RECOGNITION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL LICENSURE INTERSTATE COMPACT

("REPLICA")

EMS PERSONNEL LICENSURE INTERSTATE COMPACT

2	SECTION 1	. PURP	OSE

- 3 In order to protect the public through verification of competency and ensure accountability for
- 4 patient care related activities all states license emergency medical services (EMS) personnel,
- 5 such as emergency medical technicians (EMTs), advanced EMTs and paramedics. This Compact
- 6 is intended to facilitate the day-to-day movement of EMS personnel across state boundaries in
- 7 the performance of their EMS duties as assigned by an appropriate authority and authorize state
- 8 EMS offices to afford immediate legal recognition to EMS personnel licensed in a member state.
- 9 This Compact recognizes that states have a vested interest in protecting the public's health and
- safety through their licensing and regulation of EMS personnel and that such state regulation
- shared among the member states will best protect public health and safety. This Compact is
- designed to achieve the following purposes and objectives:
- 1. Increase public access to EMS personnel;
- 2. Enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health and safety, especially patient
- safety;
- 3. Encourage the cooperation of member states in the areas of EMS personnel licensure
- and regulation;

- 4. Support licensing of military members who are separating from an active-duty tour
 and their spouses;
 - 5. Facilitate the exchange of information between member states regarding EMS personnel licensure, adverse action and significant investigatory information;
 - 6. Promote compliance with the laws governing EMS personnel practice in each member state; and
 - 7. Invest all member states with the authority to hold EMS personnel accountable through the mutual recognition of member state licenses.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

In this compact:

- A. "Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)" means: an individual licensed with cognitive knowledge and a scope of practice that corresponds to that level in the National EMS Education Standards and National EMS Scope of Practice Model.
- B. "Adverse Action" means: any administrative, civil, equitable or criminal action permitted by a state's laws which may be imposed against licensed EMS personnel by a state EMS authority or state court, including, but not limited to, actions against an individual's license such as revocation, suspension, probation, consent agreement, monitoring or other limitation or encumbrance on the individual's practice, letters of reprimand or admonition, fines, criminal convictions and state court judgments enforcing adverse actions by the state EMS authority.
 - C. "Alternative program" means: a voluntary, non-disciplinary substance abuse recovery program approved by a state EMS authority.

D. "Certification" means: the successful verification of entry-level cognitive and 40 psychomotor competency using a reliable, validated, and legally defensible 41 42 examination. 43 E. "Commission" means: the national administrative body of which all states that have 44 enacted the compact are members. F. "Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)" means: an individual licensed with 45 cognitive knowledge and a scope of practice that corresponds to that level in the 46 47 National EMS Education Standards and National EMS Scope of Practice Model. 48 G. "Home State" means: a member state where an individual is licensed to practice 49 emergency medical services. 50 H. "License" means: the authorization by a state for an individual to practice as an EMT, AEMT, paramedic, or a level in between EMT and paramedic. 51 I. "Medical Director" means: a physician licensed in a member state who is 52 accountable for the care delivered by EMS personnel. 53 54 J. "Member State" means: a state that has enacted this compact. K. "Privilege to Practice" means: an individual's authority to deliver emergency 55 56 medical services in remote states as authorized under this compact. L. "Paramedic" means: an individual licensed with cognitive knowledge and a scope of 57 practice that corresponds to that level in the National EMS Education Standards and 58 59 National EMS Scope of Practice Model. M. "Remote State" means: a member state in which an individual is not licensed. 60

N. "Restricted" means: the outcome of an adverse action that limits a license or the

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privilege to practice.

- O. "Rule" means: a written statement by the interstate Commission promulgated pursuant to Section 12 of this compact that is of general applicability; implements, interprets, or prescribes a policy or provision of the compact; or is an organizational, procedural, or practice requirement of the Commission and has the force and effect of statutory law in a member state and includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.
- P. "Scope of Practice" means: defined parameters of various duties or services that may be provided by an individual with specific credentials. Whether regulated by rule, statute, or court decision, it tends to represent the limits of services an individual may perform.
- Q. "Significant Investigatory Information" means:

- 1. investigative information that a state EMS authority, after a preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an opportunity to respond if required by state law, has reason to believe, if proved true, would result in the imposition of an adverse action on a license or privilege to practice; or
- 2. investigative information that indicates that the individual represents an immediate threat to public health and safety regardless of whether the individual has been notified and had an opportunity to respond.
- R. "State" means: means any state, commonwealth, district, or territory of the United States.
- S. "State EMS Authority" means: the board, office, or other agency with the legislative mandate to license EMS personnel.

SECTION 3. HOME STATE LICENSURE

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86 A. Any member state in which an individual holds a current license shall be deemed a 87 home state for purposes of this compact. B. Any member state may require an individual to obtain and retain a license to be 88 89 authorized to practice in the member state under circumstances not authorized by the 90 privilege to practice under the terms of this compact. C. A home state's license authorizes an individual to practice in a remote state under the 91 92 privilege to practice only if the home state: 93 1. Currently requires the use of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) examination as a condition of issuing initial 94 licenses at the EMT and paramedic levels; 95 2. Has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints 96 97 about individuals; 3. Notifies the Commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any 98 adverse action or significant investigatory information regarding an 99 individual; 100 101 4. No later than five years after activation of the Compact, requires a 102 criminal background check of all applicants for initial licensure, including 103 the use of the results of fingerprint or other biometric data checks

compliant with the requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

with the exception of federal employees who have suitability

determination in accordance with US CFR §731.202 and submit

107			documentation of such as promulgated in the rules of the Commission;
108			and
109		5.	Complies with the rules of the Commission.
110	SECTIO	N 4. CON	MPACT PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE
111	A.	Member s	states shall recognize the privilege to practice of an individual licensed in
112		another m	nember state that is in conformance with Section 3.
113	В.	To exerci	se the privilege to practice under the terms and provisions of this compact,
114		an individ	dual must:
115		1.	Be at least 18 years of age;
116		2.	Possess a current unrestricted license in a member state as an EMT,
117			AEMT, paramedic, or state recognized and licensed level with a scope of
118			practice and authority between EMT and paramedic; and
119		3.	Practice under the supervision of a medical director.
120	C.	An indivi	dual providing patient care in a remote state under the privilege to practice
121		shall func	etion within the scope of practice authorized by the home state unless and
122		until mod	lified by an appropriate authority in the remote state as may be defined in the
123		rules of th	ne commission.
124	D.	Except as	provided in Section 4 subsection C, an individual practicing in a remote
125		state will	be subject to the remote state's authority and laws. A remote state may, in
126		accordance	ce with due process and that state's laws, restrict, suspend, or revoke an

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individual's privilege to practice in the remote state and may take any other necessary

actions to protect the health and safety of its citizens. If a remote state takes action it 128 129 shall promptly notify the home state and the Commission. 130 E. If an individual's license in any home state is restricted or suspended, the individual 131 shall not be eligible to practice in a remote state under the privilege to practice until 132 the individual's home state license is restored. 133 F. If an individual's privilege to practice in any remote state is restricted, suspended, or 134 revoked the individual shall not be eligible to practice in any remote state until the 135 individual's privilege to practice is restored. SECTION 5. CONDITIONS OF PRACTICE IN A REMOTE STATE 136 137 An individual may practice in a remote state under a privilege to practice only in the 138 performance of the individual's EMS duties as assigned by an appropriate authority, as defined 139 in the rules of the Commission, and under the following circumstances: 140 1. The individual originates a patient transport in a home state and transports the patient 141 to a remote state; 142 2. The individual originates in the home state and enters a remote state to pick up a patient and provide care and transport of the patient to the home state; 143 144 3. The individual enters a remote state to provide patient care and/or transport within 145 that remote state; 146 4. The individual enters a remote state to pick up a patient and provide care and 147 transport to a third member state; 148 5. Other conditions as determined by rules promulgated by the commission.

SECTION 6. RELATIONSHIP TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE

150 COMPACT

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Upon a member state's governor's declaration of a state of emergency or disaster that activates
the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), all relevant terms and provisions of
EMAC shall apply and to the extent any terms or provisions of this Compact conflicts with
EMAC, the terms of EMAC shall prevail with respect to any individual practicing in the remote
state in response to such declaration.

SECTION 7. VETERANS, SERVICE MEMBERS SEPARATING FROM ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY, AND THEIR SPOUSES

- A. Member states shall consider a veteran, active military service member, and member of the National Guard and Reserves separating from an active-duty tour, and a spouse thereof, who holds a current valid and unrestricted NREMT certification at or above the level of the state license being sought as satisfying the minimum training and examination requirements for such licensure.
- B. Member states shall expedite the processing of licensure applications submitted by veterans, active military service members, and members of the National Guard and Reserves separating from an active-duty tour, and their spouses.
- C. All individuals functioning with a privilege to practice under this Section remain subject to the Adverse Actions provisions of Section 8.

SECTION 8. ADVERSE ACTIONS

A. A home state shall have exclusive power to impose adverse action against an individual's license issued by the home state.

B. If an individual's license in any home state is restricted or suspended, the individual shall not be eligible to practice in a remote state under the privilege to practice until the individual's home state license is restored.

- All home state adverse action orders shall include a statement that the
 individual's compact privileges are inactive. The order may allow the
 individual to practice in remote states with prior written authorization
 from both the home state and remote state's EMS authority.
- 2. An individual currently subject to adverse action in the home state shall not practice in any remote state without prior written authorization from both the home state and remote state's EMS authority.
- C. A member state shall report adverse actions and any occurrences that the individual's compact privileges are restricted, suspended, or revoked to the Commission in accordance with the rules of the Commission.
- D. A remote state may take adverse action on an individual's privilege to practice within that state.
- E. Any member state may take adverse action against an individual's privilege to practice in that state based on the factual findings of another member state, so long as each state follows its own procedures for imposing such adverse action.
- F. A home state's EMS authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to reported conduct in a remote state as it would if such conduct had occurred within the home state. In such cases, the home state's law shall control in determining the appropriate adverse action.

G. Nothing in this Compact shall override a member state's decision that participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse action and that such participation shall remain non-public if required by the member state's laws. Member states must require individuals who enter any alternative programs to agree not to practice in any other member state during the term of the alternative program without prior authorization from such other member state.

SECTION 9. ADDITIONAL POWERS INVESTED IN A MEMBER STATE'S EMS AUTHORITY

A member state's EMS authority, in addition to any other powers granted under state law, is authorized under this compact to:

- 1. Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a member state's EMS authority for the attendance and testimony of witnesses, and/or the production of evidence from another member state, shall be enforced in the remote state by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to that court's practice and procedure in considering subpoenas issued in its own proceedings. The issuing state EMS authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes of the state where the witnesses and/or evidence are located; and
- 2. Issue cease and desist orders to restrict, suspend, or revoke an individual's privilege to practice in the state.

SECTION 10. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR EMS PERSONNEL PRACTICE

- A. The Compact states hereby create and establish a joint public agency known as the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice.
 1. The Commission is a body politic and an instrumentality of the Compact
 - 2. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is located. The Commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.
 - 3. Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign immunity.

B. Membership, Voting, and Meetings

states.

1. Each member state shall have and be limited to one (1) delegate. The responsible official of the state EMS authority or their designee shall be the delegate to this Compact for each member state. Any delegate may be removed or suspended from office as provided by the law of the state from which the delegate is appointed. Any vacancy occurring in the Commission shall be filled in accordance with the laws of the member state in which the vacancy exists. In the event that more than one board, office, or other agency with the legislative mandate to license EMS

236		personnel at and above the level of EMT exists, the Governor of the state
237		will determine which entity will be responsible for assigning the delegate.
238	2.	Each delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote with regard to the
239		promulgation of rules and creation of bylaws and shall otherwise have an
240		opportunity to participate in the business and affairs of the Commission. A
241		delegate shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the
242		bylaws. The bylaws may provide for delegates' participation in meetings
243		by telephone or other means of communication.
244	3.	The Commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year.
245		Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in the bylaws.
246	4.	All meetings shall be open to the public, and public notice of meetings
247		shall be given in the same manner as required under the rulemaking
248		provisions in Section 7.
249	5.	The Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting if the
250		Commission must discuss:
251		a. Non-compliance of a member state with its obligations under the
252		Compact;
253		b. The employment, compensation, discipline or other personnel matters,
254		practices or procedures related to specific employees or other matters
255		related to the Commission's internal personnel practices and
256		procedures;
257		c. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation;

258		d. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase or sale of goods, services, or
259		real estate;
260		e. Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person;
261		f. Disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information that
262		is privileged or confidential;
263		g. Disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure would
264		constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
265		h. Disclosure of investigatory records compiled for law enforcement
266		purposes;
267		i. Disclosure of information related to any investigatory reports prepared
268		by or on behalf of or for use of the Commission or other committee
269		charged with responsibility of investigation or determination of
270		compliance issues pursuant to the compact; or
271		j. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal or member
272		state statute.
273	6.	If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this provision,
274		the Commission's legal counsel or designee shall certify that the meeting
275		may be closed and shall reference each relevant exempting provision. The
276		Commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all matters
277		discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of
278		actions taken, and the reasons therefore, including a description of the
279		views expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action
280		shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed

281 meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release by a majority vote of the Commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction. 282 C. The Commission shall, by a majority vote of the delegates, prescribe bylaws and/or 283 rules to govern its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the 284 285 purposes and exercise the powers of the compact, including but not limited to: 1. Establishing the fiscal year of the Commission; 286 Providing reasonable standards and procedures: 287 2. 288 for the establishment and meetings of other committees; and 289 b. governing any general or specific delegation of any authority or function of the Commission: 290 291 3. Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of the Commission, ensuring reasonable advance notice of all meetings, and 292 providing an opportunity for attendance of such meetings by interested 293 294 parties, with enumerated exceptions designed to protect the public's interest, the privacy of individuals, and proprietary information, including 295 trade secrets. The Commission may meet in closed session only after a 296 majority of the membership votes to close a meeting in whole or in part. 297 As soon as practicable, the Commission must make public a copy of the 298 299 vote to close the meeting revealing the vote of each member with no proxy votes allowed: 300 4. Establishing the titles, duties and authority, and reasonable procedures for 301 302 the election of the officers of the Commission;

303	5.	Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the establishment of
304		the personnel policies and programs of the Commission. Notwithstanding
305		any civil service or other similar laws of any member state, the bylaws
306		shall exclusively govern the personnel policies and programs of the
307		Commission;
308	6.	Promulgating a code of ethics to address permissible and prohibited
309		activities of Commission members and employees;
310	7.	Providing a mechanism for winding up the operations of the Commission
311		and the equitable disposition of any surplus funds that may exist after the
312		termination of the Compact after the payment and/or reserving of all of its
313		debts and obligations;
314	8.	The Commission shall publish its bylaws and file a copy thereof, and a
315		copy of any amendment thereto, with the appropriate agency or officer in
316		each of the member states, if any.
317	9.	The Commission shall maintain its financial records in accordance with
318		the bylaws.
319	10.	The Commission shall meet and take such actions as are consistent with
320		the provisions of this Compact and the bylaws.
321	D. The Comm	nission shall have the following powers:
322	1.	The authority to promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate
323		implementation and administration of this Compact. The rules shall have
324		the force and effect of law and shall be binding in all member states;

325	2.	To bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of the
326		Commission, provided that the standing of any state EMS authority or
327		other regulatory body responsible for EMS personnel licensure to sue or
328		be sued under applicable law shall not be affected;
329	3.	To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;
330	4.	To borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including, but not
331		limited to, employees of a member state;
332	5.	To hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define
333		duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the
334		purposes of the compact, and to establish the Commission's personnel
335		policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of
336		personnel, and other related personnel matters;
337	6.	To accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money,
338		equipment, supplies, materials and services, and to receive, utilize and
339		dispose of the same; provided that at all times the Commission shall strive
340		to avoid any appearance of impropriety and/or conflict of interest;
341	7.	To lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or otherwise
342		to own, hold, improve or use, any property, real, personal or mixed;
343		provided that at all times the Commission shall strive to avoid any
344		appearance of impropriety;
345	8.	To sell convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise
346		dispose of any property real, personal, or mixed;
347	9.	To establish a budget and make expenditures;

348	10.	To borrow money;
349	11.	To appoint committees, including advisory committees comprised of
350		members, state regulators, state legislators or their representatives, and
351		consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as may be
352		designated in this compact and the bylaws;
353	12.	To provide and receive information from, and to cooperate with, law
354		enforcement agencies;
355	13.	To adopt and use an official seal; and
356	14.	To perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to
357		achieve the purposes of this Compact consistent with the state regulation
358		of EMS personnel licensure and practice.
359	E. Financing	of the Commission
360	1.	The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable
361		expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.
362	2.	The Commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources,
363		donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and
364		services.
365	3.	The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each
366		member state or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost of the
367		operations and activities of the Commission and its staff, which must be in
368		a total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year
369		for which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual
370		assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be

- determined by the Commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all member states.
- 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 of the member states, except by and with the authority of the member state.
- 5. The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant, and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the Commission.

F. Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification

1. The members, officers, executive director, employees and representatives of the Commission shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to protect any such person from suit and/or liability for any damage, loss,

injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

- 2. The Commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director, employee or representative of the Commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining his or her own counsel; and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.
- 3. The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, executive director, employee, or representative of the Commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

SECTION 11. COORDINATED DATABASE

417	A.	The Comn	nission shall provide for the development and maintenance of a coordinated
418		database a	nd reporting system containing licensure, adverse action, and significant
419		investigato	ory information on all licensed individuals in member states.
420	B.	Notwithsta	anding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a member state shall
421		submit a u	niform data set to the coordinated database on all individuals to whom this
422		compact is	applicable as required by the rules of the Commission, including:
423		1.	Identifying information;
424		2.	Licensure data;
425		3.	Significant investigatory information;
426		4.	Adverse actions against an individual's license;
427		5.	An indicator that an individual's privilege to practice is restricted,
428			suspended or revoked;
429		6.	Non-confidential information related to alternative program participation;
430		7.	Any denial of application for licensure, and the reason(s) for such denial;
431			and
432		8.	Other information that may facilitate the administration of this Compact,
433			as determined by the rules of the Commission.
434	C.	The coord	inated database administrator shall promptly notify all member states of
435		any advers	e action taken against, or significant investigative information on, any
436		individual	in a member state.

D. Member states contributing information to the coordinated database may designate 437 information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of 438 439 the contributing state. E. Any information submitted to the coordinated database that is subsequently required 440 441 to be expunged by the laws of the member state contributing the information shall be removed from the coordinated database. 442 443 **SECTION 12. RULEMAKING** A. The Commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set forth 444 445 in this Section and the rules adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall become 446 binding as of the date specified in each rule or amendment. 447 B. If a majority of the legislatures of the member states rejects a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the Compact, then such rule 448 449 shall have no further force and effect in any member state. 450 C. Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of 451 the Commission. D. Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or rules by the Commission, and at 452 least sixty (60) days in advance of the meeting at which the rule will be considered 453 454 and voted upon, the Commission shall file a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: 1. On the website of the Commission; and 455

E. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking shall include:

which each state would otherwise publish proposed rules.

On the website of each member state EMS authority or the publication in

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459	1.	The proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in which the rule will
460		be considered and voted upon;
461	2.	The text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for the
462		proposed rule;
463	3.	A request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested person;
464		and
465	4.	The manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the
466		Commission of their intention to attend the public hearing and any written
467		comments.
468	F. Prior to	adoption of a proposed rule, the Commission shall allow persons to submit
469	written	data, facts, opinions, and arguments, which shall be made available to the
470	public.	
471	G. The Co	ommission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing before it adopts a rule
472	or ame	ndment if a hearing is requested by:
473	1.	At least twenty-five (25) persons;
474	2.	A governmental subdivision or agency; or
475	3.	An association having at least twenty-five (25) members.
476	H. If a hea	aring is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the Commission shall publish
477	the plac	ce, time, and date of the scheduled public hearing.
478	1.	All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the executive
479		director of the Commission or other designated member in writing of their
480		desire to appear and testify at the hearing not less than five (5) business
481		days before the scheduled date of the hearing.

482 2. Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment orally or 483 484 in writing. 3. No transcript of the hearing is required, unless a written request for a 485 486 transcript is made, in which case the person requesting the transcript shall bear the cost of producing the transcript. A recording may be made in lieu 487 488 of a transcript under the same terms and conditions as a transcript. This 489 subsection shall not preclude the Commission from making a transcript or 490 recording of the hearing if it so chooses. 491 4. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing 492 on each rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the Commission at hearings required by this section. 493 494 I. Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business on the scheduled 495 hearing date if the hearing was not held, the Commission shall consider all written 496 and oral comments received. 497 J. The Commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final action on the 498 proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the 499 rulemaking record and the full text of the rule. 500 K. If no written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by interested parties is 501 received, the Commission may proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule

L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and

adopt an emergency rule without prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing,

without a public hearing.

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provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the Compact and in this section shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety (90) days after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this provision, an emergency rule is one that must be adopted immediately in order to:

- 1. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare;
- 2. Prevent a loss of Commission or member state funds;
- 3. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that is established by federal law or rule; or
- 4. Protect public health and safety.
- M. The Commission or an authorized committee of the Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted rule or amendment for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the Commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of thirty (30) days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made in writing, and delivered to the chair of the Commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the approval of the Commission.

SECTION 13. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND ENFORCEMENT

A. Oversight

527	1.	The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government in
528		each member state shall enforce this compact and take all actions
529		necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and intent.
530		The provisions of this compact and the rules promulgated hereunder shall
531		have standing as statutory law.
532	2.	All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the rules in any
533		judicial or administrative proceeding in a member state pertaining to the
534		subject matter of this compact which may affect the powers,
535		responsibilities or actions of the Commission.
536	3.	The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any such
537		proceeding, and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for
538		all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the Commission shall
539		render a judgment or order void as to the Commission, this Compact, or
540		promulgated rules.
541	B. Default, T	echnical Assistance, and Termination
542	1.	If the Commission determines that a member state has defaulted in the
543		performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact or the
544		promulgated rules, the Commission shall:
545		a. Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other member
546		states of the nature of the default, the proposed means of curing the
547		default and/or any other action to be taken by the Commission; and
548		b. Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding

the default.

2. If a state in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting state may be terminated from the Compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the member states, and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred 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.

- 3. Termination of membership in the compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by the Commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the member states.
- 4. 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.
- 5. 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.
- 6. 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 member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

C. Dispute Resolution

- Upon request by a member state, the Commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the compact that arise among member states and between member and non-member states.
- 2. The Commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

D. Enforcement

- The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of this compact.
- 2. By majority vote, the Commission may initiate legal action in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its principal offices against a member state in default to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact and its promulgated rules and bylaws. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.
- The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the
 Commission. The Commission may pursue any other remedies available
 under federal or state law.

SECTION 14. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR EMS PERSONNEL PRACTICE AND ASSOCIATED RULES, WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENT

- A. The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the compact statute is enacted into law in the tenth member state. The provisions, which become effective at that time, shall be limited to the powers granted to the Commission relating to assembly and the promulgation of rules. Thereafter, the Commission shall meet and exercise rulemaking powers necessary to the implementation and administration of the compact.
- B. Any state that joins the compact subsequent to the Commission's initial adoption of the rules shall be subject to the rules 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.
- C. Any member state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a statute repealing the same.
 - 1. A member state's withdrawal shall not take effect until six (6) months after enactment of the repealing statute.
 - 2. Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing state's EMS authority to comply with the investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of this act prior to the effective date of withdrawal.
- D. Nothing contained in this compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any EMS personnel licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a

616	member state and a non-member state that does not conflict with the provisions of
617	this compact.
618	E. This Compact may be amended by the member states. No amendment to this
619	Compact shall become effective and binding upon any member state until it is
620	enacted into the laws of all member states.
621	SECTION 15. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY
622	This Compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. If this
623	compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state member thereto, the compact shall
624	remain in full force and effect as to the remaining member states. Nothing in this compact
625	supersedes state law or rules related to licensure of EMS agencies.
626	