbered and eligible for 10 reissuance under the terms of the Compact and the Rules of the Commission. The 11 Multistate License issued by the prior Home State will be deactivated and all Member 12 States notified in accordance with the applicable Rules adopted by the Commission.

(3) Prior to the reissuance of the Multistate License, the new Home State shall conduct procedures for considering the criminal history records of the Licensee. Such procedures shall include the submission of fingerprints or other biometric-based information by applicants for the purpose of obtaining an applicant's criminal history record information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the agency responsible for retaining that State's criminal records.

(4) If required for initial licensure, the new Home State may require completionof jurisprudence requirements in the new Home State.

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Compact, if a Licensee does not
meet the requirements set forth in this Compact for the reissuance of a Multistate
License by the new Home State, then the Licensee shall be subject to the new Home
State requirements for the issuance of a Single State License in that State.

3. If a Licensee changes their primary State of residence by moving from a
Member State to a non-Member State, or from a non-Member State to a Member State,
then the Licensee shall be subject to the State requirements for the issuance of a Single
State License in the new Home State.

4. Nothing in this Compact shall interfere with a Licensee's ability to hold a Single State License in multiple States; however, for the purposes of this Compact, a Licensee shall have only one Home State, and only one Multistate License.

32 5. Nothing in this Compact shall interfere with the requirements established by a
33 Member State for the issuance of a Single State License.

337.1035. An Active Military Member or their spouse shall designate a Home 2 State where the individual has a Multistate License. The individual may retain their

3 Home State designation during the period the service member is on active duty.

337.1040. 1. In addition to the other powers conferred by State law, a Remote 2 State shall have the authority, in accordance with existing State due process law, to:

3 (1) Take Adverse Action against a Regulated Social Worker's Multistate Authorization to Practice only within that Member State, and issue subpoenas for both 4 5 hearings and investigations that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as 6 well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Licensing Authority in a 7 Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court 8 of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court 9 applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing Licensing 10 Authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required 11 by the service statutes of the State in which the witnesses or evidence are located. 12

(2) Only the Home State shall have the power to take Adverse Action against a
Regulated Social Worker's Multistate License.

2. For purposes of taking Adverse Action, the Home State shall give the same priority and effect to reported conduct received from a Member State as it would if the conduct had occurred within the Home State. In so doing, the Home State shall apply its own State laws to determine appropriate action.

The Home State shall complete any pending investigations of a Regulated
 Social Worker who changes their Home State during the course of the investigations.
 The Home State shall also have the authority to take appropriate action(s) and shall
 promptly report the conclusions of the investigations to the administrator of the Data
 System. The administrator of the Data System shall promptly notify the new Home
 State of any Adverse Actions.

4. A Member State, if otherwise permitted by State law, may recover from the affected Regulated Social Worker the costs of investigations and dispositions of cases resulting from any Adverse Action taken against that Regulated Social Worker.

5. A Member State may take Adverse Action based on the factual findings of another Member State, provided that the Member State follows its own procedures for taking the Adverse Action.

6. (1) In addition to the authority granted to a Member State by its respective Social Work practice act or other applicable State law, any Member State may participate with other Member States in joint investigations of Licensees.

34 (2) Member States shall share any investigative, litigation, or compliance
 35 materials in furtherance of any joint or individual investigation initiated under the
 36 Compact.

37 7. If Adverse Action is taken by the Home State against the Multistate License of 38 a Regulated Social Worker, the Regulated Social Worker's Multistate Authorization to 39 Practice in all other Member States shall be deactivated until all Encumbrances have been removed from the Multistate License. All Home State disciplinary orders that 40 impose Adverse Action against the license of a Regulated Social Worker shall include a 41 statement that the Regulated Social Worker's Multistate Authorization to Practice is 42 43 deactivated in all Member States until all conditions of the decision, order or agreement 44 are satisfied.

45 8. If a Member State takes Adverse Action, it shall promptly notify the administrator of the Data System. The administrator of the Data System shall promptly 46 notify the Home State and all other Member States of any Adverse Actions by Remote 47 48 States.

49 9. Nothing in this Compact shall override a Member State's decision that 50 participation in an Alternative Program may be used in lieu of Adverse Action.

51 10. Nothing in this Compact shall authorize a Member State to demand the 52 issuance of subpoenas for attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of 53 evidence from another Member State for lawful actions within that Member State.

54 11. Nothing in this Compact shall authorize a Member State to impose discipline against a Regulated Social Worker who holds a Multistate Authorization to Practice for 55 56 lawful actions within another Member State.

337.1045. 1. The Compact Member States hereby create and establish a joint 2 government agency whose membership consists of all Member States that have enacted 3 the compact known as the Social Work Licensure Compact Commission. The 4 Commission is an instrumentality of the Compact States acting jointly and not an instrumentality of any one State. The Commission shall come into existence on or after 5 the effective date of the Compact as set forth in section 337.1065. 6

7 2. (1) Each Member State shall have and be limited to one (1) delegate selected by that Member State's State Licensing Authority. 8

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(2) The delegate shall be either:

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A current member of the State Licensing Authority at the time of **(a)** appointment, who is a Regulated Social Worker or public member of the State Licensing 11 12 Authority: or

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(b) An administrator of the State Licensing Authority or their designee.

14 (3) The Commission shall by Rule or bylaw establish a term of office for 15 delegates and may by Rule or bylaw establish term limits.

16 (4) The Commission may recommend removal or suspension of any delegate 17 from office.

18 (5) A Member State's State Licensing Authority shall fill any vacancy of its 19 delegate occurring on the Commission within 60 days of the vacancy.

20 (6) Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote on all matters before the 21 Commission requiring a vote by Commission delegates.

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(7) A delegate shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the 23 The bylaws may provide for delegates to meet by telecommunication, bylaws. 24 videoconference, or other means of communication.

25 The Commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year. (8) 26 Additional meetings may be held as set forth in the bylaws. The Commission may meet 27 by telecommunication, video conference or other similar electronic means.

3. The Commission shall have the following powers:

28 29

(1) Establish the fiscal year of the Commission;

30 (2) Establish code of conduct and conflict of interest policies;

(3) Establish and amend Rules and bylaws;

(4) Maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws;

33 (5) Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this 34 Compact, the Commission's Rules, and the bylaws;

35 (6) Initiate and conclude legal proceedings or actions in the name of the 36 Commission, provided that the standing of any State Licensing Board to sue or be sued 37 under applicable law shall not be affected;

38 (7) Maintain and certify records and information provided to a Member State as 39 the authenticated business records of the Commission, and designate an agent to do so on the Commission's behalf: 40

41

(8) Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

42 (9) Borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including, but not 43 limited to, employees of a Member State;

44

(10) Conduct an annual financial review;

45 (11) Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the Compact, 46 and establish the Commission's personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of 47 48 interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel matters;

49

(12) Assess and collect fees:

50 (13) Accept any and all appropriate gifts, donations, grants of money, other sources of revenue, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and receive, utilize, and 51 52 dispose of the same; provided that at all times the Commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest; 53

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(14) Lease, purchase, retain, own, hold, improve, or use any property, real,
 personal, or mixed, or any undivided interest therein;

56 (15) Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise 57 dispose of any property real, personal, or mixed;

58

(16) Establish a budget and make expenditures;

59 60 (17) Borrow money;(18) Appoint committees, including standing committees, composed of members,

61 State regulators, State legislators or their representatives, and consumer 62 representatives, and such other interested persons as may be designated in this 63 Compact and the bylaws;

64 (19) Provide and receive information from, and cooperate with, law enforcement65 agencies;

66 (20) Establish and elect an Executive Committee, including a chair and a vice
 67 chair;

(21) Determine whether a State's adopted language is materially different from
 the model compact language such that the State would not qualify for participation in
 the Compact; and

(22) Perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve
 the purposes of this Compact.

4. (1) The Executive Committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the
Commission according to the terms of this Compact. The powers, duties, and
responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall include:

(a) Oversee the day-to-day activities of the administration of the compact
including enforcement and compliance with the provisions of the compact, its Rules and
bylaws, and other such duties as deemed necessary;

(b) Recommend to the Commission changes to the Rules or bylaws, changes to
this Compact legislation, fees charged to Compact Member States, fees charged to
Licensees, and other fees;

82 (c) Ensure Compact administration services are appropriately provided,
 83 including by contract;

84

(d) Prepare and recommend the budget;

85

(e) Maintain financial records on behalf of the Commission:

86 (f) Monitor Compact compliance of Member States and provide compliance 87 reports to the Commission;

88 (g) Establish additional committees as necessary;

89 (h) Exercise the powers and duties of the Commission during the interim 90 between Commission meetings, except for adopting or amending Rules, adopting or

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amending bylaws, and exercising any other powers and duties expressly reserved to the
Commission by Rule or bylaw; and

93

(i) Other duties as provided in the Rules or bylaws of the Commission.

94 (2) The Executive Committee shall be composed of up to eleven (11) members:

95 (a) The chair and vice chair of the Commission shall be voting members of the
96 Executive Committee; and

97 (b) The Commission shall elect five voting members from the current 98 membership of the Commission.

99 (c) Up to four (4) ex-officio, nonvoting members from four (4) recognized 100 national Social Work organizations.

101 (d) The ex-officio members will be selected by their respective organizations.

102 (3) The Commission may remove any member of the Executive Committee as103 provided in the Commission's bylaws.

104

(4) The Executive Committee shall meet at least annually.

105 (a) Executive Committee meetings shall be open to the public, except that the
106 Executive Committee may meet in a closed, non-public meeting as provided in
107 subdivision (2) of subsection 6 of this section.

(b) The Executive Committee shall give seven (7) days' notice of its meetings,
posted on its website and as determined to provide notice to persons with an interest in
the business of the Commission.

111 (c) The Executive Committee may hold a special meeting in accordance with112 paragraph (b) of subdivision (1) of subsection 6 of this section.

113 5. The Commission shall adopt and provide to the Member States an annual114 report.

115 6. (1) All meetings shall be open to the public, except that the Commission may 116 meet in a closed, non-public meeting as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(a) Public notice for all meetings of the full Commission of meetings shall be
given in the same manner as required under the Rulemaking provisions in section
337.1055, except that the Commission may hold a special meeting as provided in
paragraph (b) of this subdivision.

121 (b) The Commission may hold a special meeting when it must meet to conduct 122 emergency business by giving 48 hours' notice to all commissioners, on the 123 Commission's website, and other means as provided in the Commission's Rules. The 124 Commission's legal counsel shall certify that the Commission's need to meet qualifies as 125 an emergency.

126 (2) The Commission or the Executive Committee or other committees of the 127 Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting for the Commission or

to discuss:

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Executive Committee or other committees of the Commission to receive legal advice or

130 (a) Non-compliance of a Member State with its obligations under the Compact; 131 (b) The employment, compensation, discipline or other matters, practices or 132 procedures related to specific employees; 133 (c) Current or threatened discipline of a Licensee by the Commission or by a 134 Member State's Licensing Authority; 135 (d) Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation; 136 (e) Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or sale of goods, services, or 137 real estate: (f) Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person; 138 139 (g) Trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged or 140 confidential: 141 (h) Information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly 142 unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; 143 (i) Investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes; 144 (j) Information related to any investigative reports prepared by or on behalf of 145 or for use of the Commission or other committee charged with responsibility of 146 investigation or determination of compliance issues pursuant to the Compact; 147 (k) Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal or Member State 148 law; or 149 (I) Other matters as promulgated by the Commission by Rule. 150 (3) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed, the presiding officer shall state 151 that the meeting will be closed and reference each relevant exempting provision, and 152 such reference shall be recorded in the minutes. 153 The Commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all (4) matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions 154 155 taken, and the reasons therefor, including a description of the views expressed. All 156 documents considered in connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to 157 158 release only by a majority vote of the Commission or order of a court of competent 159 jurisdiction. 160 7. (1) The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities. 161 162 (2) The Commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources as provided in subdivision (13) of subsection 3 of this section. 163

(3) The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each Member State and impose fees on Licensees of Member States to whom it grants a Multistate License to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the Commission and its staff, which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount for Member States shall be allocated based upon a formula that the Commission shall promulgate by Rule.

171 (4) The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the 172 funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the Commission pledge the credit of any of 173 the Member States, except by and with the authority of the Member State.

174 (5) The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and 175 disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall be subject 176 to the financial review and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. 177 However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission shall be 178 subject to an annual financial review by a certified or licensed public accountant, and 179 the report of the financial review shall be included in and become part of the annual 180 report of the Commission.

181 8. (1) The members, officers, executive director, employees and representatives 182 of the Commission shall be immune from suit and liability, both personally and in their 183 official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or 184 other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or 185 omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a 186 reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, 187 duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability 188 189 caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person. The 190 procurement of insurance of any type by the Commission shall not in any way 191 compromise or limit the immunity granted hereunder.

192 The Commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director, (2) employee, and representative of the Commission in any civil action seeking to impose 193 194 liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or as determined by 195 196 the Commission that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis 197 for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or 198 responsibilities; provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that 199 person from retaining their own counsel at their own expense; and provided further,

200 that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's 201 intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.

202 (3) The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, 203 executive director, employee, and representative of the Commission for the amount of 204 any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or 205 alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission 206 employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis 207 for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or 208 responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not 209 result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

(4) Nothing herein shall be construed as a limitation on the liability of any
 Licensee for professional malpractice or misconduct, which shall be governed solely by
 any other applicable State laws.

(5) Nothing in this Compact shall be interpreted to waive or otherwise abrogate a Member State's state action immunity or state action affirmative defense with respect to antitrust claims under the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, or any other State or federal antitrust or anticompetitive law or regulation.

(6) Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereignimmunity by the Member States or by the Commission.

337.1050. 1. The Commission shall provide for the development, maintenance,2 operation, and utilization of a coordinated Data System.

3 2. The Commission shall assign each applicant for a Multistate License a unique
4 identifier, as determined by the Rules of the Commission.

5 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the contrary, a Member 6 State shall submit a uniform data set to the Data System on all individuals to whom this

7 Compact is applicable as required by the Rules of the Commission, including:

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(1) Identifying information;

9 (2) Licensure data;

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(3) Adverse Actions against a license and information related thereto;

(4) Non-confidential information related to Alternative Program participation,
the beginning and ending dates of such participation, and other information related to
such participation not made confidential under Member State law;

14 (5) Any denial of application for licensure, and the reason or reasons for such 15 denial;

16 (6) The presence of Current Significant Investigative Information; and

17 (7) Other information that may facilitate the administration of this Compact or 18 the protection of the public, as determined by the Rules of the Commission. 19 4. The records and information provided to a Member State pursuant to this 20 Compact or through the Data System, when certified by the Commission or an agent 21 thereof, shall constitute the authenticated business records of the Commission, and shall 22 be entitled to any associated hearsay exception in any relevant judicial, quasi-judicial or 23 administrative proceedings in a Member State.

5. (1) Current Significant Investigative Information pertaining to a Licensee in any Member State will only be available to other Member States.

(2) It is the responsibility of the Member States to report any Adverse Action
against a Licensee and to monitor the database to determine whether Adverse Action
has been taken against a Licensee. Adverse Action information pertaining to a Licensee
in any Member State will be available to any other Member State.

6. Member States contributing information to the Data System may designate
 information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of
 the contributing State.

7. Any information submitted to the Data System that is subsequently expunged
pursuant to federal law or the laws of the Member State contributing the information
shall be removed from the Data System.

337.1055. 1. The Commission shall promulgate reasonable Rules in order to effectively and efficiently implement and administer the purposes and provisions of the Compact. A Rule shall be invalid and have no force or effect only if a court of competent jurisdiction holds that the Rule is invalid because the Commission exercised its rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope and purposes of the Compact, or the powers granted hereunder, or based upon another applicable standard of review.

8 2. The Rules of the Commission shall have the force of law in each Member 9 State, provided however that where the Rules of the Commission conflict with the laws 10 of the Member State that establish the Member State's laws, regulations, and applicable 11 standards that govern the practice of Social Work as held by a court of competent 12 jurisdiction, the Rules of the Commission shall be ineffective in that State to the extent 13 of the conflict.

3. The Commission shall exercise its Rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this Section and the Rules adopted thereunder. Rules shall become binding on the day following adoption or the date specified in the rule or amendment, whichever is later.

4. If a majority of the legislatures of the Member States rejects a Rule or portion
 of a Rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the

20 Compact within four (4) years of the date of adoption of the Rule, then such Rule shall have no further force and effect in any Member State. 21 22 5. Rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of the Commission. 23 6. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule, the Commission shall hold a public 24 hearing and allow persons to provide oral and written comments, data, facts, opinions, 25 and arguments. 26 7. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule by the Commission, and at least thirty 27 (30) days in advance of the meeting at which the Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed Rule, the Commission shall provide a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: 28 29 (1) On the website of the Commission or other publicly accessible platform; 30 (2) To persons who have requested notice of the Commission's notices of proposed rulemaking; and 31 32 (3) In such other way(s) as the Commission may by Rule specify. 33 8. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking shall include: 34 (1) The time, date, and location of the public hearing at which the Commission 35 will hear public comments on the proposed Rule and, if different, the time, date, and 36 location of the meeting where the Commission will consider and vote on the proposed 37 Rule; 38 (2) If the hearing is held via telecommunication, video conference, or other 39 electronic means, the Commission shall include the mechanism for access to the hearing 40 in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking; 41 (3) The text of the proposed Rule and the reason therefor; 42 (4) A request for comments on the proposed Rule from any interested person; 43 and 44 (5) The manner in which interested persons may submit written comments. 45 9. All hearings will be recorded. A copy of the recording and all written comments and documents received by the Commission in response to the proposed Rule 46 47 shall be available to the public. 48 10. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on each Rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the Commission at hearings 49 required by this section. 50 51 11. The Commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final action on 52 the proposed Rule based on the Rulemaking record and the full text of the Rule. 53 (1) The Commission may adopt changes to the proposed Rule provided the 54 changes do not enlarge the original purpose of the proposed Rule.

55 (2) The Commission shall provide an explanation of the reasons for substantive 56 changes made to the proposed Rule as well as reasons for substantive changes not made 57 that were recommended by commenters.

58 (3) The Commission shall determine a reasonable effective date for the Rule. 59 Except for an emergency as provided in subsection 12 of this section, the effective date 60 of the rule shall be no sooner than 30 days after issuing the notice that it adopted or 61 amended the Rule.

12. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and adopt an emergency Rule with 48 hours' notice, with opportunity to comment, provided that the usual Rulemaking procedures provided in the Compact and in this section shall be retroactively applied to the Rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety (90) days after the effective date of the Rule. For the purposes of this provision, an emergency Rule is one that must be adopted immediately in order to:

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

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(2) Prevent a loss of Commission or Member State funds;

70 (3) Meet a deadline for the promulgation of a Rule that is established by federal
71 law or rule; or

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(4) Protect public health and safety.

73 13. The Commission or an authorized committee of the Commission may direct 74 revisions to a previously adopted Rule for purposes of correcting typographical errors, 75 errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of any 76 revisions shall be posted on the website of the Commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of thirty (30) days after posting. The revision 77 78 may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material change to a 79 Rule. A challenge shall be made in writing and delivered to the Commission prior to the 80 end of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the 81 82 approval of the Commission.

14. No Member State's rulemaking requirements shall apply under this
 compact.

337.1060. 1. (1) The executive and judicial branches of State government in 2 each Member State shall enforce this Compact and take all actions necessary and 3 appropriate to implement the Compact.

4 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this Compact, venue is proper and judicial 5 proceedings by or against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a 6 court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is located. 7 The Commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or 8 consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings. Nothing herein
9 shall affect or limit the selection or propriety of venue in any action against a Licensee
10 for professional malpractice, misconduct or any such similar matter.

11 (3) The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any 12 proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the Compact and shall have 13 standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide the 14 Commission service of process shall render a judgment or order void as to the 15 Commission, this Compact, or promulgated Rules.

16 2. (1) If the Commission determines that a Member State has defaulted in the 17 performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this Compact or the 18 promulgated Rules, the Commission shall provide written notice to the defaulting 19 State. The notice of default shall describe the default, the proposed means of curing the 20 default, and any other action that the Commission may take, and shall offer training 21 and specific technical assistance regarding the default.

(2) The Commission shall provide a copy of the notice of default to the otherMember States.

3. If a State in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting State may be terminated from the Compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates of the Member States, and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred on that State by this Compact may be terminated on the effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending State of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.

4. Termination of membership in the Compact shall be imposed only after all
other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or
terminate shall be given by the Commission to the governor, the majority and minority
leaders of the defaulting State's legislature, the defaulting State's State Licensing
Authority and each of the Member States' State Licensing Authority.

35 5. A State that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments,
36 obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including
37 obligations that extend beyond the effective date of termination.

6. Upon the termination of a State's membership from this Compact, that State
shall immediately provide notice to all Licensees within that State of such termination.
The terminated State shall continue to recognize all licenses granted pursuant to this
Compact for a minimum of six (6) months after the date of said notice of termination.
7. The Commission shall not bear any costs related to a State that is found to be
in default or that has been terminated from the Compact, unless agreed upon in writing

44 between the Commission and the defaulting State.

45 8. The defaulting State may appeal the action of the Commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the 46 47 Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees. 48

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9. (1) Upon request by a Member State, the Commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the Compact that arise among Member States and between Member 50 51 and non-Member States.

52 (2) The Commission shall promulgate a Rule providing for both mediation and 53 binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

54 10. (1) By majority vote as provided by Rule, the Commission may initiate legal 55 action against a Member State in default in the United States District Court for the 56 District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its principal 57 offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of the Compact and its promulgated 58 Rules. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such 59 60 litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees. The remedies herein shall not be the 61 exclusive remedies of the Commission. The Commission may pursue any other 62 remedies available under federal or the defaulting Member State's law.

63 (2) A Member State may initiate legal action against the Commission in the U.S. 64 District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission 65 has its principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of the Compact and its promulgated Rules. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. 66 67 In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees. 68

69 (3) No person other than a Member State shall enforce this compact against the Commission. 70

337.1065. 1. The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which the 2 Compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh Member State.

3 (1) On or after the effective date of the Compact, the Commission shall convene and review the enactment of each of the first seven Member States ("Charter Member 4 5 States") to determine if the statute enacted by each such Charter Member State is materially different than the model Compact statute. 6

7 (a) A Charter Member State whose enactment is found to be materially different from the model Compact statute shall be entitled to the default process set forth in 8 9 section 337.1060.

10 (b) If any Member State is later found to be in default, or is terminated or withdraws from the Compact, the Commission shall remain in existence and the 11

12 Compact shall remain in effect even if the number of Member States should be less than13 seven.

(2) Member States enacting the Compact subsequent to the seven initial Charter
Member States shall be subject to the process set forth in subdivision (21) of subsection
3 of section 337.1045 to determine if their enactments are materially different from the
model Compact statute and whether they qualify for participation in the Compact.

(3) All actions taken for the benefit of the Commission or in furtherance of the
 purposes of the administration of the Compact prior to the effective date of the Compact
 or the Commission coming into existence shall be considered to be actions of the
 Commission unless specifically repudiated by the Commission.

(4) Any State that joins the Compact subsequent to the Commission's initial adoption of the Rules and bylaws shall be subject to the Rules and bylaws as they exist on the date on which the Compact becomes law in that State. Any Rule that has been previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the Compact becomes law in that State.

27 **2.** Any Member State may withdraw from this Compact by enacting a statute 28 repealing the same.

(1) A Member State's withdrawal shall not take effect until 180 days after
 30 enactment of the repealing statute.

(2) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing
 State's Licensing Authority to comply with the investigative and Adverse Action
 reporting requirements of this Compact prior to the effective date of withdrawal.

34 (3) Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing from this compact, a State shall
35 immediately provide notice of such withdrawal to all Licensees within that State.
36 Notwithstanding any subsequent statutory enactment to the contrary, such withdrawing
37 State shall continue to recognize all licenses granted pursuant to this compact for a
38 minimum of 180 days after the date of such notice of withdrawal.

39 **3.** Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent 40 any licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a Member State 41 and a non-Member State that does not conflict with the provisions of this Compact.

42 4. This Compact may be amended by the Member States. No amendment to this
43 Compact shall become effective and binding upon any Member State until it is enacted
44 into the laws of all Member States.

337.1070. 1. This Compact and the Commission's rulemaking authority shall be
2 liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes, and the implementation and
3 administration of the Compact. Provisions of the Compact expressly authorizing or

4 requiring the promulgation of Rules shall not be construed to limit the Commission's
5 rulemaking authority solely for those purposes.

6 2. The provisions of this Compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, 7 sentence or provision of this Compact is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be 8 contrary to the constitution of any Member State, a State seeking participation in the 9 Compact, or of the United States, or the applicability thereof to any government, 10 agency, person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent 11 jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of this Compact and the applicability thereof 12 to any other government, agency, person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

3. Notwithstanding subsection 2 of this section, the Commission may deny a State's participation in the Compact or, in accordance with the requirements of subsection 2 of section 337.1060, terminate a Member State's participation in the Compact, if it determines that a constitutional requirement of a Member State is a material departure from the Compact. Otherwise, if this Compact shall be held to be contrary to the constitution of any Member State, the Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining Member States and in full force and effect as to the Member State affected as to all severable matters.

337.1075. 1. A Licensee providing services in a Remote State under a Multistate Authorization to Practice shall adhere to the laws and regulations, including laws, regulations, and applicable standards, of the Remote State where the client is located at the time care is rendered.

5 2. Nothing herein shall prevent or inhibit the enforcement of any other law of a 6 Member State that is not inconsistent with the Compact.

3. Any laws, statutes, regulations, or other legal requirements in a Member State
in conflict with the Compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict.

9 4. All permissible agreements between the Commission and the Member States 10 are binding in accordance with their terms.

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