

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 486

BY REPRESENTATIVE SPELL

PSYCHOLOGISTS: Provides relative to the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 44:4.1(B)(24) and to enact R.S. 37:2354(H) and Part II of Chapter 28 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 37:2371, relative to the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact; to provide for fees for psychologists utilizing the compact; to provide for the purpose of the compact; to provide for definitions; to provide for home state licensure; to provide for the compact privilege to practice telepsychology; to provide for temporary compact authority to practice in person; to provide for disciplinary actions; to provide for communication of information between compact states; to establish the compact commission; to provide for the duties of the compact commission; to provide for the promulgation of rules; to provide for oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement of certain provisions; to provide for construction and severability; to provide for an exception from Public Records Law; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:2354(H) and Part II of Chapter 28 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 37:2371, are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2354. Fees

* * *

1 E. This compact does not apply to permanent in-person, face-to-face
2 practice; the compact allows for authorization of temporary psychological practice.

3 This compact is designed to achieve all of the following purposes and objectives:

4 (1) Increase public access to professional psychological services by allowing
5 for telepsychological practice across state lines as well as temporary in-person,
6 face-to-face services into a state where the psychologist is not licensed to practice
7 psychology.

8 (2) Enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health and safety,
9 especially client and patient safety.

10 (3) Encourage the cooperation of compact states in the areas of psychology
11 licensure and regulation.

12 (4) Facilitate the exchange of information between compact states regarding
13 psychologist licensure, adverse actions, and disciplinary history.

14 (5) Promote compliance with the laws governing psychological practice in
15 each compact state.

16 (6) Invest all compact states with the authority to hold licensed psychologists
17 accountable through the mutual recognition of compact state licenses.

18 ARTICLE II. Definitions

19 As used in this Part, the following definitions apply:

20 (1) "Adverse action" means any action taken by a state psychology
21 regulatory authority that finds a violation of a statute or regulation that is identified
22 by the state psychology regulatory authority as discipline and is a matter of public
23 record.

24 (2) "Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards" or "ASPPB"
25 means the recognized membership organization composed of state and provincial
26 psychology regulatory authorities responsible for the licensure and registration of
27 psychologists throughout the United States and Canada.

1 (3) "Authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology" means a
2 licensed psychologist's authority to practice telepsychology, within the limits
3 authorized under this compact, in another compact state.

4 (4) "Bylaws" means those bylaws established by the Psychology
5 Interjurisdictional Compact Commission pursuant to Article X of this compact for
6 its governance or for directing and controlling its actions and conduct.

7 (5) "Client or patient" means the recipient of psychological services, whether
8 psychological services are delivered in the context of healthcare, corporate,
9 supervision, or consulting services.

10 (6) "Commissioner" means the voting representative appointed by each state
11 psychology regulatory authority pursuant to Article X of this compact.

12 (7) "Compact state" means a state, the District of Columbia, or United States
13 territory that has enacted this compact legislation and which has not withdrawn
14 pursuant to Article XIII, Subsection C of this compact or been terminated pursuant
15 to Article XII, Subsection B of this compact.

16 (8) "Coordinated licensure information system" also referred to as
17 "coordinated database" means an integrated process for collecting, storing, and
18 sharing information on psychologists' licensure and enforcement activities related to
19 psychology licensure laws, which is administered by the recognized membership
20 organization composed of state and provincial psychology regulatory authorities.

21 (9) "Confidentiality" means the principle that data or information is not made
22 available or disclosed to unauthorized persons or processes.

23 (10) "Day" means any part of a day in which psychological work is
24 performed.

25 (11) "Distant state" means the compact state where a psychologist is
26 physically present, not through the use of telecommunications technologies, to
27 provide temporary in-person, face-to-face psychological services.

28 (12) "E.Passport" means a certificate issued by the Association of State and
29 Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) that promotes the standardization in the

1 criteria of interjurisdictional telepsychology practice and facilitates the process for
2 licensed psychologists to provide telepsychological services across state lines.

3 (13) "Executive board" means a group of directors elected or appointed to
4 act on behalf of, and within the powers granted to them by, the commission.

5 (14) "Home state" means a compact state where a psychologist is licensed
6 to practice psychology. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one compact
7 state and is practicing under the authorization to practice interjurisdictional
8 telepsychology, the home state is the compact state where the psychologist is
9 physically present when the telepsychological services are delivered. If the
10 psychologist is licensed in more than one compact state and is practicing under the
11 temporary authorization to practice, the home state is any compact state where the
12 psychologist is licensed.

13 (15) "Identity history summary" means a summary of information retained
14 by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or other designee with similar authority, in
15 connection with arrests and, in some instances, federal employment, naturalization,
16 or military service.

17 (16) "In-person, face-to-face" means interactions in which the psychologist
18 and the client or patient are in the same physical space and which do not include
19 interactions that may occur through the use of telecommunication technologies.

20 (17) "Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate" or "IPC" means a certificate
21 issued by the ASPPB that grants temporary authority to practice based on
22 notification to the state psychology regulatory authority of intention to practice
23 temporarily, and verification of one's qualifications for such practice.

24 (18) "License" means authorization by a state psychology regulatory
25 authority to engage in the independent practice of psychology, which would be
26 unlawful without the authorization.

27 (19) "Non-compact state" means any state which is not at the time a compact
28 state.

1 (20) "Psychologist" means an individual licensed for the independent
2 practice of psychology.

3 (21) "Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission" also referred to
4 as "commission" means the national administration of which all compact states are
5 members.

6 (22) "Receiving state" means a compact state where the client or patient is
7 physically located when the telepsychological services are delivered.

8 (23) "Rule" means a written statement by the Psychology Interjurisdictional
9 Compact Commission promulgated pursuant to Article XI of this compact that is of
10 general applicability, implements, interprets, or prescribes a policy or provision of
11 the compact, or an organizational, procedural, or practice requirement of the
12 commission and has the force and effect of statutory law in a compact state, and
13 includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.

14 (24) "Significant investigatory information" means either of the following:

15 (a) Investigative information that a state psychology regulatory authority,
16 after a preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an opportunity to respond
17 if required by state law, has reason to believe, if proven true, would indicate a
18 violation of state statute or ethics code that would be considered more substantial
19 than a minor infraction.

20 (b) Investigative information that indicates that the psychologist represents
21 an immediate threat to public health and safety regardless of whether the
22 psychologist has been notified and had an opportunity to respond.

23 (25) "State" means a state, commonwealth, territory, or possession of the
24 United States, including the District of Columbia.

25 (26) "State psychology regulatory authority" means the board, office, or
26 other agency with the legislative mandate to license and regulate the practice of
27 psychology.

28 (27) "Telepsychology" means the provision of psychological services using
29 telecommunication technologies.

1 (28) "Temporary authorization to practice" means a licensed psychologist's
2 authority to conduct temporary in-person, face-to-face practice, within the limits
3 authorized under this compact, in another compact state.

4 (29) "Temporary in-person, face-to-face practice" means a situation in which
5 a psychologist is physically present, not through the use of telecommunications
6 technologies, in the distant state to provide for the practice of psychology for thirty
7 days within a calendar year and based on notification to the distant state.

8 ARTICLE III. HOME STATE LICENSURE

9 A. The home state shall be a compact state where a psychologist is licensed
10 to practice psychology.

11 B. A psychologist may hold one or more compact state licenses at a time.
12 If the psychologist is licensed in more than one compact state, the home state is the
13 compact state where the psychologist is physically present when the services are
14 delivered as authorized by the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology
15 under the terms of this compact.

16 C. Any compact state may require a psychologist not previously licensed in
17 a compact state to obtain and retain a license to be authorized to practice in the
18 compact state under circumstances not authorized by the authority to practice
19 interjurisdictional telepsychology under the terms of this compact.

20 D. Any compact state may require a psychologist to obtain and retain a
21 license to be authorized to practice in a compact state under circumstances not
22 authorized by temporary authorization to practice under the terms of this compact.

23 E. A home state's license authorizes a psychologist to practice in a receiving
24 state under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology only if the
25 compact state:

26 (1) Currently requires the psychologist to hold an active E.Passport.

27 (2) Has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints
28 about licensed individuals.

1 (3) Notifies the commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any
2 adverse action or significant investigatory information regarding a licensed
3 individual.

4 (4) Requires an identity history summary of all applicants at initial licensure,
5 including the use of the results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks
6 compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or other
7 designee with similar authority, no later than ten years after activation of the
8 compact.

9 (5) Complies with the bylaws and rules of the commission.

10 F. A home state's license grants temporary authorization to practice to a
11 psychologist in a distant state only if the compact state satisfies all of the following:

12 (1) Currently requires the psychologist to hold an active IPC.

13 (2) Has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints
14 about licensed individuals.

15 (3) Notifies the commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any
16 adverse action or significant investigatory information regarding a licensed
17 individual.

18 (4) Requires an identity history summary of all applicants at initial licensure,
19 including the use of the results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks
20 compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or other
21 designee with similar authority, no later than ten years after activation of the
22 compact.

23 (5) Complies with the bylaws and rules of the commission.

24 ARTICLE IV. COMPACT PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE TELEPSYCHOLOGY

25 A. Compact states shall recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a
26 compact state in conformance with Article III of this compact, to practice
27 telepsychology in other compact states (distant states) in which the psychologist is
28 not licensed, under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology as
29 provided in this compact.

1 B. To exercise the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology
2 under the terms and provisions of this compact, a psychologist licensed to practice
3 in a compact state shall satisfy all of the following:

4 (1) Hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher
5 education that was, at the time the degree was awarded, either of the following:

6 (a) Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the United
7 States Department of Education to grant graduate degrees or authorized by provincial
8 statute or royal charter to grant doctoral degrees.

9 (b) A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to an institution
10 described in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph by a foreign credential evaluation
11 service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation
12 Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service.

13 (2) Hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets all of the following
14 criteria:

15 (a) The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, is clearly
16 identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a program shall specify in
17 pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to educate and train
18 professional psychologists.

19 (b) The psychology program is a recognizable, coherent, organizational
20 entity within the institution.

21 (c) The program shall establish clear authority and primary responsibility for
22 the core and specialty areas, whether or not the program cuts across administrative
23 lines.

24 (d) The program shall consist of an integrated, organized sequence of study.

25 (e) The program shall employ an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient
26 in size and breadth to carry out its responsibilities.

27 (f) The designated director of the program shall be a psychologist and a
28 member of the core faculty.

1 (g) The program shall have an identifiable body of students who are
2 matriculated in that program for a degree.

3 (h) The program shall include supervised practicum, internship, or field
4 training appropriate to the practice of psychology.

5 (i) The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years of
6 full-time graduate study for a doctoral degree and a minimum of one academic year
7 of full-time graduate study for a master's degree.

8 (j) The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the rules of
9 the commission.

10 (3) Possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in
11 a home state that is a compact state.

12 (4) Have no history of adverse action that violates the rules of the
13 commission.

14 (5) Have no criminal record history reported on an identity history summary
15 that violates the rules of the commission.

16 (6) Possess a current, active E.Passport.

17 (7) Provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice, conformity
18 with standards of practice, competence in telepsychology technology; criminal
19 background; and knowledge and adherence to legal requirements in the home and
20 receiving states, and provide a release of information to allow for primary source
21 verification in a manner specified by the commission.

22 (8) Meet other criteria as defined by the rules of the commission.

23 C. The home state maintains authority over the license of any psychologist
24 practicing in a receiving state under the authority to practice interjurisdictional
25 telepsychology.

26 D. A psychologist practicing in a receiving state under the authority to
27 practice interjurisdictional telepsychology will be subject to the receiving state's
28 scope of practice. A receiving state may, in accordance with that state's due process
29 law, limit or revoke a psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional

1 telepsychology in the receiving state and may take any other necessary actions under
2 the receiving state's applicable law to protect the health and safety of the receiving
3 state's citizens. If a receiving state takes action, the state shall promptly notify the
4 home state and the commission.

5 E. If a psychologist's license in any home state, another compact state, or any
6 authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology in any receiving state, is
7 restricted, suspended, or otherwise limited, the E.Passport shall be revoked, and
8 therefore the psychologist shall not be eligible to practice telepsychology in a
9 compact state under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology.

10 ARTICLE V. COMPACT TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE

11 A. Compact states shall recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a
12 compact state in conformance with Article III, to practice temporarily in other
13 compact states (distant states) in which the psychologist is not licensed, as provided
14 in this compact.

15 B. To exercise the temporary authorization to practice under the terms and
16 provisions of this compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a compact state
17 shall satisfy all of the following:

18 (1) Hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher
19 education that was, at the time the degree was awarded, either of the following:

20 (a) Regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the United
21 States Department of Education to grant graduate degrees or authorized by provincial
22 statute or royal charter to grant doctoral degrees.

23 (b) A foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to an institution
24 described in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph by a foreign credential evaluation
25 service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation
26 Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service.

27 (2) Hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets all of the following
28 criteria:

1 (a) The program, wherever it may be administratively housed, is clearly
2 identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a program shall specify in
3 pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to educate and train
4 professional psychologists.

5 (b) The psychology program is a recognizable, coherent, organizational
6 entity within the institution.

7 (c) The program shall establish clear authority and primary responsibility for
8 the core and specialty areas whether or not the program cuts across administrative
9 lines.

10 (d) The program shall consist of an integrated, organized sequence of study.

11 (e) The program shall employ an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient
12 in size and breadth to carry out its responsibilities.

13 (f) The designated director of the program shall be a psychologist and a
14 member of the core faculty.

15 (g) The program shall have an identifiable body of students who are
16 matriculated in that program for a degree.

17 (h) The program shall include supervised practicum, internship, or field
18 training appropriate to the practice of psychology.

19 (i) The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years of
20 full-time graduate study for a doctoral degree and a minimum of one academic year
21 of full-time graduate study for a master's degree.

22 (j) The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the rules of
23 the commission.

24 (3) Possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in
25 a home state that is a compact state.

26 (4) No history of adverse action that violates the rules of the commission.

27 (5) No criminal record history that violates the rules of the commission.

28 (6) Possess a current, active IPC.

1 (2) Other conditions regarding telepsychology as determined by rules
2 promulgated by the commission.

3 ARTICLE VII. ADVERSE ACTIONS

4 A. A home state shall have the power to impose adverse action against a
5 psychologist's license issued by the home state. A distant state shall have the power
6 to take adverse action on a psychologist's temporary authorization to practice within
7 that distant state.

8 B. A receiving state may take adverse action on a psychologist's authority
9 to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology within that receiving state. A home
10 state may take adverse action against a psychologist based on an adverse action taken
11 by a distant state regarding temporary in-person, face-to-face practice.

12 C. If a home state takes adverse action against a psychologist's license, that
13 psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology is terminated
14 and the E.Passport is revoked. Furthermore, that psychologist's temporary
15 authorization to practice is terminated and the IPC is revoked.

16 (1) All home state disciplinary orders that impose adverse action shall be
17 reported to the commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the
18 commission. A compact state shall report adverse actions in accordance with the
19 rules of the commission.

20 (2) In the event discipline is reported on a psychologist, the psychologist will
21 not be eligible for telepsychology or temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in
22 accordance with the rules of the commission.

23 (3) Other actions may be imposed as determined by the rules promulgated
24 by the commission.

25 D. A home state's psychology regulatory authority shall investigate and take
26 appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a
27 licensee which occurred in a receiving state as it would if such conduct had occurred
28 by a licensee within the home state. In such cases, the home state's law shall control
29 in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's license.

1 E. A distant state's psychology regulatory authority shall investigate and take
 2 appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a
 3 psychologist practicing under temporary authorization practice which occurred in
 4 that distant state as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the
 5 home state. In such cases, the distant state's law shall control in determining any
 6 adverse action against a psychologist's temporary authorization to practice.

7 F. Nothing in this compact shall override a compact state's decision that a
 8 psychologist's participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse
 9 action and that such participation shall remain non-public if required by the compact
 10 state's law. Compact states shall require psychologists who enter any alternative
 11 programs to not provide telepsychology services under the authority to practice
 12 interjurisdictional telepsychology or provide temporary psychological services under
 13 the temporary authorization to practice in any other compact state during the term
 14 of the alternative program.

15 G. No other judicial or administrative remedies shall be available to a
 16 psychologist in the event a compact state imposes an adverse action pursuant to
 17 Subsection C of this Article.

18 ARTICLE VIII. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES INVESTED IN A COMPACT

19 STATE'S PSYCHOLOGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

20 In addition to any other powers granted under state law, a compact state's
 21 psychology regulatory authority shall have the authority under this compact to do all
 22 of the following:

23 (1) Issue subpoenas, for both hearings and investigations, which require the
 24 attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence. Subpoenas
 25 issued by a compact state's psychology regulatory authority for the attendance and
 26 testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence from another compact state
 27 shall be enforced in the latter state by any court of competent jurisdiction according
 28 to that court's practice and procedure in considering subpoenas issued in its own
 29 proceedings. The issuing state psychology regulatory authority shall pay any witness

1 fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes of the
2 state where the witnesses or evidence are located.

3 (2) Issue cease and desist or injunctive relief orders to revoke a
4 psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology or temporary
5 authorization to practice.

6 (3) During the course of any investigation, a psychologist may not change
7 his home state licensure. A home state psychology regulatory authority is authorized
8 to complete any pending investigations of a psychologist and to take any actions
9 appropriate under its law. The home state psychology regulatory authority shall
10 promptly report the conclusions of such investigations to the commission. Once an
11 investigation has been completed, and pending the outcome of said investigation, the
12 psychologist may change his home state licensure. The commission shall promptly
13 notify the new home state of any such decisions as provided in the rules of the
14 commission. All information provided to the commission or distributed by compact
15 states pursuant to the psychologist shall be confidential and used for investigatory
16 or disciplinary matters. The commission may create additional rules for mandated
17 or discretionary sharing of information by compact states.

18 ARTICLE IX. COORDINATED LICENSURE INFORMATION SYSTEM

19 A. The commission shall provide for the development and maintenance of
20 a coordinated licensure information system (coordinated database) and reporting
21 system containing licensure and disciplinary action information on all psychologists
22 and individuals to whom this compact is applicable in all compact states as defined
23 by the rules of the commission.

24 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a
25 compact state shall submit a uniform data set to the coordinated database on all
26 licensees as required by the rules of the commission, including all of the following:

27 (1) Identifying information.

28 (2) Licensure data.

29 (3) Significant investigatory information.

1 (4) Adverse actions against a psychologist's license.

2 (5) An indicator that a psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional
3 telepsychology or temporary authorization to practice is revoked.

4 (6) Non-confidential information related to alternative program participation
5 information.

6 (7) Any denial of application for licensure, and the reasons for such denial.

7 (8) Other information which may facilitate the administration of this
8 compact, as determined by the rules of the commission.

9 C. The coordinated database administrator shall promptly notify all compact
10 states of any adverse action taken against, or significant investigative information on,
11 any licensee in a compact state.

12 D. Compact states reporting information to the coordinated database may
13 designate information that may not be shared with the public without the express
14 permission of the compact state reporting the information.

15 E. Any information submitted to the coordinated database that is
16 subsequently required to be expunged by the law of the compact state reporting the
17 information shall be removed from the coordinated database.

18 ARTICLE X. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PSYCHOLOGY

19 INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT COMMISSION

20 A. The compact states hereby create and establish a joint public agency
21 known as the psychology interjurisdictional compact commission.

22 (1) The commission is a body politic and an instrumentality of the compact
23 states.

24 (2) Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the commission
25 shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the
26 principal office of the commission is located. The commission may waive venue and
27 jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative
28 dispute resolution proceedings.

1 (3) Nothing in this compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign
2 immunity.

3 B. Membership, voting, and meetings.

4 (1) The commission shall consist of one voting representative appointed by
5 each compact state who shall serve as that state's commissioner. The state
6 psychology regulatory authority shall appoint its delegate. This delegate shall be
7 empowered to act on behalf of the compact state. This delegate shall be limited to
8 one of the following:

9 (a) Executive director, executive secretary, or similar executive.

10 (b) Current member of the state psychology regulatory authority of a
11 compact state.

12 (c) Designee empowered with the appropriate delegate authority to act on
13 behalf of the compact state.

14 (2) Any commissioner may be removed or suspended from office as
15 provided by the law of the state from which the commissioner is appointed. Any
16 vacancy occurring in the commission shall be filled in accordance with the laws of
17 the compact state in which the vacancy exists.

18 (3) Each commissioner shall be entitled to one vote with regard to the
19 promulgation of rules and creation of bylaws and shall otherwise have an opportunity
20 to participate in the business and affairs of the commission. A commissioner shall
21 vote in person or by such other means as provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may
22 provide for commissioners' participation in meetings by telephone or other means of
23 communication.

24 (4) The commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year.
25 Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in the bylaws.

26 (5) All meetings shall be open to the public, and public notice of meetings
27 shall be given in the same manner as required under the rulemaking provisions in
28 Article XI of this compact.

1 (6) The commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting if the
2 commission is required to discuss any of the following:

3 (a) Non-compliance of a compact state with its obligations under the
4 compact.

5 (b) The employment, compensation, discipline or other personnel matters,
6 practices or procedures related to specific employees, or other matters related to the
7 commission's internal personnel practices and procedures.

8 (c) Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation against the
9 commission.

10 (d) Negotiation of contracts for the purchase or sale of goods, services, or
11 real estate.

12 (e) Accusation against any person of a crime or formally censuring any
13 person.

14 (f) Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information that
15 is privileged or confidential.

16 (g) Disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure would
17 constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

18 (h) Disclosure of investigatory records compiled for law enforcement
19 purposes.

20 (i) Disclosure of information related to any investigatory reports prepared
21 by or on behalf of or for use of the commission or other committee charged with
22 responsibility for investigation or determination of compliance issues pursuant to the
23 compact.

24 (j) Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal and state statute.

25 (7) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this provision,
26 the commission's legal counsel or designee shall certify that the meeting may be
27 closed and shall reference each relevant exempting provision. The commission shall
28 keep minutes which fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and
29 shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, of any person

1 participating in the meeting, and the reasons therefore, including a description of the
2 views expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action shall be
3 identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall
4 remain under seal, subject to release only by a majority vote of the commission or
5 order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

6 C. The commission shall, by a majority vote of the commissioners, prescribe
7 bylaws and rules to govern its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry
8 out the purposes and exercise the powers of the compact, including but not limited
9 to all of the following:

10 (1) Establishing the fiscal year of the commission.

11 (2) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for all of the following:

12 (a) For the establishment and meetings of other committees.

13 (b) Governing any general or specific delegation of any authority or function
14 of the commission.

15 (3) Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of
16 the commission, ensuring reasonable advance notice of all meetings and providing
17 an opportunity for attendance of such meetings by interested parties, with
18 enumerated exceptions designed to protect the public's interest, the privacy of
19 individuals of such proceedings, and proprietary information, including trade secrets.
20 The commission may meet in closed session only after a majority of the
21 commissioners vote to close a meeting to the public in whole or in part. As soon as
22 practicable, the commission shall make public a copy of the vote to close the meeting
23 revealing the vote of each commissioner with no proxy votes allowed.

24 (4) Establishing the titles, duties, and authority and reasonable procedures
25 for the election of the officers of the commission.

26 (5) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the establishment of
27 the personnel policies and programs of the commission. Notwithstanding any civil
28 service or other similar law of any compact state, the bylaws shall exclusively govern
29 the personnel policies and programs of the commission.

1 (6) Promulgating a code of ethics to address permissible and prohibited
2 activities of commission members and employees.

3 (7) Providing a mechanism for concluding the operations of the commission
4 and the equitable disposition of any surplus funds that may exist after the termination
5 of the compact after the payment and reserving of all of its debts and obligations.

6 (8) The commission shall publish its bylaws in a convenient form and file
7 a copy thereof and a copy of any amendment thereto, with the appropriate agency or
8 officer in each of the compact states.

9 (9) The commission shall maintain its financial records in accordance with
10 the bylaws.

11 (10) The commission shall meet and take such actions as are consistent with
12 the provisions of this compact and the bylaws.

13 D. The commission shall have all of the following powers:

14 (1) The authority to promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate
15 implementation and administration of this compact. The rule shall have the force
16 and effect of law and shall be binding in all compact states.

17 (2) To bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of the
18 commission, provided that the standing of any state psychology regulatory authority
19 or other regulatory body responsible for psychology licensure to sue or be sued under
20 applicable law shall not be affected.

21 (3) To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.

22 (4) To borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel including but not
23 limited to employees of a compact state.

24 (5) To hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define
25 duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the
26 compact, and to establish the commission's personnel policies and programs relating
27 to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel
28 matters.

1 (6) To accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money,
2 equipment, supplies, materials, and services and to receive, utilize, and dispose of
3 the same; provided that at all times the commission shall strive to avoid any
4 appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest.

5 (7) To lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or otherwise
6 to own, hold, improve, or use any property, real, personal, or mixed; provided that
7 at all times the commission shall strive to avoid any appearance of impropriety.

8 (8) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or
9 otherwise dispose of any property real, personal, or mixed.

10 (9) To establish a budget and make expenditures.

11 (10) To borrow money.

12 (11) To appoint committees, including advisory committees comprised of
13 members, state regulators, state legislators or their representatives, consumer
14 representatives, and such other interested persons as may be designated in this
15 compact and the bylaws.

16 (12) To provide and receive information from, and to cooperate with, law
17 enforcement agencies.

18 (13) To adopt and use an official seal.

19 (14) To perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to
20 achieve the purposes of this compact consistent with the state regulation of
21 psychology licensure, temporary in-person, face-to-face practice, and telepsychology
22 practice.

23 E. The executive board. The elected officers shall serve as the executive
24 board, which shall have the power to act on behalf of the commission according to
25 the terms of this compact.

26 (1) The executive board shall be comprised of the following members:

27 (a) Five voting members who are elected from the current membership of the
28 commission by the commission.

1 (b) One ex officio, nonvoting member from the recognized membership
2 organization composed of state and provincial psychology regulatory authorities.

3 (2) The ex officio member will have served as staff or member on a state
4 psychology regulatory authority and will be selected by its respective organization.

5 (3) The commission may remove any member of the executive board as
6 provided in bylaws.

7 (4) The executive board shall meet at least annually.

8 (5) The executive board shall have all of the following duties and
9 responsibilities:

10 (a) Recommend to the entire commission changes to the rules or bylaws,
11 changes to this compact legislation, fees paid by compact states, such as annual dues,
12 and any other applicable fees.

13 (b) Ensure compact administration services are appropriately provided,
14 contractual or otherwise.

15 (c) Prepare and recommend the budget.

16 (d) Maintain financial records on behalf of the commission.

17 (e) Monitor compact compliance of member states and provide compliance
18 reports to the commission.

19 (f) Establish additional committees as necessary.

20 (g) Other duties as provided in rules or bylaws.

21 F. Financing of the commission.

22 (1) The commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable
23 expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.

24 (2) The commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources,
25 donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services.

26 (3) The commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each
27 compact state or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost of the operations and
28 activities of the commission and its staff which shall be in a total amount sufficient
29 to cover its annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is not provided

1 by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based
2 upon a formula to be determined by the commission, which shall promulgate a rule
3 binding upon all compact states.

4 (4) The commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing
5 the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the commission pledge the credit of
6 any of the compact states, except by and with the authority of the compact state.

7 (5) The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and
8 disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall be subject
9 to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all
10 receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the commission shall be audited
11 yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall
12 be included in and become part of the annual report of the commission.

13 G. Qualified immunity, defense, and indemnification.

14 (1) The members, officers, executive director, employees, and
15 representatives of the commission shall be immune from suit and liability, either
16 personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of
17 property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any
18 actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that the person against
19 whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the
20 scope of commission employment, duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing
21 in this paragraph shall be construed to protect any such person from suit and liability
22 for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or
23 wanton misconduct of that person.

24 (2) The commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director,
25 employee or representative of the commission in any civil action seeking to impose
26 liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred
27 within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the
28 person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred
29 within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided

1 that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining his or her
2 own counsel; and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission
3 did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.

4 (3) The commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer,
5 executive director, employee, or representative of the commission for the amount of
6 any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or
7 alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of commission
8 employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis
9 for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or
10 responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not
11 result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

12 ARTICLE XI. RULEMAKING

13 A. The commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to the
14 criteria set forth in this article and the rules adopted thereunder. Rules and
15 amendments shall become binding as of the date specified in each rule or
16 amendment.

17 B. If a majority of the legislatures of the compact states rejects a rule, by
18 enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the compact,
19 then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any compact state.

20 C. Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a regular or special
21 meeting of the commission.

22 D. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or rules by the
23 commission, and at least sixty days in advance of the meeting at which the rule will
24 be considered and voted upon, the commission shall file a notice of proposed
25 rulemaking on the website of the commission and the website of each compact state's
26 psychology regulatory authority or the publication in which each state would
27 otherwise publish proposed rules.

28 E. The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include all of the following:

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

3 (2) The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for the
4 proposed rule.

5 (3) A request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested person.

6 (4) The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the
7 commission of their intention to attend the public hearing and any written comments.

8 F. Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the commission shall allow persons
9 to submit written data, facts, opinions, and arguments, which shall be made available
10 to the public.

11 G. The commission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing before it
12 adopts a rule or amendment if a hearing is requested by any of the following:

13 (1) At least twenty five persons who submit comments independently of each
14 other.

15 (2) A governmental subdivision or agency.

16 (3) A duly appointed person in an association that has at least twenty five
17 members.

18 H. If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the commission
19 shall publish the place, time, and date of the scheduled public hearing.

20 (1) All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the executive
21 director of the commission or other designated member in writing of their desire to
22 appear and testify at the hearing not less than five business days before the scheduled
23 date of the hearing.

24 (2) Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person who
25 wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in
26 writing.

27 (3) No transcript of the hearing is required, unless a written request for a
28 transcript is made, in which case the person requesting the transcript shall bear the
29 cost of producing the transcript. A recording may be made in lieu of a transcript

1 under the same terms and conditions as a transcript. This Paragraph shall not
2 preclude the commission from making a transcript or recording of the hearing if it
3 so chooses.

4 (4) Nothing in this Subsection shall be construed as requiring a separate
5 hearing on each rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the commission
6 at hearings required by this Subsection.

7 I. Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business on the
8 scheduled hearing date if the hearing was not held, the commission shall consider all
9 written and oral comments received.

10 J. The commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final action
11 on the proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based
12 on the rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

13 K. If no written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by interested
14 parties is received, the commission may proceed with promulgation of the proposed
15 rule without a public hearing.

16 L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the commission may
17 consider and adopt an emergency rule without prior notice, opportunity for comment,
18 or hearing, provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the compact
19 and in this Subsection shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably
20 possible, in no event later than ninety days after the effective date of the rule. For
21 the purposes of this provision, an emergency rule is one that is required to be adopted
22 immediately in order to address any of the following:

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

24 (2) Prevent a loss of commission or compact state funds.

25 (3) Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that is
26 established by federal law or rule.

27 (4) Protect public health and safety.

28 M. The commission or an authorized committee of the commission may
29 direct revisions to a previously adopted rule or amendment for purposes of correcting

1 typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors.
2 public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the commission. The
3 revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of thirty days after
4 posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results
5 in a material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made in writing, and delivered
6 to the chair of the commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no challenge
7 is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is
8 challenged, the revision may not take effect without the approval of the commission.

9 ARTICLE XII. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND ENFORCEMENT

10 A. Oversight.

11 (1) The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government in
12 each compact state shall enforce this compact and take all actions necessary and
13 appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of this
14 compact and the rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory law.

15 (2) All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the rules in any
16 judicial or administrative proceeding in a compact state pertaining to the subject
17 matter of this compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities or actions of the
18 commission.

19 (3) The commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any
20 such proceeding, and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all
21 purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the commission shall render a
22 judgment or order void as to the commission, this compact or promulgated rules.

23 B. Default, technical assistance, and termination.

24 (1) If the commission determines that a compact state has defaulted in the
25 performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact or the
26 promulgated rules, the commission shall do all of the following:

27 (a) Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other compact states of
28 the nature of the default, the proposed means of remedying the default or any other
29 action to be taken by the commission.

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

3 (2) If a state in default fails to remedy the default, the defaulting state may
4 be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the
5 compact states, and all rights, privileges, and benefits conferred by this compact shall
6 be terminated on the effective date of termination. A remedy of the default does not
7 relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of
8 default.

9 (3) Termination of membership in the compact shall be imposed only after
10 all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to
11 suspend or terminate shall be submitted by the commission to the governor, the
12 majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the
13 compact states.

14 (4) A compact state which has been terminated is responsible for all
15 assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of
16 termination, including obligations which extend beyond the effective date of
17 termination.

18 (5) The commission shall not bear any costs incurred by the state which is
19 found to be in default or which has been terminated from the compact, unless agreed
20 upon in writing between the commission and the defaulting state.

21 (6) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the commission by
22 petitioning the United States District Court for the state of Georgia or the federal
23 district where the compact has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall be
24 awarded all costs of such litigation including reasonable attorney's fees.

25 C. Dispute resolution.

26 (1) Upon request by a compact state, the commission shall attempt to resolve
27 disputes related to the compact which arise among compact states and between
28 compact and non-compact states.

1 (2) The commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation
2 and binding dispute resolution for disputes that arise before the commission.

3 D. Enforcement.

4 (1) The commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce
5 the provisions and rules of this compact.

6 (2) By majority vote, the commission may initiate legal action in the United
7 States District Court for the State of Georgia or the federal district where the
8 compact has its principal offices against a compact state in default to enforce
9 compliance with the provisions of the compact and its promulgated rules and bylaws.
10 The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event
11 judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing member shall be awarded all costs
12 of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

13 (3) The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the
14 commission. The commission may pursue any other remedies available under
15 federal or state law.

16 ARTICLE XIII. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PSYCHOLOGY
17 INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT COMMISSION AND ASSOCIATED RULES,
18 WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENTS

19 A. The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the compact is
20 enacted into law in the seventh compact state. The provisions which become
21 effective at that time shall be limited to the powers granted to the commission
22 relating to assembly and the promulgation of rules. Thereafter, the commission shall
23 meet and exercise rulemaking powers necessary to the implementation and
24 administration of the compact.

25 B. Any state which joins the compact subsequent to the commission's initial
26 adoption of the rules shall be subject to the rules as they exist on the date on which
27 the compact becomes law in that state. Any rule which has been previously adopted
28 by the commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the compact
29 becomes law in that state.

1 (24) R.S. 37:74, 86, 90, 147, 691, 711.10, 763, 763.1, 781, 920.1, 969.1,
2 1123(E), 1277, 1278, 1285, 1326, 1338.1, 1360.53.1, 1360.104.1, 1518, 1745.15,
3 1747, 1806, 2156.1, 2371, 2406, 2505.1, 2863.1, 3276.2, 3481, 3507.1

4 * * *

5 Section 3. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2027.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 486 Engrossed 2026 Regular Session Spell

Abstract: Establishes the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact.

Proposed law authorizes the La. State Board of Examiners of Psychologists to collect a fee not exceeding \$50 from psychologists licensed in this state seeking a compact privilege in accordance with proposed law.

Proposed law adopts the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (compact).

Proposed law provides that the purpose of the compact is to increase public access to professional psychological services by allowing for telepsychology practice across state lines while ensuring public safety by coordinating communications to a central body known as the compact commission.

Proposed law establishes a process for a psychologists licensed in a member state to practice telepsychology, the remote practice of psychology through electronic communication, or a temporary authority to physically see patients in a compact state under a compact privilege.

Proposed law defines the E.Passport and Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (IPC) as credentials required for telepsychology and temporary in-person practice across state lines.

Proposed law defines the coordinated licensure information system as a shared database for licensure and disciplinary information among compact states.

Proposed law allows a psychologist to hold licenses in more than one compact state but designates one state as the home state for compact purposes.

Proposed law provides for the concept of a home state that is where a licensed psychologist is licensed by a state regulatory board of psychologists, and, if a psychologist is licensed in more than one compact state, the home state is where the psychologist is physically present when treating patients.

Proposed law requires compact states to conduct criminal background checks and obtain identity history summaries for applicants.

Proposed law requires compact states to maintain complaint investigation procedures and to report adverse actions and significant investigatory information to the commission.

Proposed law authorizes a licensed psychologist in a compact state to practice telepsychology in another compact state without obtaining an additional license, if all compact requirements are met.

Proposed law authorizes a licensed psychologist to engage in temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in another compact state for up to thirty days per calendar year, subject to compact requirements.

Proposed law requires psychologists seeking compact privileges to meet specified education, residency, and accreditation standards.

Proposed law requires psychologists to hold an active E.Passport for telepsychology and an active IPC for temporary in-person practice.

Proposed law subjects psychologists practicing under the compact to the scope of practice and laws of the receiving or distant state.

Proposed law grants receiving and distant states the authority to limit or revoke a psychologist's compact practice privileges within their jurisdiction.

Proposed law provides that a home state may discipline a psychologist's license and that such discipline results in loss of compact privileges.

Proposed law requires revocation of the E.Passport and IPC if a psychologist's license is restricted, suspended, or otherwise limited.

Proposed law requires compact states to report disciplinary actions and certain investigative information to the commission.

Proposed law authorizes state psychology regulatory authorities to issue subpoenas and cease and desist orders in compact-related matters.

Proposed law creates a coordinated database to share licensure, disciplinary, and investigative information among compact states.

Proposed law requires compact states to submit uniform data sets to the coordinated database.

Proposed law establishes the psychology interjurisdictional compact commission as a joint public agency composed of one representative from each compact state.

Proposed law grants the commission authority to adopt bylaws, promulgate binding rules, collect assessments, manage finances, and oversee compact compliance.

Proposed law sets forth procedures for public meetings, closed sessions, and rulemaking, including notice and comment requirements.

Proposed law allows the commission to adopt emergency rules under specified circumstances.

Proposed law provides oversight and enforcement mechanisms, including procedures for default, termination, and dispute resolution among compact states.

Proposed law specifies that the compact becomes effective upon enactment by the seventh state and allows withdrawal by statute, subject to notice requirements.

Proposed law provides that amendments to the compact require enactment by all compact states.

Proposed law includes construction and severability provisions to preserve the compact if part is held invalid.

Proposed law exempts certain provisions of proposed law from public records requests.

Effective January 1, 2027.

(Amends R.S. 44:4.1(B)(24); Adds R.S. 37:2354(H) and 2371)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Clarify that the La. St. Bd. of Examiners of Psychologists may collect a fee of \$50 on initial request and renewal of a compact privilege.
2. Add an effective date.
3. Make technical corrections.