FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 327

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BROWN (26).

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 332, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to licensure of dentists and dental hygienists.

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

Section A. Chapter 332, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 332.700, to read as follows:

332.700. SECTION 1. TITLE AND PURPOSE

2 This statute shall be known and cited as the Dentist 3 and Dental Hygienist Compact. The purposes of this Compact 4 are to facilitate the interstate practice of dentistry and 5 dental hygiene and improve public access to dentistry and 6 dental hygiene services by providing Dentists and Dental 7 Hygienists licensed in a Participating State the ability to 8 practice in Participating States in which they are not 9 The Compact does this by establishing a pathway licensed. 10 for Dentists and Dental Hygienists licensed in a 11 Participating State to obtain a Compact Privilege that 12 authorizes them to practice in another Participating State in which they are not licensed. The Compact enables 13 Participating States to protect the public health and safety 14 15 with respect to the practice of such Dentists and Dental 16 Hygienists, through the State's authority to regulate the 17 practice of dentistry and dental hygiene in the State. The 18 Compact:

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A. Enables Dentists and Dental Hygienists who qualify
for a Compact Privilege to practice in other Participating
States without satisfying burdensome and duplicative
requirements associated with securing a License to practice
in those States;

B. Promotes mobility and addresses workforce shortages
through each Participating State's acceptance of a Compact
Privilege to practice in that State;

C. Increases public access to qualified, licensed
Dentists and Dental Hygienists by creating a responsible,
streamlined pathway for Licensees to practice in
Participating States;

31 D. Enhances the ability of Participating States to 32 protect the public's health and safety;

33 E. Does not interfere with licensure requirements 34 established by a Participating State;

35 F. Facilitates the sharing of licensure and 36 disciplinary information among Participating States;

G. Requires Dentists and Dental Hygienists who
practice in a Participating State pursuant to a Compact
Privilege to practice within the Scope of Practice
authorized in that State;

H. Extends the authority of a Participating State to
regulate the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene within
its borders to Dentists and Dental Hygienists who practice
in the State through a Compact Privilege;

I. Promotes the cooperation of Participating States in
regulating the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene
within those States;

J. Facilitates the relocation of military members and their spouses who are licensed to practice dentistry or dental hygiene;

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SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

52 As used in this Compact, unless the context requires 53 otherwise, the following definitions shall apply:

A. "Active Military Member" means any person with fulltime duty status in the armed forces of the United States, including members of the National Guard and Reserve.

57 B. "Adverse Action" means disciplinary action or 58 encumbrance imposed on a License or Compact Privilege by a 59 State Licensing Authority.

60 C. "Alternative Program" means a non-disciplinary 61 monitoring or practice remediation process applicable to a 62 Dentist or Dental Hygienist approved by a State Licensing 63 Authority of a Participating State in which the Dentist or 64 Dental Hygienist is licensed. This includes, but is not 65 limited to, programs to which Licensees with substance abuse 66 or addiction issues are referred in lieu of Adverse Action.

D. "Clinical Assessment" means examination or process,
required for licensure as a Dentist or Dental Hygienist as
applicable, that provides evidence of clinical competence in
dentistry or dental hygiene.

E. "Commissioner" means the individual appointed by a
Participating State to serve as the member of the Commission
for that Participating State.

F. "Compact" means this Dentist and Dental Hygienist
Compact.

G. "Compact Privilege" means the authorization granted
by a Remote State to allow a Licensee from a Participating
State to practice as a Dentist or Dental Hygienist in a
Remote State.

H. "Continuing Professional Development" means a
 requirement, as a condition of License renewal to provide

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evidence of successful participation in educational or
 professional activities relevant to practice or area of work.

I. "Criminal Background Check" means the submission of fingerprints or other biometric-based information for a License applicant for the purpose of obtaining that applicant's criminal history record information, as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(d) from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the State's criminal history record repository as defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(f).

J. "Data System" means the Commission's repository of
information about Licensees, including but not limited to
examination, licensure, investigative, Compact Privilege,
Adverse Action, and Alternative Program.

95 K. "Dental Hygienist" means an individual who is
96 licensed by a State Licensing Authority to practice dental
97 hygiene.

98 L. "Dentist" means an individual who is licensed by a
99 State Licensing Authority to practice dentistry.

100 M. "Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact Commission" 101 or "Commission" means a joint government agency established 102 by this Compact comprised of each State that has enacted the 103 Compact and a national administrative body comprised of a 104 Commissioner from each State that has enacted the Compact.

N. "Encumbered License" means a License that a State
 Licensing Authority has limited in any way other than
 through an Alternative Program.

108 O. "Executive Board" means the Chair, Vice Chair,
109 Secretary and Treasurer and any other Commissioners as may
110 be determined by Commission Rule or bylaw.

P. "Jurisprudence Requirement" means the assessment of
 an individual's knowledge of the laws and Rules governing

113 the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene, as applicable,114 in a State.

Q. "License" means current authorization by a State,
other than authorization pursuant to a Compact Privilege, or
other privilege, for an individual to practice as a Dentist
or Dental Hygienist in that State.

R. "Licensee" means an individual who holds an
unrestricted License from a Participating State to practice
as a Dentist or Dental Hygienist in that State.

S. "Model Compact" the model for the Dentist and
Dental Hygienist Compact on file with the Council of State
Governments or other entity as designated by the Commission.

125 T. "Participating State" means a State that has 126 enacted the Compact and been admitted to the Commission in 127 accordance with the provisions herein and Commission Rules.

U. "Qualifying License" means a License that is not an
 Encumbered License issued by a Participating State to
 practice dentistry or dental hygiene.

131 V. "Remote State" means a Participating State where a
132 Licensee who is not licensed as a Dentist or Dental
133 Hygienist is exercising or seeking to exercise the Compact
134 Privilege.

W. "Rule" means a regulation promulgated by an entitythat has the force of law.

137 х. "Scope of Practice" means the procedures, actions, 138 and processes a Dentist or Dental Hygienist licensed in a State is permitted to undertake in that State and the 139 140 circumstances under which the Licensee is permitted to undertake those procedures, actions and processes. 141 Such 142 procedures, actions and processes and the circumstances 143 under which they may be undertaken may be established 144 through means, including, but not limited to, statute,

regulations, case law, and other processes available to the
State Licensing Authority or other government agency.

147 Υ. "Significant Investigative Information" means information, records, and documents received or generated by 148 a State Licensing Authority pursuant to an investigation for 149 150 which a determination has been made that there is probable 151 cause to believe that the Licensee has violated a statute or 152 regulation that is considered more than a minor infraction 153 for which the State Licensing Authority could pursue Adverse 154 Action against the Licensee.

155 Z. "State" means any state, commonwealth, district, or 156 territory of the United States of America that regulates the 157 practices of dentistry and dental hygiene.

AA. "State Licensing Authority" means an agency or other entity of a State that is responsible for the licensing and regulation of Dentists or Dental Hygienists.

161 SECTION 3. STATE PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPACT

162A. In order to join the Compact and thereafter163continue as a Participating State, a State must:

164 1. Enact a compact that is not materially different 165 from the Model Compact as determined in accordance with 166 Commission Rules;

167 2. Participate fully in the Commission's Data System;
168 3. Have a mechanism in place for receiving and
169 investigating complaints about its Licensees and License
170 applicants;

4. Notify the Commission, in compliance with the terms
of the Compact and Commission Rules, of any Adverse Action
or the availability of Significant Investigative Information
regarding a Licensee and License applicant;

Fully implement a Criminal Background Check
 requirement, within a time frame established by Commission

177 Rule, by receiving the results of a qualifying Criminal
178 Background Check;

179 6. Comply with the Commission Rules applicable to a
 180 Participating State;

7. Accept the National Board Examinations of the Joint
Commission on National Dental Examinations or another
examination accepted by Commission Rule as a licensure
examination;

185 8. Accept for licensure that applicants for a Dentist 186 License graduate from a predoctoral dental education program 187 accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, or 188 another accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education for the accreditation of dentistry 189 190 and dental hygiene education programs, leading to the Doctor 191 of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) or Doctor of Dental Medicine 192 (D.M.D.) degree;

9. Accept for licensure that applicants for a Dental
Hygienist License graduate from a dental hygiene education
program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation
or another accrediting agency recognized by the United
States Department of Education for the accreditation of
dentistry and dental hygiene education programs;

199 10. Require for licensure that applicants successfully
200 complete a Clinical Assessment;

20111. Have Continuing Professional Development202requirements as a condition for License renewal; and

203 12. Pay a participation fee to the Commission as
204 established by Commission Rule.

205 B. Providing alternative pathways for an individual to 206 obtain an unrestricted License does not disqualify a State 207 from participating in the Compact.

208 C. When conducting a Criminal Background Check the 209 State Licensing Authority shall:

210 1. Consider that information in making a licensure
211 decision;

212 2. Maintain documentation of completion of the
213 Criminal Background Check and background check information
214 to the extent allowed by State and federal law; and

3. Report to the Commission whether it has completed
the Criminal Background Check and whether the individual was
granted or denied a License.

218 D. A Licensee of a Participating State who has a Qualifying License in that State and does not hold an 219 220 Encumbered License in any other Participating State, shall 221 be issued a Compact Privilege in a Remote State in 222 accordance with the terms of the Compact and Commission If a Remote State has a Jurisprudence Requirement a 223 Rules. 224 Compact Privilege will not be issued to the Licensee unless 225 the Licensee has satisfied the Jurisprudence Requirement.

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SECTION 4. COMPACT PRIVILEGE

227 A. To obtain and exercise the Compact Privilege under 228 the terms and provisions of the Compact, the Licensee shall:

Have a Qualifying License as a Dentist or Dental
Hygienist in a Participating State;

231 2. Be eligible for a Compact Privilege in any Remote
232 State in accordance with D, G and H of this section;

3. Submit to an application process whenever the
Licensee is seeking a Compact Privilege;

235 4. Pay any applicable Commission and Remote State fees
236 for a Compact Privilege in the Remote State;

237 5. Meet any Jurisprudence Requirement established by a
238 Remote State in which the Licensee is seeking a Compact
239 Privilege;

6. Have passed a National Board Examination of the
Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations or another
examination accepted by Commission Rule;

7. For a Dentist, have graduated from a predoctoral
dental education program accredited by the Commission on
Dental Accreditation, or another accrediting agency
recognized by the United States Department of Education for
the accreditation of dentistry and dental hygiene education
programs, leading to the Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.)
or Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) degree;

8. For a Dental Hygienist, have graduated from a dental hygiene education program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation or another accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education for the accreditation of dentistry and dental hygiene education programs;

9. Have successfully completed a Clinical Assessment
 for licensure;

10. Report to the Commission Adverse Action taken by
any non-Participating State when applying for a Compact
Privilege and, otherwise, within thirty (30) days from the
date the Adverse Action is taken;

262 11. Report to the Commission when applying for a 263 Compact Privilege the address of the Licensee's primary 264 residence and thereafter immediately report to the 265 Commission any change in the address of the Licensee's 266 primary residence; and

12. Consent to accept service of process by mail at the Licensee's primary residence on record with the Commission with respect to any action brought against the Licensee by the Commission or a Participating State, and consent to accept service of a subpoena by mail at the

Licensee's primary residence on record with the Commission
with respect to any action brought or investigation
conducted by the Commission or a Participating State.

275 The Licensee must comply with the requirements of В. 276 subsection A of this section to maintain the Compact 277 Privilege in the Remote State. If those requirements are 278 met, the Compact Privilege will continue as long as the 279 Licensee maintains a Qualifying License in the State through 280 which the Licensee applied for the Compact Privilege and 281 pays any applicable Compact Privilege renewal fees.

282 C. A Licensee providing dentistry or dental hygiene in 283 a Remote State under the Compact Privilege shall function 284 within the Scope of Practice authorized by the Remote State 285 for a Dentist or Dental Hygienist licensed in that State.

286 D. A Licensee providing dentistry or dental hygiene 287 pursuant to a Compact Privilege in a Remote State is subject 288 to that State's regulatory authority. A Remote State may, in accordance with due process and that State's laws, by 289 290 Adverse Action revoke or remove a Licensee's Compact 291 Privilege in the Remote State for a specific period of time 292 and impose fines or take any other necessary actions to 293 protect the health and safety of its citizens. If a Remote 294 State imposes an Adverse Action against a Compact Privilege 295 that limits the Compact Privilege, that Adverse Action 296 applies to all Compact Privileges in all Remote States. Α 297 Licensee whose Compact Privilege in a Remote State is 298 removed for a specified period of time is not eligible for a 299 Compact Privilege in any other Remote State until the 300 specific time for removal of the Compact Privilege has 301 passed and all encumbrance requirements are satisfied.

302 E. If a License in a Participating State is an 303 Encumbered License, the Licensee shall lose the Compact

304 Privilege in a Remote State and shall not be eligible for a 305 Compact Privilege in any Remote State until the License is 306 no longer encumbered.

F. Once an Encumbered License in a Participating State
is restored to good standing, the Licensee must meet the
requirements of subsection A of this section to obtain a
Compact Privilege in a Remote State.

311 G. If a Licensee's Compact Privilege in a Remote State 312 is removed by the Remote State, the individual shall lose or 313 be ineligible for the Compact Privilege in any Remote State 314 until the following occur:

315 1. The specific period of time for which the Compact
316 Privilege was removed has ended; and

317 2. All conditions for removal of the Compact Privilege
318 have been satisfied.

319 H. Once the requirements of subsection G of this 320 section have been met, the Licensee must meet the 321 requirements in subsection A of this section to obtain a 322 Compact Privilege in a Remote State.

SECTION 5. ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBER OR THEIR SPOUSES

An Active Military Member and their spouse shall not be required to pay to the Commission for a Compact Privilege the fee otherwise charged by the Commission. If a Remote State chooses to charge a fee for a Compact Privilege, it may choose to charge a reduced fee or no fee to an Active Military Member and their spouse for a Compact Privilege.

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SECTION 6. ADVERSE ACTIONS

A. A Participating State in which a Licensee is licensed shall have exclusive authority to impose Adverse Action against the Qualifying License issued by that Participating State.

B. A Participating State may take Adverse Action based on the Significant Investigative Information of a Remote State, so long as the Participating State follows its own procedures for imposing Adverse Action.

Nothing in this Compact shall override a 339 С. 340 Participating State's decision that participation in an Alternative Program may be used in lieu of Adverse Action 341 342 and that such participation shall remain non-public if 343 required by the Participating State's laws. Participating 344 States must require Licensees who enter any Alternative 345 Program in lieu of discipline to agree not to practice 346 pursuant to a Compact Privilege in any other Participating State during the term of the Alternative Program without 347 348 prior authorization from such other Participating State.

349 D. Any Participating State in which a Licensee is 350 applying to practice or is practicing pursuant to a Compact 351 Privilege may investigate actual or alleged violations of 352 the statutes and regulations authorizing the practice of 353 dentistry or dental hygiene in any other Participating State 354 in which the Dentist or Dental Hygienist holds a License or 355 Compact Privilege.

E. A Remote State shall have the authority to: 1. Take Adverse Actions as set forth in Section 4.D against a Licensee's Compact Privilege in the State;

359 2. In furtherance of its rights and responsibilities under the Compact and the Commission's Rules issue subpoenas 360 for both hearings and investigations that require the 361 362 attendance and testimony of witnesses, and the production of Subpoenas issued by a State Licensing Authority 363 evidence. 364 in a Participating State for the attendance and testimony of 365 witnesses, or the production of evidence from another 366 Participating State, shall be enforced in the latter State

367 by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the 368 practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas 369 issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing 370 authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, 371 mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes of 372 the State where the witnesses or evidence are located; and

373 3. If otherwise permitted by State law, recover from 374 the Licensee the costs of investigations and disposition of 375 cases resulting from any Adverse Action taken against that 376 Licensee.

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F. Joint Investigations

In addition to the authority granted to a
 Participating State by its Dentist or Dental Hygienist
 licensure act or other applicable State law, a Participating
 State may jointly investigate Licensees with other
 Participating States.

2. Participating States shall share any Significant
 Investigative Information, litigation, or compliance
 materials in furtherance of any joint or individual
 investigation initiated under the Compact.

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G. Authority to Continue Investigation

388 1. After a Licensee's Compact Privilege in a Remote 389 State is terminated, the Remote State may continue an 390 investigation of the Licensee that began when the Licensee 391 had a Compact Privilege in that Remote State.

392 2. If the investigation yields what would be 393 Significant Investigative Information had the Licensee 394 continued to have a Compact Privilege in that Remote State, 395 the Remote State shall report the presence of such 396 information to the Data System as required by Section 8.B.6 397 as if it was Significant Investigative Information.

398SECTION 7. ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE399COMMISSION

400 Α. The Compact Participating States hereby create and establish a joint government agency whose membership 401 consists of all Participating States that have enacted the 402 403 Compact. The Commission is an instrumentality of the Participating States acting jointly and not an 404 405 instrumentality of any one State. The Commission shall come 406 into existence on or after the effective date of the Compact 407 as set forth in Section 11A.

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B. Participation, Voting, and Meetings

409 1. Each Participating State shall have and be limited
410 to one (1) Commissioner selected by that Participating
411 State's State Licensing Authority or, if the State has more
412 than one State Licensing Authority, selected collectively by
413 the State Licensing Authorities.

414 2. The Commissioner shall be a member or designee of
415 such Authority or Authorities.

3. The Commission may by Rule or bylaw establish a
term of office for Commissioners and may by Rule or bylaw
establish term limits.

419 4. The Commission may recommend to a State Licensing
420 Authority or Authorities, as applicable, removal or
421 suspension of an individual as the State's Commissioner.

A Participating State's State Licensing Authority,
or Authorities, as applicable, shall fill any vacancy of its
Commissioner on the Commission within sixty (60) days of the
vacancy.

426 6. Each Commissioner shall be entitled to one vote on 427 all matters that are voted upon by the Commission.

428 7. The Commission shall meet at least once during each 429 calendar year. Additional meetings may be held as set forth

430 in the bylaws. The Commission may meet by telecommunication,
431 video conference or other similar electronic means.

432 C. The Commission shall have the following powers:
433 1. Establish the fiscal year of the Commission;
434 2. Establish a code of conduct and conflict of

435 interest policies;

Adopt Rules and bylaws;

437 4. Maintain its financial records in accordance with
438 the bylaws;

439 5. Meet and take such actions as are consistent with
440 the provisions of this Compact, the Commission's Rules, and
441 the bylaws;

442 6. Initiate and conclude legal proceedings or actions
443 in the name of the Commission, provided that the standing of
444 any State Licensing Authority to sue or be sued under
445 applicable law shall not be affected;

7. Maintain and certify records and information
provided to a Participating State as the authenticated
business records of the Commission, and designate a person
to do so on the Commission's behalf;

8. Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;
9. Borrow, accept, or contract for services of
personnel, including, but not limited to, employees of a
Participating State;

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10. Conduct an annual financial review;

455 11. Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix 456 compensation, define duties, grant such individuals 457 appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the 458 Compact, and establish the Commission's personnel policies 459 and programs relating to conflicts of interest, 460 qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel 461 matters;

462 12. As set forth in the Commission Rules, charge a fee to a Licensee for the grant of a Compact Privilege in a 463 Remote State and thereafter, as may be established by 464 Commission Rule, charge the Licensee a Compact Privilege 465 renewal fee for each renewal period in which that Licensee 466 467 exercises or intends to exercise the Compact Privilege in that Remote State. Nothing herein shall be construed to 468 469 prevent a Remote State from charging a Licensee a fee for a 470 Compact Privilege or renewals of a Compact Privilege, or a 471 fee for the Jurisprudence Requirement if the Remote State 472 imposes such a requirement for the grant of a Compact 473 Privilege;

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

480 14. Lease, purchase, retain, own, hold, improve, or
481 use any property, real, personal, or mixed, or any undivided
482 interest therein;

483 15. Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange,
484 abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property real,
485 personal, or mixed;

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16. Establish a budget and make expenditures;

487 **17.** Borrow money;

488 18. Appoint committees, including standing committees, 489 which may be composed of members, State regulators, State 490 legislators or their representatives, and consumer 491 representatives, and such other interested persons as may be 492 designated in this Compact and the bylaws;

493 19. Provide and receive information from, and
494 cooperate with, law enforcement agencies;

20. Elect a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer
and such other officers of the Commission as provided in the
Commission's bylaws;

21. Establish and elect an Executive Board;

499 22. Adopt and provide to the Participating States an
 500 annual report;

501 23. Determine whether a State's enacted compact is 502 materially different from the Model Compact language such 503 that the State would not qualify for participation in the 504 Compact; and

50524. Perform such other functions as may be necessary506or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this Compact.

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D.

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Meetings of the Commission

All meetings of the Commission that are not closed
 pursuant to this subsection shall be open to the public.
 Notice of public meetings shall be posted on the
 Commission's website at least thirty (30) days prior to the
 public meeting.

513 2. Notwithstanding subsection D.1 of this section, the Commission may convene an emergency public meeting by 514 providing at least twenty-four (24) hours prior notice on 515 516 the Commission's website, and any other means as provided in the Commission's Rules, for any of the reasons it may 517 dispense with notice of proposed rulemaking under Section 518 The Commission's legal counsel shall certify that one 519 9.L. 520 of the reasons justifying an emergency public meeting has 521 been met.

522 3. Notice of all Commission meetings shall provide the 523 time, date, and location of the meeting, and if the meeting 524 is to be held or accessible via telecommunication, video

525 conference, or other electronic means, the notice shall 526 include the mechanism for access to the meeting through such 527 means.

4. The Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting for the Commission to receive legal advice or to discuss:

531 a. Non-compliance of a Participating State with its 532 obligations under the Compact;

533 b. The employment, compensation, discipline or other 534 matters, practices or procedures related to specific 535 employees or other matters related to the Commission's 536 internal personnel practices and procedures;

537 c. Current or threatened discipline of a Licensee or 538 Compact Privilege holder by the Commission or by a 539 Participating State's Licensing Authority;

540 d. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated541 litigation;

542 e. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, 543 or sale of goods, services, or real estate;

544 f. Accusing any person of a crime or formally 545 censuring any person;

546 g. Trade secrets or commercial or financial
547 information that is privileged or confidential;

h. Information of a personal nature where disclosure
would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal
privacy;

i. Investigative records compiled for law enforcement
 purposes;

553 j. Information related to any investigative reports 554 prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the Commission or 555 other committee charged with responsibility of investigation

556 or determination of compliance issues pursuant to the 557 Compact;

558 k. Legal advice;

1. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure to
the public by federal or Participating State law; and
m. Other matters as promulgated by the Commission by
Rule.

563 5. If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed, 564 the presiding officer shall state that the meeting will be 565 closed and reference each relevant exempting provision, and 566 such reference shall be recorded in the minutes.

567 6. The Commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and 568 569 shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, 570 and the reasons therefore, including a description of the 571 views expressed. All documents considered in connection 572 with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under 573 574 seal, subject to release only by a majority vote of the 575 Commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

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Ε.

Financing of the Commission

577 1. The Commission shall pay, or provide for the 578 payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, 579 organization, and ongoing activities.

580 2. The Commission may accept any and all appropriate 581 sources of revenue, donations, and grants of money, 582 equipment, supplies, materials, and services.

3. The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each Participating State and impose fees on Licensees of Participating States when a Compact Privilege is granted, 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 fiscal year for which sufficient revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount for Participating States shall be allocated based upon a formula that the Commission shall promulgate by Rule.

4. The Commission shall not incur obligations of any
kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same;
nor shall the Commission pledge the credit of any
Participating State, except by and with the authority of the
Participating State.

The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all 599 5. 600 receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements 601 of the Commission shall be subject to the financial review 602 and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. **All** 603 receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the 604 Commission shall be subject to an annual financial review by a certified or licensed public accountant, and the report of 605 the financial review shall be included in and become part of 606 607 the annual report of the Commission.

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F. The Executive Board

609 1. The Executive Board shall have the power to act on
610 behalf of the Commission according to the terms of this
611 Compact. The powers, duties, and responsibilities of the
612 Executive Board shall include:

a. Overseeing the day-to-day activities of the
administration of the Compact including compliance with the
provisions of the Compact and the Commission's Rules and
bylaws;

b. Recommending to the Commission changes to the Rules
 or bylaws, changes to this Compact legislation, fees charged

to Compact Participating States, fees charged to Licensees,
and other fees;

621 c. Ensuring Compact administration services are 622 appropriately provided, including by contract;

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d. Preparing and recommending the budget;

e. Maintaining financial records on behalf of the
Commission;

f. Monitoring Compact compliance of Participating
 States and providing compliance reports to the Commission;

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g. Establishing additional committees as necessary;

629 h. Exercising the powers and duties of the Commission 630 during the interim between Commission meetings, except for 631 adopting or amending Rules, adopting or amending bylaws, and 632 exercising any other powers and duties expressly reserved to 633 the Commission by Rule or bylaw; and

634 i. Other duties as provided in the Rules or bylaws of635 the Commission.

636 2. The Executive Board shall be composed of up to 637 seven (7) members:

a. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of
the Commission and any other members of the Commission who
serve on the Executive Board shall be voting members of the
Executive Board; and

b. Other than the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and
Treasurer, the Commission may elect up to three (3) voting
members from the current membership of the Commission.

6453. The Commission may remove any member of the646Executive Board as provided in the Commission's bylaws.

647 4. The Executive Board shall meet at least annually.
648 a. An Executive Board meeting at which it takes or
649 intends to take formal action on a matter shall be open to
650 the public, except that the Executive Board may meet in a

closed, non-public session of a public meeting when dealing 651 652 with any of the matters covered under subsection D.4.

653 b. The Executive Board shall give five (5) business 654 days' notice of its public meetings, posted on its website and as it may otherwise determine to provide notice to 655 656 persons with an interest in the public matters the Executive Board intends to address at those meetings. 657

658 5. The Executive Board may hold an emergency meeting 659 when acting for the Commission to:

660 a. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, 661 or welfare;

662 Prevent a loss of Commission or Participating State b. funds; or 663

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c. Protect public health and safety.

665 G. Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification 666 1. The members, officers, executive director, 667 employees and representatives of the Commission shall be immune from suit and liability, both personally and in their 668 official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of 669 670 property or personal injury or other civil liability caused 671 by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or 672 omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the 673 claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred 674 within the scope of Commission employment, duties or 675 responsibilities; provided that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or 676 liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused 677 678 by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that 679 The procurement of insurance of any type by the person. 680 Commission shall not in any way compromise or limit the 681 immunity granted hereunder.

682 2. The Commission shall defend any member, officer, 683 executive director, employee, and representative of the 684 Commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission 685 that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, 686 687 duties, or responsibilities, or as determined by the Commission that the person against whom the claim is made 688 689 had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the 690 scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; 691 provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit 692 that person from retaining their own counsel at their own expense; and provided further, that the actual or alleged 693 act, error, or omission did not result from that person's 694 intentional or willful or wanton misconduct. 695

696 3. Notwithstanding subsection G.1 of this section, should any member, officer, executive director, employee, or 697 698 representative of the Commission be held liable for the amount of any settlement or judgment arising out of any 699 700 actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred 701 within the scope of that individual's employment, duties, or responsibilities for the Commission, or that the person to 702 703 whom that individual is liable had a reasonable basis for 704 believing occurred within the scope of the individual's 705 employment, duties, or responsibilities for the Commission, 706 the Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless such 707 individual, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, 708 or omission did not result from the intentional or willful 709 or wanton misconduct of the individual.

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 Participating 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 sovereign immunity by the Participating States or
by the Commission.

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SECTION 8. DATA SYSTEM

A. The Commission shall provide for the development, maintenance, operation, and utilization of a coordinated database and reporting system containing licensure, Adverse Action, and the presence of Significant Investigative Information on all Licensees and applicants for a License in Participating States.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the contrary, a Participating State shall submit a uniform data set to the Data System on all individuals to whom this Compact is applicable as required by the Rules of the Commission, including:

735

1. Identifying information;

736 2. Licensure data;

737 3. Adverse Actions against a Licensee, License
738 applicant or Compact Privilege and information related
739 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;

5. Any denial of an application for licensure, and the
reason(s) for such denial (excluding the reporting of any
criminal history record information where prohibited by law);

747 6. The presence of Significant Investigative
 748 Information; and

749 7. Other information that may facilitate the
750 administration of this Compact or the protection of the
751 public, as determined by the Rules of the Commission.

C. The records and information provided to a Participating State pursuant to this Compact or through the Data System, when certified by the Commission or an agent thereof, shall constitute the authenticated business records of the Commission, and shall be entitled to any associated hearsay exception in any relevant judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative proceedings in a Participating State.

D. Significant Investigative Information pertaining to
 a Licensee in any Participating State will only be available
 to other Participating States.

E. It is the responsibility of the Participating
States to monitor the database to determine whether Adverse
Action has been taken against a Licensee or License
applicant. Adverse Action information pertaining to a
Licensee or License applicant in any Participating State
will be available to any other Participating State.

F. Participating 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.

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

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SECTION 9. RULEMAKING

777 The Commission shall promulgate reasonable Rules in Α. order to effectively and efficiently implement and 778 779 administer the purposes and provisions of the Compact. Α 780 Commission Rule shall be invalid and have no force or effect 781 only if a court of competent jurisdiction holds that the 782 Rule is invalid because the Commission exercised its 783 rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope 784 and purposes of the Compact, or the powers granted 785 hereunder, or based upon another applicable standard of 786 review.

B. The Rules of the Commission shall have the force of law in each Participating State, provided however that where the Rules of the Commission conflict with the laws of the Participating State that establish the Participating State's Scope of Practice as held by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Rules of the Commission shall be ineffective in that State to the extent of the conflict.

794 C. The Commission shall exercise its Rulemaking powers 795 pursuant to the criteria set forth in this section and the 796 Rules adopted thereunder. Rules shall become binding as of 797 the date specified by the Commission for each Rule.

798 If a majority of the legislatures of the D. 799 Participating States rejects a Commission Rule or portion of 800 a Commission Rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the Compact, within four 801 (4) years of the date of adoption of the Rule, then such 802 803 Rule shall have no further force and effect in any 804 Participating State or to any State applying to participate 805 in the Compact.

806 E. Rules shall be adopted at a regular or special 807 meeting of the Commission.

F. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule, the Commission shall hold a public hearing and allow persons to provide oral and written comments, data, facts, opinions, and arguments.

G. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule by the Commission, and at least thirty (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:

817 1. On the website of the Commission or other publicly
818 accessible platform;

819 2. To persons who have requested notice of the
820 Commission's notices of proposed rulemaking; and

3. In such other way(s) as the Commission may by Rulespecify.

H. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking shall include: 1. The time, date, and location of the public hearing at which the Commission will hear public comments on the proposed Rule and, if different, the time, date, and location of the meeting where the Commission will consider and vote on the proposed Rule;

2. If the hearing is held via telecommunication, video
conference, or other electronic means, the Commission shall
include the mechanism for access to the hearing in the
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking;

3. The text of the proposed Rule and the reason
therefor;

4. A request for comments on the proposed Rule from
any interested person; and

837 5. The manner in which interested persons may submit
838 written comments.

I. 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 shall be
available to the public.

J. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on each Commission Rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the Commission at hearings required by this section.

K. The Commission shall, by majority vote of all
Commissioners, take final action on the proposed Rule based
on the rulemaking record.

The Commission may adopt changes to the proposed
 Rule provided the changes do not enlarge the original
 purpose of the proposed Rule.

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

3. The Commission shall determine a reasonable effective date for the Rule. Except for an emergency as provided in subsection L, the effective date of the Rule shall be no sooner than thirty (30) days after the Commission issuing the notice that it adopted or amended the Rule.

863 L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and adopt an emergency Rule with 24 864 hours' notice, with opportunity to comment, provided that 865 the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the Compact and 866 in this section shall be retroactively applied to the Rule 867 868 as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than 869 ninety (90) days after the effective date of the Rule. For

870 the purposes of this provision, an emergency Rule is one 871 that must be adopted immediately in order to:

872 1. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety,
873 or welfare;

874 2. Prevent a loss of Commission or Participating State
875 funds;

3. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of a Rule that
is established by federal law or rule; or

878

4. Protect public health and safety.

879 Μ. The Commission or an authorized committee of the 880 Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted Rule 881 for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. 882 883 Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the 884 website of the Commission. The revision shall be subject to 885 challenge by any person for a period of thirty (30) days 886 after posting. The revision may be challenged only on 887 grounds that the revision results in a material change to a A challenge shall be made in writing and delivered to 888 Rule. 889 the Commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no 890 challenge is made, the revision will take effect without 891 further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision 892 may not take effect without the approval of the Commission.

N. No Participating State's rulemaking requirementsshall apply under this Compact.

895 SECTION 10. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND
 896 ENFORCEMENT

897 A. Oversight

The executive and judicial branches of State
 government in each Participating State shall enforce this
 Compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to
 implement the Compact.

2. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or 902 903 against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the 904 905 principal office of the Commission is located. The 906 Commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to 907 the extent it adopts or consents to participate in 908 alternative dispute resolution proceedings. Nothing herein 909 shall affect or limit the selection or propriety of venue in 910 any action against a Licensee for professional malpractice, 911 misconduct or any such similar matter.

The Commission shall be entitled to receive service 912 3. 913 of process in any proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the Compact or Commission Rule and shall 914 915 have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all 916 Failure to provide the Commission service of purposes. 917 process shall render a judgment or order void as to the 918 Commission, this Compact, or promulgated Rules.

Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination 919 в. If the Commission determines that a Participating 920 1. 921 State has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or 922 responsibilities under this Compact or the promulgated 923 Rules, the Commission shall provide written notice to the 924 defaulting State. The notice of default shall describe the 925 default, the proposed means of curing the default, and any 926 other action that the Commission may take, and shall offer 927 training and specific technical assistance regarding the 928 default.

929 2. The Commission shall provide a copy of the notice 930 of default to the other Participating States.

931 C. If a State in default fails to cure the default, 932 the defaulting State may be terminated from the Compact upon 933 an affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners, 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.

939 Termination of participation in the Compact shall D. 940 be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance 941 have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or 942 terminate shall be given by the Commission to the governor, 943 the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting State's 944 legislature, the defaulting State's State Licensing Authority or Authorities, as applicable, and each of the 945 Participating States' State Licensing Authority or 946 Authorities, as applicable. 947

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

953 F. Upon the termination of a State's participation in 954 this Compact, that State shall immediately provide notice to 955 all Licensees of the State, including Licensees of other 956 Participating States issued a Compact Privilege to practice 957 within that State, of such termination. The terminated 958 State shall continue to recognize all Compact Privileges 959 then in effect in that State for a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of said notice of 960 961 termination.

G. 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
between the Commission and the defaulting State.

H. 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
Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party
shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including
reasonable attorney's fees.

972

I. Dispute Resolution

973 1. Upon request by a Participating State, the
974 Commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the
975 Compact that arise among Participating States and between
976 Participating States and non-Participating States.

977 2. The Commission shall promulgate a Rule providing
978 for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for
979 disputes as appropriate.

980

J. Enforcement

981 1. The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its
982 discretion, shall enforce the provisions of this Compact and
983 the Commission's Rules.

By majority vote, the Commission may initiate legal 984 2. 985 action against a Participating State in default in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or 986 987 the federal district where the Commission has its principal 988 offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of the 989 Compact and its promulgated Rules. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. 990 In the event 991 judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party 992 shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including 993 reasonable attorney's fees. The remedies herein shall not 994 be the exclusive remedies of the Commission. The Commission 995 may pursue any other remedies available under federal or the 996 defaulting Participating State's law.

997 3. A Participating State may initiate legal action against the Commission in the U.S. District Court for the 998 District of Columbia or the federal district where the 999 1000 Commission has its principal offices to enforce compliance 1001 with the provisions of the Compact and its promulgated 1002 Rules. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief In the event judicial enforcement is 1003 and damages. 1004 necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs 1005 of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

10064. No individual or entity other than a Participating1007State may enforce this Compact against the Commission.

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SECTION 11. EFFECTIVE DATE, WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENT

1009 A. The Compact shall come into effect on the date on 1010 which the Compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh 1011 Participating State.

1012 1. On or after the effective date of the Compact, the 1013 Commission shall convene and review the enactment of each of 1014 the States that enacted the Compact prior to the Commission 1015 convening ("Charter Participating States") to determine if 1016 the statute enacted by each such Charter Participating State 1017 is materially different than the Model Compact.

1018a. A Charter Participating State whose enactment is1019found to be materially different from the Model Compact1020shall be entitled to the default process set forth in1021Section 10.

b. If any Participating State is later found to be in default, or is terminated or withdraws from the Compact, the Commission shall remain in existence and the Compact shall remain in effect even if the number of Participating States should be less than seven (7).

1027 2. Participating States enacting the Compact 1028 subsequent to the Charter Participating States shall be

1029 subject to the process set forth in Section 7.C.23 to 1030 determine if their enactments are materially different from 1031 the Model Compact and whether they qualify for participation 1032 in the Compact.

1033 3. All actions taken for the benefit of the Commission 1034 or in furtherance of the purposes of the administration of 1035 the Compact prior to the effective date of the Compact or 1036 the Commission coming into existence shall be considered to 1037 be actions of the Commission unless specifically repudiated 1038 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 Commission's 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.

B. Any Participating State may withdraw from this
Compact by enacting a statute repealing that State's
enactment of the Compact.

1049 1. A Participating State's withdrawal shall not take 1050 effect until one hundred eighty (180) days after enactment 1051 of the repealing statute.

1052 2. Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing
1053 requirement of the withdrawing State's Licensing Authority
1054 or Authorities to comply with the investigative and Adverse
1055 Action reporting requirements of this Compact prior to the
1056 effective date of withdrawal.

1057 3. Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing from
1058 this Compact, the State shall immediately provide notice of
1059 such withdrawal to all Licensees within that State.
1060 Notwithstanding any subsequent statutory enactment to the

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1061 contrary, such withdrawing State shall continue to recognize 1062 all Compact Privileges to practice within that State granted 1063 pursuant to this Compact for a minimum of one hundred eighty 1064 (180) days after the date of such notice of withdrawal.

1065 C. Nothing contained in this Compact shall be 1066 construed to invalidate or prevent any licensure agreement 1067 or other cooperative arrangement between a Participating 1068 State and a non-Participating State that does not conflict 1069 with the provisions of this Compact.

1070 D. This Compact may be amended by the Participating 1071 States. No amendment to this Compact shall become effective 1072 and binding upon any Participating State until it is enacted 1073 into the laws of all Participating States.

1074

SECTION 12. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

1075 A. This Compact and the Commission's rulemaking 1076 authority shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate 1077 the purposes, and the implementation and administration of 1078 the Compact. Provisions of the Compact expressly 1079 authorizing or requiring the promulgation of Rules shall not 1080 be construed to limit the Commission's rulemaking authority 1081 solely for those purposes.

1082 в. The provisions of this Compact shall be severable 1083 and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this 1084 Compact is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be 1085 contrary to the constitution of any Participating State, a State seeking participation in the Compact, or of the United 1086 1087 States, or the applicability thereof to any government, 1088 agency, person or circumstance is held to be 1089 unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the 1090 validity of the remainder of this Compact and the 1091 applicability thereof to any other government, agency, 1092 person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

1093 C. Notwithstanding subsection B of this section, the Commission may deny a State's participation in the Compact 1094 1095 or, in accordance with the requirements of Section 10.B, 1096 terminate a Participating State's participation in the 1097 Compact, if it determines that a constitutional requirement 1098 of a Participating State is a material departure from the Compact. Otherwise, if this Compact shall be held to be 1099 1100 contrary to the constitution of any Participating State, the 1101 Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the 1102 remaining Participating States and in full force and effect 1103 as to the Participating State affected as to all severable 1104 matters.

1105SECTION 13. CONSISTENT EFFECT AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER1106STATE LAWS

1107 A. Nothing herein shall prevent or inhibit the 1108 enforcement of any other law of a Participating State that 1109 is not inconsistent with the Compact.

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

1113 C. All permissible agreements between the Commission 1114 and the Participating States are binding in accordance with 1115 their terms.

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