

§ 90-21.171. Purpose.

(a) The purpose of this Article is to strengthen access to health care, and, in recognition of the advances in the delivery of health care, the member states of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact) have allied in common purpose to develop a comprehensive process that complements the existing licensing and regulatory authority of state medical boards and to provide a streamlined process that allows physicians to become licensed in multiple states, thereby enhancing the portability of a medical license and ensuring the safety of patients.

(b) The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact creates another pathway for licensure and does not otherwise change a state's existing medical practice act or provisions. The Compact adopts the prevailing standard for licensure and affirms that 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 board where the patient is located. State medical boards that participate in the Compact retain the jurisdiction to impose an adverse action against a license to practice medicine in that state issued to a physician through the procedures of the Compact. (2025-37, s. 1(a).)