

September 3, 2014

Dear Colleague:

The attached document is a copy of the language for an Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, as finalized by the drafting subcommittee of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Taskforce.

This document represents the culmination of the 18 month project undertaken by state medical boards, the FSMB, experts from the Council of State Governments, and interested stakeholder groups that explored the formation of an interstate compact to enhance medical license portability.

This document memorializes the eight consensus principles developed by the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Taskforce, which included the following:

- Participation in an interstate compact for medical licensure will be strictly voluntary for both physicians and state boards of medicine or osteopathic medicine.
- Generally, participation in an interstate compact creates another pathway for licensure, but does not otherwise change a state's existing Medical Practice Act.
- The practice of medicine occurs where the patient is located at the time of the physician-patient encounter, and therefore, requires the physician to be under the jurisdiction of the state medical or osteopathic board where the patient is located.
- An interstate compact for medical licensure will establish a mechanism whereby any physician practicing in the state will be known by, and under the jurisdiction of, the state medical or osteopathic board where the practice occurs.
- Regulatory authority will remain with the participating state medical and osteopathic boards, and will not be delegated to any entity that would administer a compact.
- A physician practicing under an interstate compact is bound to comply with the statutes, rules and regulations of each compact state wherein he/she chooses to practice.
- State boards participating in an interstate compact are required to share complaint/investigative information with each other.
- The license to practice can be revoked by any or all of the compact states.

Beginning in 2015, state legislatures will introduce the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact for enactment. Although some states may believe that the Compact will not provide a solution to problems of license portability or access to care within their state, it is anticipated that the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact will be introduced in over 15 states next year. Many state medical boards, legislators, and stakeholders have already begun the initial work in support of the enactment process.

I encourage you to review the document and discuss with your state medical board, state elected officials, and other stakeholders the viability of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact in your state. Please feel free to contact Eric Fish, Sr. Director of Legal Services (202-463-4000 or [efish@fsmb.org](mailto:efish@fsmb.org)) with any questions about the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact or how your state can start the enactment process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Humayun J. Chaudhry, D.O., M.S., MACP". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Humayun J. Chaudhry, D.O., M.S., MACP, FACOI  
President and Chief Executive Officer

CC: Donald H. Polk, DO  
FSMB Board Chair